

## What are the facts about robbery?

- **In 2005, there were an estimated 417,122 robberies in the United States.** (Crime in the United States 2005. Washington, DC: Federal Bureau of Investigation)
- **In 2005, 42 percent of all robberies were committed with firearms.** (Crime in the United States 2005. Washington, DC: Federal Bureau of Investigation)
- **By 2003, residence robberies had increased 18% from 1999. 44% of all robberies occur on the street** (Crime in the United States 2005. Washington, DC: Federal Bureau of Investigation)
- **Youth ages 12-17 were twice as likely to be victims of robbery than adults.** (Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2006 National Report. NCVS)
- **During 2005, the average value of property loss for a single robbery was \$1,230,** (Crime in the United States 2005. Washington, DC: Federal Bureau of Investigation)

## Important phone numbers

Emergency	911
Help On-Call	323-9373
S.A.M.H.C. (24hr mental health)	622-6000
AZ Resource Database	211
Crime Victim Compensation	724-5525

### Tucson Police Department

Non-emergency	791-4444
Records	791-4484
Detectives	791-4661
Victim Notification	741-7344
City Court Victim Services	791-5483

### Pima County Sheriff's Department

Records	351-4650
Detectives	351-3887
Pre Trial Services	724-3310
Justice/Superior Court Calendar	724-4240

Case # \_\_\_\_\_



Pima County Attorney's Office  
Victim Services Division  
32 N. Stone, Suite 800  
Tucson, AZ 85701  
Phone: 520-724-5525

# After A Robbery



Pima County Attorney's Office  
Victim Services Division

This brochure was developed by the National Center for Victims of Crime under a project supported by Grant No. 97-VF-GX-K007 awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Points of view in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

## What is robbery?



Robbery is taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of someone by force or by threat of force or violence. If a weapon is used, it is called armed robbery and is usually considered by the police and courts to be more serious than robbery without a weapon.

***Robbery is not only a property crime but also a crime against a person--a crime that might result in violence.***

Robbery involves not only the loss of property but also the threat or use of violence. Robbery occurs more frequently than either rape or homicide. Unlike victims of rape or other personal assaults, robbery victims seldom know their assailants. Only 26% of robbery victims know their robbers. Of all violent crimes, robbery is the most likely to be committed by more than one offender.

Robberies may occur on the street, in the home, on public transportation, or in a business such as a bank, store, hotel, etc. Home invasions and push-in robberies (where entrance is gained by following someone to their door or through a ruse) can be particularly traumatizing and can easily escalate into violence. Anyone can become a victim of robbery--even a child.

Because victims encounter robbers face-to-face or in close proximity, robbery victims often feel total and immediate loss of control. When a weapon is involved, the sense of helplessness and the fear of death can be strong. Most property stolen during a robbery is never recovered, and financial losses can be substantial. If the stolen property has unique or sentimental value for the victim, emotional reactions can be very intense.

## If you are a robbery survivor...

As a robbery victim, you may have many feelings, thoughts, and reactions to what has happened. You may feel angry at the robber or the police and court system for not doing enough. You may feel intense sadness and grief over possessions that you have lost. You may fear that the robber will return or that another robbery might occur. You may feel guilt that perhaps something you did led to the robbery, even though you did nothing wrong. You may feel nervous in crowds or very suspicious when you are alone with someone you do not know. You may have nightmares or flashbacks about the robbery. You may find that you startle more easily at little noises or abrupt movements. You also may feel vulnerable and that you are not in control of your life.

How victims react to robbery varies from person to person. Your reaction may be immediate or delayed. Although you may feel as if you are the only one experiencing these feelings and that no one else can understand what you are going through, your reactions are normal. Some reactions may decrease within a few days; others may continue for some time or resurface after being triggered by another event.

It is important for you to deal with and resolve your crisis reactions at your own pace. Just as everyone reacts to a crisis differently, not everyone reassembles his or her life in the same way or within the same timeframe. Many victims say it is helpful to talk with others about the robbery experience and about their crisis reactions. As victims talk about their robbery, over time they put the incident into perspective and begin to cope with its consequences.

## Where can you get help?



Remember, as a robbery victim, you are not alone. Your community has victim assistance programs, caring professionals, and support groups -all of which are there to help you with information, services, and referrals. If the robbery involved an injury or threat of injury, you may be eligible for reimbursement by the Arizona Crime Victim Compensation program for certain out-of-pocket expenses that are related to the robbery, such as medical or counseling expenses and lost wages. To be eligible for these funds, you must report the robbery to the police within 72 hours and cooperate with the criminal justice system. Victim Witness Advocates can help you determine your eligibility and fill out compensation applications.

Remember, it is important to keep a record of expenses incurred as a result of the robbery. If the offender is arrested and convicted, you may request restitution by completing a restitution affidavit and listing your losses. Restitution for certain losses may be ordered by a judge as part of the sentence imposed on the offender. However, in many cases, the defendant may not have sufficient assets or income to pay restitution. It is possible that even if an offender is convicted and ordered to pay restitution, a victim may receive no, or only partial, restitution for his or her losses.

***No one has the right to commit a robbery against a person regardless of the circumstances.***