

State of Wisconsin



1995 Senate Bill 181

Date of enactment: April 16, 1996
Date of publication*: April 30, 1996

1995 WISCONSIN ACT 220

AN ACT to amend 895.73 (2) of the statutes; relating to: the presence of a victim's service representative at interviews and meetings.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 895.73 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

895.73 (2) RIGHT TO BE PRESENT. A complainant has the right to select a service representative to attend, with the complainant, hearings, depositions and court proceedings, whether criminal or civil, and all interviews and meetings related to those hearings, depositions and court proceedings, if abusive conduct is alleged to have occurred against the complainant or if a crime is alleged to have been committed against the complainant and if the abusive conduct or the crime is a factor under s. 767.24 or is a factor in the complainant's ability to represent his or her interest at the hearing, deposition or court proceeding. The complainant shall notify the court orally, or in writing, of that selection. A service representa-

tive selected by a complainant has the right to be present at every hearing, deposition and court proceeding and all interviews and meetings related to those hearings, depositions and court proceedings that the complainant is required or authorized to attend. The service representative selected by the complainant has the right to sit adjacent to the complainant and confer orally and in writing with the complainant in a reasonable manner during every hearing, deposition or court proceeding and related interviews and meetings, except when the complainant is testifying or is represented by private counsel. The service representative may not sit at counsel table during a jury trial. The service representative may address the court if permitted to do so by the court.

SECTION 2. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to interviews and meetings occurring on the effective date of this subsection.

* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES 1993-94: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication as designated" by the secretary of state [the date of publication may not be more than 10 working days after the date of enactment].