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Who Qualifies to File Under the Adult Survivors Act

Our Friends · Monday, September 15th, 2025

Based on 2024 data from RAINN, sexual assault is a very common problem, with more than 433,000 cases of sexual assault or rape reported each year among people aged 12 and older.

Adults who are abused can sue under the Adult Survivors Act. This Act specifies sexual assault and coercive behaviors so the survivors can seek justice regardless of the period within which the abuse was inflicted. Specifically, the [Adult Survivors Act in California](#) has specific criteria that must be met to file a claim.

But then, what is needed to be eligible? Knowing the criteria can encourage you to act. Let's explore the things you need to know.

Overview of the Adult Survivors Act

The Adult Survivors Act is a tool in supporting justice and healing for sexual assault victims. It enables individuals who have suffered harm to pursue legal action against those responsible in court.

For example, when the timeframe to file an action against the alleged wrongful party has already lapsed. This is your opportunity to reclaim your voice and make yourself heard. The Act considers the challenges adult survivors are confronted with, providing a support framework on which to stand while moving about within the legal system and degrees.

According to [sex crime attorney Paul Figueroa](#), public opinion can influence these cases, and you can benefit from hiring a lawyer who knows how to defend them and work against negative perceptions.

Many others are stepping up for their rights as well. By doing so, you contribute to the momentum that encourages responsibility and awareness. Getting on board with it guarantees your closure and support while you start your healing.

Types of Abuse Covered

Understanding the different types of abuse within the Adult Survivors Act application is very important. This Act targets sexual abuses ranging from rape, sexual assault, and sexual acts of coercion. It also involves matters of manipulation, intimidation, and exploitation, which can leave their marks as lasting emotional and mental scars.

If ever you feel you were a victim of any of these incidents, you are definitely not alone. Many people went through the same and have somehow found the courage to come out and demand justice.

Needless to say, the law recognizes these phenomena and is set into motion to punish whoever commits them. You can now go further along your course of healing and reclaiming your burdened voice. You deserve all the support for this action.

Eligibility Criteria

To be put under the Adult Survivors Act, you must meet certain conditions related to when the abuse took place and your age at the time of the occurrence. You must be at least 18 years old by the time the abuse had taken place. The experience has to take place within the given timeline, which acts as a closing point for eligibility.

Your story matters, and abuse that took place at any time within that timeline requires looking into. This law helps you find a way to heal and get justice.

Time Limitations for Filing

If you qualify under the Adult Survivors Act, you must understand the filing deadlines for your claim. There is only a limited window for claiming, so don't wait too long. You have one year from the law's effective date within which to file a claim. Being late means forgoing potential justice and support.

The time limit to act begins from the moment you can use the law. This is a situation many others are facing as well.

Seek supporting communities and resources to help guide you through decision-making processes before it is too late. Your voice counts. There is still room for acceptance and healing.

Steps to Take if You Qualify

If you find that you do fall under the Adult Survivors Act, it is time to take action to move on. Collect police reports, medical records, journals where experiences are documented, and so forth.

Consider hiring an attorney accustomed to dealing with such cases. They can guide you throughout the entire process of upholding your rights. Search for support groups where you can share your journey and where you can feel a sense of community. These steps give greater strength while you regain your voice.

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