

Isabelle Vanderhoeven. Department of Justice Houses, Flemish Government, Belgium

## History

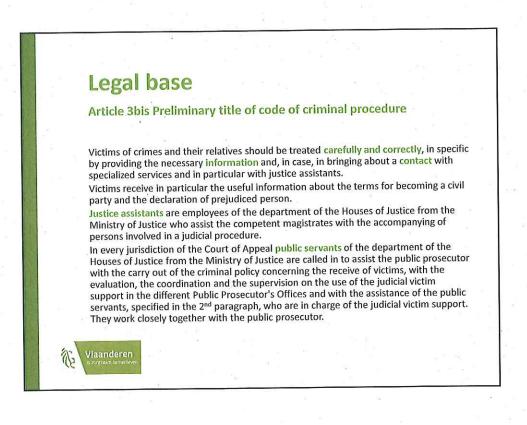
- September 1993: pilot projects of Judicial Victim Support Services in public prosecutor's offices and courts
- February 1996: every public prosecutor's office disposes of a Judicial Victim Support Service
- Judicial Victim Support Services ightarrow competence of the houses of Justice
- 1 januari 2015: Transferring to the Flemish Community

#### Vlaanderen

### Legal base

- Law of March 12<sup>th</sup> 1998 for the improvement of criminal justice at the stage of the investigation and the judicial inquiry → article 3*bis* PTCCP
- COL 16/2012 Joint circular from the Minister of Justice and the College of Prosecutors at the Courts of Appeal regarding the judicial victim support within the public prosecutor's office and the courts





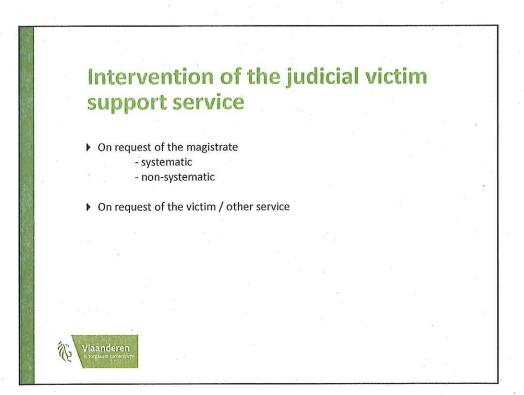
## Legal base

#### COL 16/2012

For the execution of their missions, the justice assistants basically have access to the criminal file and must have all the necessary facilities to carry out their mission.

 access to database justice
present on sessions behind closed . doors







#### 1. Individual Missions

- Information general and specific
- Assistance
  - reconstruction of facts
  - consultation of the criminal file
  - restitution belongings
  - sessions of court
- Referral

2. Structural Missions

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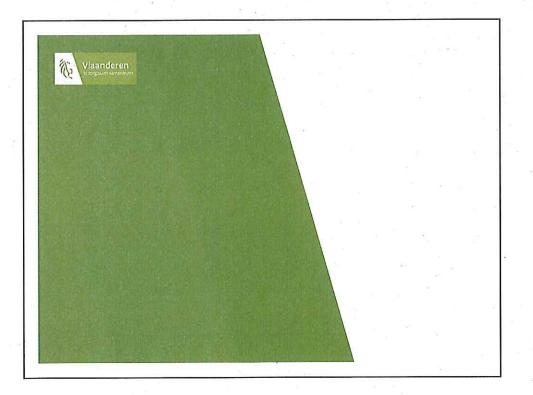
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# **Specificities**

• Unique position: bridge between magistrates and victims

Judicial victim support =/= victim support





5