

VICTIMS OF CRIME COMPENSATION OFFICE

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.

The expenses that can be paid include:

- Hospital, physician and medical expenses
- Mental Health Counseling
- Loss of earnings
- Funeral expenses
- Relocation expenses
- Crime scene clean up

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

For more information or for a claim application, please contact VCCO by phone or visit their website.

Toll Free: 877-658-2221
Website: www.njvictims.org

VICTIM INFORMATION and NOTIFICATION EVERYDAY (VINE)

Victim Information and Notification Everyday provides crime victims with information about custody status of offenders. Through the automated notification feature of VINE, an individual will be telephoned when an offender is arrested or released from custody. With one toll-free telephone call—the custody status of an offender housed in any of New Jersey's county jails or other county or state correctional facilities is available 24-hours a day.

TO REGISTER WITH V.I.N.E.

In NJ call: 1-877-VINE-4NJ (1-877-846-3465)
For additional information visit website:
www.vinelink.com

NOTE: In NJ, victims of domestic violence will be registered with V.I.N.E. when offender is taken into custody at the county jail.

WITNESS GUIDELINES FOR COURTROOM TESTIMONY

- **Be Prepared:** Before you testify, try to remember the scene and what happened. Do not try to memorize your testimony, just be prepared to tell what happened in your own words.
- **Be Honest.** You will be sworn to tell the truth at all times. Do not guess or make up an answer.
- **Listen carefully** to questions. If you do not understand a question ask that it be explained or repeated.
- **Think before you speak.** Give accurate answers to the best of your ability. If you do not know the answer to the question, or if you do not remember, say so.
- **Speak clearly and loudly** enough so that all jurors can hear you.
- **Answer only** the questions asked of you. Do not volunteer information.
- **Dress neatly and appropriately for Court.** Avoid distracting mannerisms such as chewing gum while testifying. Be serious and avoid joking.
- **Stop when the judge** interrupts you or when an attorney objects to a question. Wait until the Court gives its ruling. You will be told when to continue.
- **Be Courteous**, even if the lawyer asking the questions is not. It is important **NOT TO LOSE YOUR TEMPER OR ARGUE** with either attorney. **STAY CALM** at all times while being questioned.

Warren County Prosecutors Office Victim Witness Unit

Mailing address:
413 Second Street, Belvidere, NJ 07823

Physical address:
199 Hardwick Street, Belvidere, NJ 07823
(Entrance located on Second Street via accessible ramp)

A GUIDE FOR VICTIMS & WITNESSES INVOLVED IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM



Warren Co Prosecutor's Office
Victim Witness Unit
199 Hardwick St.
Belvidere NJ 07823
908-475-6284

**A MESSAGE TO VICTIMS AND
WITNESSES FROM THE
WARREN COUNTY PROSECUTOR**

Dear Citizen:

As a community, we need to remind ourselves that the first and primary constitutional right is the right to be free from criminal attack to both person and property. This is why we have police departments/agencies and county prosecutor offices.

But, law enforcement is ultimately the work of the entire community. Police personnel cannot do it alone. Criminal justice is dependent on victims and witnesses coming forward to report crime, provide statements and testify about witnessed criminal conduct.

In 1991, the citizens of New Jersey amended their State Constitution to require that a victim of crime "be treated with fairness, compassion, and respect by the criminal justice system".

This office is committed to safeguarding this right for both victims and witnesses here in Warren County.

Thank you for being a responsible citizen.

Sincerely,

THE WARREN COUNTY PROSECUTOR

**THE WARREN COUNTY VICTIM-WITNESS
ASSISTANCE UNIT**

In order to assist victims with the aftermath of Victimization, and to help make their participation in the criminal justice system less burdensome the following services are provided:

- Referral to social service agencies
- Information about the Criminal Justice System
- Case status information
- Transportation
- Child care to attend court proceedings or court related meetings.
- Assistance in applying for compensation from the Victims of Crime Compensation Ofc
- Compensation for financial losses through restitution request
- Assistance with the return of property
- Court accompaniment
- Employer intercession
- Separate and secure waiting area
- Assistance with Victim Impact Statements

FOR INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE CALL

Victim Witness.....908-475-6284
Special Victims Unit.....908-475-6060
Municipal Co Advocate.....908-475-6273

Prosecutor's Office Website:
www.wcpo-nj.us

SERVICE AGENCIES

The following is a brief list of service agencies that may be of assistance to victims and witnesses:

- **Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Crisis Center**
908-453-4181(HOTLINE)
908-453-4121
www.besafewc.org
- **Catholic Charities**
908-454-2074
www.thewaytohelp.com
- **Center for Family Services**
Washington (Main) 908-689-1000
Hackettstown 908-852-0333
Phillipsburg 908-454-4470
www.centerffs.org
- **First Call For Help**
908-454-4850
www.norwescap.org
- **NJ Division of Child Protection and Permanency**
Warren County Local Office
908-689-7000
To Report Child Abuse
1-877-652-2873



OR VISIT THESE WEBSITES

www.nj.gov
all NJ agencies
www.njvw.org
State Office Victim/Witness Advocacy
www.njcasa.org
NJ Coalition Against Sexual Assault
www.njcbw.org
NJ Coalition for Battered Women