

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General
Victims of Crime Compensation Office
50 Park Place • 5th Floor • Newark, NJ 07102



NEW JERSEY
VICTIMS OF CRIME
COMPENSATION OFFICE

caring
support
help
dignity
respect



our mission

The New Jersey Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO) provides compensation to innocent victims of crime for some of the expenses they incur as a result of the crime. In carrying out its mission, the VCCO is mindful of the special needs of those victimized by crime and their right to be treated with fairness, compassion and respect.

crimes covered

If you are a victim of one of the following crimes you may be eligible for compensation by the VCCO:

- Aggravated assault
- Arson
- Bias crime
- Burglary**
- Domestic violence
- Human trafficking
- Indecent acts with children
- Kidnapping
- Lewd, indecent or obscene acts
- Manslaughter
- Motor vehicle offenses**
- Murder
- Robbery
- Sexual assault
- Stalking
- Terroristic threats
- Threats to do bodily harm

**Certain conditions apply

eligibility

- The crime must have occurred in New Jersey or to a New Jersey resident victimized outside of the State
- The victim must have reported the crime to police within 9 months*
- The victim must cooperate with the investigation and prosecution of the crime
- The claim must be filed within 3 years of the date of the crime*
- Must be an innocent victim of a crime

* Consideration will be taken if good cause exists for delayed filing

apply online at...

www.njvictims.org

Toll Free 877-658-2221

If I qualify, what can you pay?

The expenses that can be paid include:

- Hospital, physician and medical expenses
- Mental health counseling up to \$20,000
- Loss of earnings up to \$600 per week
 - Temporary disability, not to exceed 24 months
 - Permanent disability, not to exceed 60 months
 - Secondary victim loss of earnings*
 - Bereavement, not to exceed two weeks*
 - Court attendance*
- Loss of financial support up to \$600 per week, not to exceed 48 months*
- Funeral expenses up to \$7,500
- Attorney fees
 - Victim's rights attorney fees up to \$200 per hour, not to exceed \$3,000
 - Representation with the VCCO claim up to 15% of award at \$200 per hour
- Relocation expenses up to \$3,000
- Crime scene clean up to \$4,000
- Domestic help/child care/day care services up to \$6,500

* Certain conditions apply.

VCCO is a payer of last resort

- Victim must first utilize and exhaust other resources including State benefits and insurance.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Crime Victims' Compensation?

The Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO) reimburses innocent victims of a crime for some of the expenses they incur as a result of the crime.

Do all crime victims get paid?

No. The law sets forth the types of crimes that are covered under the VCCO. Further, if the victim participated in the crime or contributed to his/her injuries, he/she may be denied compensation.

Who is eligible to file?

Generally, the victim may always file for his/her own benefits. In other cases, including those involving a death, the following persons may apply for benefits:

- A family member, a dependent of the victim or the estate of the victim
- A person who paid for some of the services for the victim
- The guardian, guardian ad litem, estate representative, authorized agent of the victim or the victim's dependents

Can I be reimbursed for out of pocket expenses?

In some situations the victim or claimant can be reimbursed.

Can I still file a claim if the suspect has not been arrested or if the accused is acquitted at trial?

Yes. Compensation may be made whether or not a person is prosecuted or convicted.

Can the VCCO pay providers directly?

Yes. Once a claim is determined eligible, direct payment to providers is available.

I have received additional bills that were not considered in my initial award. Can I still submit them?

Yes. Crime related bills are eligible for compensation up to ten years after the initial payment award has been made.

How do I apply?

Complete the online VCCO claim form at www.njvictims.org and include the police report and documentation showing financial loss or need. Once this information is received, a claims specialist will be assigned to assist you with your claim. If all eligibility requirements have been met, your claim will be approved.

Applications are also available from the 21 County Prosecutors' Offices through their respective Victim Witness Coordinators.

For more information or for a claim application, please contact us by phone, mail, fax, or visit our Web site.

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Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Walk-in Clients: Please visit our Web site, or call our toll free number.

Toll Free: 877-658-2221

Phone: 973-648-2107

Fax: 973-648-3937

Web site: www.njvictims.org



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We help put the pieces back together