



**Katherine
Fernandez Rundle**

MIAMI'S STATE ATTORNEY

www.miamisao.com

Justice Starts Here

A close-up, low-angle photograph of a woman's face, looking down with her eyes closed. Her hand is resting on her forehead, suggesting distress or grief. The lighting is soft and warm, creating a somber and intimate atmosphere.

Homicide
Counselor

What is a Homicide?

A homicide is any killing of a human being by the act, agency, procurement or culpable omission of another. An unlawful homicide, or one resulting from an unlawful act, may constitute murder or manslaughter.

What types of Homicide are there?

- **Murder in the First Degree** (F.S. 782.04)
Unlawful killing of a human being that is willful, deliberate, and with premeditated intent. This is punishable by death or life imprisonment.
- **Murder in the Second Degree** (F.S. 782.04)
Unlawful killing of another with malice aforethought but without deliberation and premeditation. This is punishable up to life in prison.
- **Manslaughter** (F.S. 782.07)
The killing of a human being by the act, procurement, or culpable negligence of another, without lawful justification and in cases in which such killing shall not be excusable homicide or murder. This is punishable up to 15 years.
- **Vehicular Homicide** (F.S. 782.071)
The killing of a human being by the operation of a motor vehicle by another in a reckless manner causing death to another. This is punishable up to 5 years in prison.
- **Justifiable Homicide** (F.S. 782.02)
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What are the stages in the process?

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- Crime Committed
- Police Investigation
- Arrest
- First Appearance (Bond Hearing)
- Arraignment
- Hearings, Reports, Motions and Depositions
- Trial
- Sentencing

Homicide Courts

What is grief?

Grief is a normal and natural reaction to the death of a loved one. Most of us are not prepared for the long journey of grief, which is sometimes devastating, frightening and often lonely. We may think, do, and say things that are very unlike us. There seems to be no end to the feelings that we experience. The following are the stages of grief, which may help you understand the feelings you are experiencing.

Stage 1 Shock and denial.

It is common for people to avoid making decisions or taking action at this point.

Stage 2 Anger.

Making decisions at this point is difficult because all one's energy gets put into the emotion rather than problem solving.

Stage 3 Depression and detachment.

Because it's hard to make decisions at this stage, consider asking a family member, friend, or professional for help if important decisions need to be made.

Stage 4 Dialogue and bargaining.

People become more willing to explore alternatives after expressing their feelings.

Stage 5 Acceptance.

Decisions are much easier to make because people have found new purpose and meaning as they have begun to accept their loss.

*Kubler-Ross, E. On Death and Dying.
New York: Macmillan, 1969*

Important Numbers

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
(305) 377-4445 / 1 (866) 596-0399 (*toll-free legal help line*)
Hours: First Wednesday of each month, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

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(*Various types of cases*)
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What Are My Rights Dealing With The Media?

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In accordance with the American Disabilities Act, persons needing reasonable accommodations to attend any criminal proceeding should contact their Victim/Witness Counselor or Secretary or for the hearing impaired call (TDD) 1-800-955-8771 via Florida Relay Service.

This project was supported by Award Number V6240 awarded by the Office of Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, and sponsored by the State Attorney's Office, Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida.



What is a Homicide Counselor?

Homicide Counselors work with the surviving family members of homicide victims by providing support, assistance and comfort through the criminal justice process.

Their tasks include:

- Case status information
- Information on future court dates
- Court accompaniment
- Scheduling and attending meetings with the Assistant State Attorney and family members
- Crime Victims' Compensation Program referral and claim filing assistance
- Referrals to professional community counseling programs and support groups
- Assistance preparing a victim impact statement

HOMICIDE COUNSELOR NUMBERS

305-547-0292

305-547-0188

305-547-0195

305-547-0893

What is the Crime Victims Compensation Program?

In some cases, families of deceased victims may be eligible for financial compensation from the State of Florida. Those determined eligible by the Office of the Attorney General may receive assistance with medical/dental costs, burial expenses, lost wages, relocation money for domestic violence victims and mental health counseling.

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VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

Pursuant to Florida Statute 921.143, you have the right to submit an oral or written impact statement at the time of sentencing about the facts of the case and the extent of any harm, including social, psychological, physical, and financial loss (including loss of earnings) as a result of the crime. Homicide Counselors will be available to assist in the preparation of your victim impact statement, if necessary.



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