

Manitoba Victim Impact Statement Form

When completed please forward to the Crown attorney's office.

Name of victim: Kera Harris / Morgan Beatrice Harris

Police Incident Number: 22/23037

Date of offence: May 14, 2022

Police agency the incident was reported to: Winnipeg Police Services.

Charges (if known): first degree murder.

Name of offender (if known): Jeremy Skibicki

Town, city or community where the incident occurred: Winnipeg, MB

Relationship to the offender (if any): _____

You can ask to read your statement in court. If you would like to do so, please check the following box:

I wish to read my statement aloud in court.

Please Note: The court will be informed if you wish to read your Victim Impact Statement in court; however, if you are not present at the hearing, sentencing will proceed.

If you are not the direct victim, please indicate why you have completed this statement and your relationship to the victim.

Name: Kera Harris

Relationship to the victim: Daughter

Reason: Victim is deceased

To the Chief Justice Joyal,

Being the second eldest daughter to the beloved Morgan Beatrice Harris, who gifted me the name Kera Harris, I am here to address how the atrocity caused by this individual has impacted my family and also my life.

Graduation

Being 22, I could have graduated from my first university experience a year ago when the pre trials first began. Because of the horrendous acts of one person, I was unable to attend my classes and keep up on my assignments due to being forced to hear the details of my mother's homicide on a daily basis. I experienced larger bouts of increased depression and had to deal with more CPTSD triggers, which resulted in a complete change in how I went about daily activities in order to not have a breakdown. I had good grades until pre trials started, of which took up all the class time I had and was therefore unable to learn and work on my assignments. Instead of learning about teaching, I instead took the time to learn about details of my mother's murder. I now know more about the Justice System than the things I was initially interested in, and all because one thing decided to take the life of one of the most loved and most important people in my life.

I used to have such high motivations for graduating secondary school and getting a career, but since the death of my mother, and now having the knowledge that I no longer have parents to watch me grow up, I have lost said motivation to continue my studies as my parents won't be there to witness it.

Unable to remain financially stable/work

Adding onto being unable to attend and finish secondary school due to the events that transpired, I as well have been unable to work during the court process as I had no time nor emotional energy for it. The only way I was able to even just slightly function again was with therapy and the help of medication to keep my depression from plummeting to its lowest everyday. Considering that I live on my own and have bills to pay, as well as keep myself fed and taken care of, I experienced great difficulty doing so for the time this case has taken to complete. Grieving a lost one is already much work, but adding food struggles and unpaid bills on top of that, as well as needing to attend court to deal with said loss, is far too much for one person to handle or cope with. I was forced to rely on others in order to feed myself.

Taking on roles I shouldn't as a child/family dynamics

Adding onto the impacts of this case, I've had to mature much faster than I was ready to in terms of family dynamics and my own mentality. Given that our mother is now deceased, I have taken on her role in ways that I was not prepared for. In her place, I am watching my siblings grow up and doing my best to make sure they have the support a mother should have provided. Knowing I as well no longer have a safety net to assist me in case of troubles in the future, it is forcing me to consider all forms of outcomes in financial responsibility and my own mental health. As such, I think on a daily basis on how I could keep myself stable in a world where my parents cannot help me in the times I need it. Watching my friends be able to have guardians to help them when they need it, it adds onto the feeling of loneliness and immense grief knowing I cannot have the same thing with my own deceased parents. My mother was my last parent in life, and now that she's gone, I no longer have as much hope for the future as I used to as a little girl. I may be 22, but I am still just a child, and no child should have to navigate through life feeling alone and as though they've lost everything.

Upset by things I was never upset by before

Prior to the events that have taken place, I used to enjoy playing in the water. I took baths as a way to relax, and I went swimming with friends and family happily. I can no longer look at a bathtub of water without feeling dread and nausea. I no longer enjoy being near bodies of water, nor do I enjoy hot showers anymore. Even the task of washing my face in the morning and at night is now something I get nauseous about.

Relationships/can't relate to anyone anymore

Throughout this experience, I have found that I lost all motivation to keep relationships with those dear to me. I feel exhausted constantly and don't have energy to communicate with anyone other than those in my immediate proximity. Waking up takes so much effort, let alone conversing with others or going outside. But even then, I cannot even get a restful sleep to recharge, as my dreams are full of court and images of what my mum may have looked like, causing me to wake up with headaches and dissociation that last throughout the day.

Considering that my situation is so specific in terms of loss, I find myself feeling alone all the time and wondering why I can't have the same things my friends have: a home with loving parents that are always there to make sure you're okay and listen to you when you're down. I have no one to relate to aside from my siblings, and therefore, no one to understand the amount of pain I'm going through on a daily basis. During this process, I have not had a single relaxing break in two years, and yet, I still have to wake up everyday and make sure I at least have food

on the table, despite how desperately I want to just relax and not worry about anything related to my stressors.

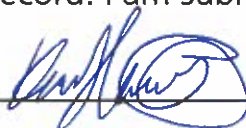
Due to these reasons, the way this case has impacted me has been immense in both terms of mental health and general living. No person should ever have to go through this: no person should ever have to be introduced to adulthood through the loss of their mother and the court process. I shouldn't have had to teach myself to be an adult through such difficult circumstances, and my mother did not deserve to reach the end of her life in such a gruesome way. My mom deserved much better than what she got, for she was the kindest and most gentle soul I ever knew. She deserved a peaceful end, and I will forever remember this period of my life with anger and heartbreak.

Thank you, Chief Justice Joyal, for listening to my statement and giving me the opportunity to share how this case has impacted me.

IMPORTANT:

When you submit your Victim Impact Statement to the Crown attorney, your statement will be disclosed. This means a copy of your statement will be forwarded to the offender and/or the offender's lawyer.

The statements that I have made above are true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that this information will be submitted to the offender or the offender's lawyer and may be submitted to the court if there is a sentencing hearing. I understand that I may be called upon to testify in court if any information in this Victim Impact Statement is questioned. I also understand that if this statement is filed in open court, it becomes a public document and discussions around the content of the statement may be presented and recorded on the court record. I am submitting this statement voluntarily.

Signature of Victim:  Date: 08/26/2022

Please complete the following if translation services were provided in the preparation of this statement:

I did faithfully and to the best of my ability translate and interpret in the _____ language, the contents of this Victim Impact Statement to the victim named herein, who indicated an understanding of the said contents.

Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Note: Community and Youth Correctional Services may use your Victim Impact Statement when writing Pre-Sentence Reports, or for other case management purposes. Pre-Sentence Reports are used by the judge when deciding an appropriate sentence for the offender.

Notice about personal information and personal health information.

The personal information and personal health information on this form is collected by Manitoba Justice, Prosecution Services under the authority of the *Criminal Code* (Canada) and *The Victims' Bill of Rights* of Manitoba. It will be used and disclosed as stated on this form.

Your personal information and personal health information are protected by *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) of Manitoba and *The Personal Health Information Act* (PHIA) of Manitoba. We cannot use your information for any other purpose without your consent, unless the law permits it or requires it. We cannot share your information outside Manitoba Justice without your consent, unless the law permits or requires this.

If you have any questions or concerns about your Victim Impact Statement, contact a Victim Services Worker or a Crown attorney at the number(s) provided on the Personal Information Sheet.