



Consider sharing more in-depth messages with your community online through a blog, such as [WordPress](#) and [Blogger](#). Post as frequently as you wish, with a goal of at least once a month. Be sure to provide a link to your blog on your Facebook, Twitter, and other social media pages.

Steps to an Engaging Blog Post

- Target your audience by using an appropriate reading level and relevant content.
- Check your facts - use only statistics that come from reliable sources, and cite them.
- State your main points in your introduction and again in the conclusion.
- Limit your post to no more than 750 words.
- Time the release of your blog post to coincide with events and current news.

Ideas for Blog Posts

- Information for crime victims, such as crime victim compensation or victims' rights.
- Details about an upcoming event or a recap following an event.
- Awareness days, weeks, and months.
- Suggestions for self-care.
- Personal stories including suggestions for self-care and how victims used local resources to assist in their recovery.
- Lists of important resources and services.
- Relevant interviews with important local officials or executives in the organization.



Sample Blog Post

For Survivors, Reporting Victimization is a Complex Decision

Survivors face many barriers, resulting from both internal and external factors, when deciding whether to report their victimization. The [National Crime Victimization Survey](#) administered by the Bureau of Justice Statistics found that in 2017, only 45 percent of violent victimizations were reported to law enforcement. To understand this statistic, the context around barriers to reporting should be explored.

Some victims may not know the benefits of reporting a crime. They may think that their story feels insignificant, or they may wish to forget the incident and focus on recovery. **Every victimization is significant, as it impacts the survivor and the larger community.**

Reporting to law enforcement enables a survivor to apply for [crime victim compensation](#), which is financial assistance that covers some expenses incurred after victimization. Survivors may also report a crime to open the possibility of achieving justice from their offenders, which can be a meaningful part of recovery.

However, the decision to report is not always easy to make. For some victims, the consequences of reporting may outweigh the benefits. They may be afraid that their offender will retaliate and commit another, more severe crime. In other cases, victims may be reliant on their offenders for financial support, caretaking, or other resources.

Some victims may not have the necessary additional support if their offenders are jailed or if protection orders are issued. To protect their own safety and wellbeing, these victims may choose not to report their victimizations.

Physical and logistical barriers may also prevent a victim from reporting a crime. Some survivors may lack transportation to a police station or lack access to a translator if they would like to report a crime in their preferred language.

New initiatives on the local, tribal, and national levels are working to make services more culturally appropriate for all victims and more accessible through phone apps and other emerging technology.

Reporting a personal victimization is a decision that requires consideration of numerous factors, which differ dramatically in each case of victimization. We should support victims no matter which path they choose and encourage them to recover in a way that keeps them safe and encourages resilience.

If you or someone you know has been the victim of a crime, *[organization]* is here to connect you with resources.

[Provide details of services your organization offers and link to other local resources.]

