



## **HOW TO FILE A POLICE REPORT IN UKRAINE**

If you are the victim of a crime, you should report the incident to local law enforcement agencies as soon as possible in order to obtain assistance and preserve evidence, if necessary.

First and foremost, ensure your own safety. Then, to report a crime, you need to take the following steps:

- Dial 102 to reach the local police on the telephone. Provide your full name, address and detailed information about the incident. If you do not know the exact address, give as many details of the scene as possible: nearby stores, government institutions etc.
- Wait for the police; do not leave the scene. The police will prepare the report for you to sign and should give you a copy of it. You will obtain the status of a victim (Article 55 part 2 of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine, hereinafter referred to as the CPC of Ukraine).  
*Note: Only the victim has access to the case files and may inquire about the status of the case.*
- You have the right to make your own photos or video recording of the crime scene; these may be used during any subsequent trial (Article 56 part 1 paragraph 12 of the CPC of Ukraine).
- If you would like to report a crime that happened some time ago, visit the nearest police department to file a report, a.k.a. "Zaiava". A duty officer must accept and register your Zaiava at the Unified Register of Pre-Trial Investigations.
- The Zaiava must include your full name, date of birth, your address and phone number. You should explain the situation in detail, indicate the date, time and place of the incident, and describe the alleged perpetrator of the crime, if known.
- An investigating officer will call you in to start the investigation.

*Note: Police officers in Ukraine mainly speak Ukrainian and/or Russian. Though some police officers may speak limited English sufficient to get an idea of an incident, it may be not good enough to accept the police report. Most police stations do not have translators on staff. The U.S. Embassy unfortunately is not in a position to provide translation services. Whenever possible please bring your own translator to the police station in order to avoid miscommunication or delays.*

If you have any additional questions, you can call the hotline of the National Police of Ukraine at 800-500-202 (24/7). If you wish, you may inform the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv about the incident and send us a copy of your police report for our awareness.

*Please note that this handout is provided for general informational purposes and should not be construed as definitive. Furthermore, the Embassy cannot act as your legal representative, and has no authority to investigate or prosecute crimes committed in Ukraine. If you need legal assistance, please consider obtaining it from local law firms that specialize in legal matters. Law firms can help you file and follow up on police reports.*