

State Comparison: Victim-witness Protections

State	“Rape shield” protection available to minors testifying in sex trafficking prosecutions? ¹	Testimony by closed-circuit television available to minors testifying in sex trafficking prosecutions?
Alabama	No	Under 16
Alaska	Yes (only 1 CSEC offense)	Under 16 ²
Arizona	No	Under 15
Arkansas	No	Under 12
California	Yes (*Prop 35)	No
Colorado	No	No ³
Connecticut	No	No
Delaware	No	Under 11 (CSEC and porn only)
DC	Yes	No
Florida	No	Under 16
Georgia	Yes	No
Hawaii	No	No
Idaho	No	Yes
Illinois	No	Yes
Indiana	Yes (limited to child pornography cases)	Under 14
Iowa	No	Yes
Kansas	Yes	Under 13
Kentucky	Yes ⁴	Under 12
Louisiana	Yes	Under 17
Maine	Yes (CSEC only) ⁵	No
Maryland	No	No
Massachusetts	Yes (HT, not CSEC)	Under 15
Michigan	No	No
Minnesota	No	Yes
Mississippi	No	Under 16
Missouri	No	No
Montana	No	Under 16
Nebraska	No	No ⁶
Nevada	No	Under 14
New Hampshire	No	No ⁷
New Jersey	Yes (limited to child pornography cases)	No
New Mexico	Yes	No
New York	No	Under 14
North Carolina	No	Under 16
North Dakota	No	No
Ohio	No	No ⁸
Oklahoma	No	No
Oregon	No	Under 12
Pennsylvania	No	Under 16
Rhode Island	No	Yes
South Carolina	Yes	No
South Dakota	No	No
Tennessee	No	No
Texas	No	Yes
Utah	Yes ⁹	Under 14
Vermont	Yes	No
Virginia	Yes	Yes
Washington	No	Under 10
West Virginia	No	Under 13
Wisconsin	Yes	Under 16
Wyoming	No	No
TOTALS:	17	29

¹ This chart looks at whether the rape shield law or closed circuit testimony law is specifically available to victims testifying in CSEC or trafficking investigations. A “No” response indicates that the applicable law only applies to non-commercial sex offenses or the state does not have a law providing this protection.

² Under Alaska Stat. § 12.45.046(a) (Testimony of children in criminal proceedings) the court “may order that the testimony of the child be taken by closed circuit television or through one-way mirrors. . . .”

³ Videotaped testimony is permitted for victims under 15, but not testimony by closed-circuit television.

⁴ Applies in any proceeding involving alleged sexual misconduct.

⁵ Applies in all cases involving sexual misconduct.

⁶ Videotaped testimony is permitted for child victims under 11, but not testimony by closed-circuit television.

⁷ Videotaped testimony is permitted for victims under 16, but not testimony by closed-circuit television.

⁸ Videotaped testimony is permitted for victims under 13, but not testimony by closed-circuit television.

⁹ Applies in all cases involving sexual misconduct.