

GA Sample Notice of Appearance

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For additional resources relating to the protection, enforcement, and advancement of crime victims' rights, please visit www.ncvli.org and the website of our membership alliance, the National Alliance of Victims' Rights Attorneys & Advocates, www.navra.org.

[Attorney Name] ([State] Bar # [number])
[Address]
[Phone]
[Email address]

Attorney for the Crime Victim

IN THE STATE COURT OF [FILL IN] COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA)

Plaintiff,)

vs.)

[NAME OF DEFENDANT],)

Defendant.)

Case No. [FILL IN]

**NOTICE OF APPEARANCE OF
COUNSEL FOR THE CRIME
VICTIM AND ASSERTION OF
RIGHTS**

Date:

Time:

Dept:

TO THE CLERK OF [FILL IN] AND ALL PARTIES OF RECORD:

The undersigned, [Attorney Name], Esq., hereby notifies the clerk of this court and all parties of [his/her/their] appearance as counsel for the crime victim, [Name/Pseudonym],¹ and

¹ [Practitioner's Note]: If using pseudonyms for crime victims in pleadings for the first time, add a footnote. For example: All references herein to the crime victim shall refer to [Pseudonym] to protect [her/his/their] privacy in accordance with [her/his/their] constitutional and statutory rights. See, e.g., *Whalen v. Roe*, 429 U.S. 589, 599-600 (1977) (recognizing that the United States Constitution provides a right to personal privacy, which includes an "individual interest in avoiding disclosure of personal matters"); *King v. State*, 272 Ga. 788, 789, 535 S.E.2d 492 (2000) (noting that the privacy guaranteed by Georgia's constitution is "far more extensive than that protected by the Constitution of the United States, and stating that "privacy is considered a fundamental constitutional right"); see also *Smith v. State*, 310 Ga. App. 418, 419 n.4, 714 S.E.2d 51 (2011) (referring to victim by her initials in order to protect her privacy); cf. Ga. Const. art. I, § 1, para. XXX (eff. Jan. 1, 2019) (stating that victims of crime "shall be accorded the utmost dignity and respect and shall be treated fairly by the criminal justice system of this state and all agencies and departments that serve such system"); O.C.G.A. § 17-17-1 (finding and declaring it to be the policy of

requests to be notified of all proceedings and to be provided copies of all filings throughout the duration of the case. By and through counsel, the crime victim formally asserts [his/her/their] rights pursuant to all applicable law, including all rights under article I, section 1, paragraph XXX of the Georgia Constitution and the Crime Victims' Bill of Rights, O.C.G.A. §§ 17-17-1 to 17-17-16. The crime victim's rights include:

- The “right upon request to reasonable, accurate, and timely notice of any scheduled court proceedings involving the alleged act or changes to the scheduling of such proceedings,” Ga. Const. art. I, § 1, ¶ XXX(a)(1);
- The “right upon request to reasonable, accurate, and timely notice of the arrest, release, or escape of the accused,” *id.* § 1, ¶ XXX(a)(2);
- The “right not to be excluded from any scheduled court proceedings involving the alleged act,” *id.* § 1, ¶ XXX(a)(3);
- The “right upon request to be heard at any scheduled court proceedings involving the release, plea, or sentencing of the accused,” *id.* § 1, ¶ XXX(a)(4);
- The “right to confer with the prosecuting attorney in any criminal prosecution related to the victim,” O.C.G.A. § 17-17-1(6);
- The “right to restitution as provided by law,” *id.* § 17-17-1(7);
- The “right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay,” *id.* 17-17-1(8);
- The “right to be treated fairly and with dignity by all criminal justice agencies involved in the case,” *id.* 17-17-1(9); and
- The “right to be informed of his or her rights,” Ga. Const. art. I, § 1, ¶ XXX(a)(5).

the state that victims of crime be treated “fairly and with dignity by all criminal justice agencies involved in the case”).]

Dated: _____

Respectfully submitted,

[Attorney Name] ([State] Bar # [number])
[Address]
[Phone]
[Email address]

Attorney for the Crime Victim