

**IC 34-60**

**ARTICLE 60. VICTIM ADVOCATES**

**IC 34-60-1**

**Chapter 1. Victim Advocates in Civil Proceedings**

**IC 34-60-1-1**

**"Victim"**

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "victim" means:

- (1) an individual against whom an act of:
  - (A) domestic or family violence;
  - (B) dating violence;
  - (C) sexual assault (as defined in IC 5-26.5-1-8);
  - (D) human and sexual trafficking (IC 35-42-3.5); or
  - (E) stalking (IC 35-45-10-5);

is committed; or

- (2) an individual:

- (A) who is not accused of committing an act of domestic or family violence, dating violence, sexual assault (as defined in IC 5-26.5-1-8), human and sexual trafficking (IC 35-42-3.5), or stalking (IC 35-45-10-5); and

- (B) who:

- (i) is a member of the family of an individual described in subdivision (1); and

- (ii) is not a family member who is accused of committing an act of domestic or family violence, dating violence, sexual assault (as defined in IC 5-26.5-1-8), human and sexual trafficking (IC 35-42-3.5), or stalking (IC 35-45-10-5).

*As added by P.L.150-2014, SEC.5.*

**IC 34-60-1-2**

**"Victim advocate"**

Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter, "victim advocate" means an individual employed or appointed by or who volunteers for a victim service provider.

(b) The term does not include:

- (1) a law enforcement officer;
- (2) an employee or agent of a law enforcement officer;
- (3) a prosecuting attorney; or
- (4) an employee or agent of a prosecuting attorney's office.

(c) The term includes an employee, an appointee, or a volunteer of a:

- (1) victim service provider;
- (2) domestic violence program;
- (3) sexual assault program;
- (4) rape crisis center;
- (5) battered women's shelter;
- (6) transitional housing program for victims of domestic violence; or

(7) program that, as one (1) of its primary purposes, provides services to an individual:

(A) against whom an act of:

- (i) domestic or family violence;
- (ii) dating violence;
- (iii) sexual assault (as defined in IC 5-26.5-1-8);
- (iv) human and sexual trafficking (IC 35-42-3.5); or
- (v) stalking (IC 35-45-10-5);

is committed; or

(B) who:

- (i) is not accused of committing an act of domestic or family violence, dating violence, sexual assault (as defined in IC 5-26.5-1-8), human and sexual trafficking (IC 35-42-3.5), or stalking (IC 35-45-10-5); and
- (ii) is a member of the family of an individual described in clause (A) other than a family member who is accused of committing an act of domestic or family violence, dating violence, sexual assault (as defined in IC 5-26.5-1-8), human and sexual trafficking (IC 35-42-3.5), or stalking (IC 35-45-10-5).

*As added by P.L.150-2014, SEC.5.*

### **IC 34-60-1-3**

#### **"Victim service provider"**

Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "victim service provider" means a person:

(1) that is:

- (A) a public agency;
  - (B) a unit of a public agency; or
  - (C) an organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code;
- (2) that is not affiliated with a law enforcement agency; and
- (3) that, as one (1) of its primary purposes, provides services for emotional and psychological conditions to an individual:

(A) against whom an act of:

- (i) domestic or family violence;
- (ii) dating violence;
- (iii) sexual assault (as defined in IC 5-26.5-1-8);
- (iv) human and sexual trafficking (IC 35-42-3.5); or
- (v) stalking (IC 35-45-10-5);

is committed; or

(B) who:

- (i) is not accused of committing an act of domestic or family violence, dating violence, sexual assault (as defined in IC 5-26.5-1-8), human and sexual trafficking (IC 35-42-3.5), or stalking (IC 35-45-10-5); and
- (ii) is a member of the family of an individual described in clause (A) other than a family member who is accused of committing an act of domestic or family violence, dating violence, sexual assault (as defined in IC 5-26.5-1-8),

human and sexual trafficking (IC 35-42-3.5), or stalking  
(IC 35-45-10-5).

*As added by P.L.150-2014, SEC.5.*

**IC 34-60-1-4**

**"Victim advocate permitted at civil proceedings"**

Sec. 4. (a) In any civil proceeding, a court may allow a victim advocate to attend the proceeding, sit with the victim, and confer with the victim as necessary.

(b) A victim advocate is not considered to be practicing law when performing the services described in this section.

*As added by P.L.150-2014, SEC.5.*