611A.038 RIGHT TO SUBMIT STATEMENT AT SENTENCING.

(a) A victim has the right to submit an impact statement to the court at the time of sentencing or disposition hearing. The impact statement may be presented to the court orally or in writing, at the victim's option. If the victim requests, the prosecutor or the prosecutor's designee must orally present the statement to the court. Statements may include the following, subject to reasonable limitations as to time and length:

(1) a summary of the harm or trauma suffered by the victim as a result of the crime;

(2) a summary of the economic loss or damage suffered by the victim as a result of the crime; and

(3) a victim's reaction to the proposed sentence or disposition.

(b) At the sentencing or disposition hearing, the court shall ask the prosecutor if the victim has been notified of the hearing, if the victim is in court, and if the victim wishes to submit a victim impact statement orally, in writing, or through the prosecutor or the prosecutor's designee.

(c) A representative of the community affected by the crime may submit an impact statement in the same manner that a victim may as provided in paragraph (a). This impact statement shall describe the adverse social or economic effects the offense has had on persons residing and businesses operating in the community where the offense occurred.

(d) If the court permits the defendant or anyone speaking on the defendant's behalf to present a statement to the court, the court shall limit the response to factual issues which are relevant to sentencing.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to extend the defendant's right to address the court under section 631.20.

History: *1988 c 649 s 3; 1989 c 290 art 2 s 16; 1997 c 239 art 7 s 21; 2026 c 97 art 1 s 29*