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| **Graphics** | **Script** |
| Acknowledgement | The following video has been filmed on Kaurna Land.  We acknowledge this is the traditional country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pay respect to Elders past and present.  We recognise their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land and respect that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today. |
| Words on screen | Your right to information  **Forensic Mental Health Services SA Health** |
| Anna D’Alessandro | My name’s Anna D’Alessandro I’m the team leader for the forensic court service. That’s a service that is under the Forensic Mental Health Service. |
| Words on screen | **Tell us about what you do?** |
| Filmed interview | In terms of my team the forensic court service, we’ve been around since 2014 where the service brought together all the roles that are the go between mental health and the courts. And so that service provides a lot of support to the court information as well as any guidance they may need. We also provide information and support to victims as part of that. |
| Words on screen | **When do you usually meet victims?** |
| Filmed interview | So we, get in contact, or have contact with victims once the courts process is almost at the end. So the offender is found not guilty by mental impairment, then expert reports are ordered looking at a risk to the community and what the next steps should be and at that point is when order section 269R victims and next of kin reports and that’s when myself and my team members get involved. We will make contact with the victims, we will talk about the impact of the offending, we will talk about any of the risks they’re concerned about, and if there are any issues around their personal safety, we will raise with the Commissioner for Victims Rights as well. And then we convey all of that to the court so they can consider the input from the victims and as well as implement any type of conditions that the victim may request as part of a court order. The victim register then commences their work with the victims once that report the courts process is completed. They take on a role of advice and providing support to victims. They could be referral to counselling or even having a chat with a friendly person if they’re having a bad day or really quite anxious about what is going to happen. |
| Words on screen | **What sort of information is available to victims?** |
| Filmed interview | So if they’re wishing to know how the offender currently is if they are responding to treatment, if they’re engaging with mental health services or a psychiatrist if they’re required to see a doctor, so their level of compliance, we’re able to inform them about. Part of that also is education because not everyone knows about mental illness but even so how that relates to someone committing an offence and the linkages with that. So it’s a whole new world for people to come to grips with. So not only are you dealing with an offence that happened but also this other kind of confusing situation of someones mental illness involved with that and then a court process on top of that. We spend quite a bit of time going through all of that and sometimes its many times we will repeat the information and go through it because it is just so overwhelming and a lot to take in. |
| Words on screen | How do victims access your service? |
| Filmed interview | We actually work a little bit differently. Victims are identified by the Department of Public Prosecutions, they let us know who the victims are for the particular offence when we get asked to do a court report those details come to us and say myself, if it’s the district supreme court matter we’ll make contact and that’s when they will hear from us. We really rely on the dpp provide to us. |
| Words on screen | Why is this helpful for victims? |
| Filmed interview | It's very important for victims to be involved in the process. Part of this is also about minimising risk in the community so the offender benefits from knowing exactly what the impact of the offence is. It helps them as they get better to understand that their actions have caused a lot of trauma to people and as part of their rehabilitation it's really important for the offender to know that but also likewise for victims to be consulted through this it helps them with coming to terms with what has happened even though in awful cases where there is loss of life you'll never be able to bring that person back but it's I guess peace of mind to know that you are having input you are representing your loved one that you have lost and you're helping to ensure that this person will not commit an offence again. So all of that information and advice that victims receive throughout the whole process is important for their own recovery |
| Words on screen | What’s your advice to victims of crime? |
| Filmed interview | I know that forensic mental health service can sound very scary to people and they always associate the service with James Nash house and you know I just want to reassure victims that we have this service that is independent works under the same banner but we are specifically for victims and not for the offenders and we're there to represent them, we're there to make sure that they have a voice through the court process, support them, provide advice so I think that's an amazing component of the service that is there and I encourage victims to utilise it as much as possible. |
| Closing card | Have you been the victim of a crime?  There is help available  Find out more at Victims of Crime SA  www.voc.sa.gov.au |