

VETOES

(a) (1) A judge need not sequester a witness who has testified and who is:

(i) The victim of a crime of violence under § 643B of this article for which the defendant is being tried; or

(ii) If the victim is deceased or disabled as a result of a crime or crimes of violence under § 643B of this article, a representative of the victim selected by the victim's next of kin or guardian.

(2) In the event of a dispute over the representative, the court may designate the representative.

(b) A judge may remove a victim or representative from the trial for cause.]

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(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "VICTIM" MEANS A PERSON WHO:

(I) HAS TESTIFIED AS A WITNESS; AND

(II) IS THE VICTIM OF A CRIME OF VIOLENCE UNDER § 643B OF THIS ARTICLE OR A CRIME INVOLVING, CAUSING, OR RESULTING IN DEATH OR SERIOUS BODILY HARM FOR WHICH THE DEFENDANT IS BEING TRIED.

(3) "REPRESENTATIVE" MEANS A PERSON WHO IS:

(I) 1. SUBPOENAED OR HAS TESTIFIED; AND

2. SELECTED BY THE NEXT OF KIN OR GUARDIAN OF A PERSON WHO IS DECEASED OR DISABLED AS A RESULT OF A CRIME OF VIOLENCE UNDER § 643B OF THIS ARTICLE OR A CRIME INVOLVING, CAUSING, OR RESULTING IN DEATH OR SERIOUS BODILY HARM; OR

(II) DESIGNATED BY THE COURT IN THE EVENT OF A DISPUTE OVER THE REPRESENTATIVE.

(B) A VICTIM OR REPRESENTATIVE SHALL BE PRESUMED TO HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT AT THE TRIAL.

(C) THE JUDGE MAY SEQUESTER A VICTIM OR REPRESENTATIVE FROM ANY PART OF THE TRIAL AT THE REQUEST OF THE DEFENDANT OR THE STATE ONLY AFTER A FINDING OF GOOD CAUSE.