

## If Crime Strikes You . . .

The California State Board of Control, Victims of Crime Program (VOC) helps victims with losses related to crime injuries. VOC costs are paid entirely by fines and penalties from offenders, not by California's tax dollars.

## Who Can Get Help?

- Persons who have been physically or emotionally injured by crime in California
- California residents injured by crime or terrorism whatever it may take place.
- Survivors of a victims who died as a direct result of a crime, and anyone who paid for the medical, funeral and/or burial expenses of that victim.
- A victim's spouse, child, parent or sibling. A family member of the victim, including the victim's fiancé(e) who witnessed the crime.
- A person living in the victim's household at the time of the crime or who had lived with the victim for at least two years in a relationship similar to a spouse, child, parent or sibling of the victim.
- The primary caretaker of a minor victim.

## Eligibility Requirements:

- Report the crime to law enforcement or Children's Protective Services (CPS).
- File an application with the Program within one (1) year from the date of the crime or explain why it was not filed on time
- If the victim was under 18 of age on the date of the crime, file an application before the victim's 19<sup>th</sup> birthday and explain why it was not filed on time.
- Cooperate with law enforcement agencies in the apprehension and conviction of a criminal committing the crime.
- Cooperate with the Program or its representatives.
- You must **NOT** have consented to, provoked, or incited the crime nor have been assisting in or committing a criminal act causing your injuries

## How long will it take?

Payments will be made when all required information is received. You can request an Emergency Award for certain types of expenses up to \$2,000 to \$5,000 for funeral and/or burial expenses.

Applications with Crime Reports attached will be processed more quickly.

## What losses may be paid?

- Medical/Dental Expenses for the Victim.
- Mental Health Treatment or Counseling.
- Wage or Income Loss.
- Support Loss for Dependents of a Deceased or Disabled Victim.
- Funeral and/or Burial Expenses.
- Job Retraining for a Disabled Victim.
- Home or Vehicle Modifications for a Disabled Victim.
- Moving/Relocation Expenses.

The Program may pay crime related bills not covered by insurance or other sources, although the total of all reimbursements cannot exceed \$46,000.

Each of the above losses may have their own limits. You should become aware of these limits before assuming that the Program will pay.

**You cannot be paid for lost, damaged or stolen property, or for pain and suffering.**

**You do not need a lawyer or other representative to receive payments.**

## For Help Contact:

- Your local Victim/Witness Assistance Center. To locate the office closest to you, look in the Government Section of the white pages of your telephone directory.
- The Program Customer Services Unit at 1-800-777-9229

**Gray Davis**  
Governor

## A Message from the State Board of Control

**Barry D. Keene**

Director, Department of General Services and Chairman

**Kathleen Connell**

State Controller and Member

**Bennie O'Brien**

Member

If you or a loved has suffered physical or emotional injury from a violent crime, the Victims of Crime Program may be able to help.

The Program was created to help victims and their families with the many costs of crime. It is funded entirely with fines and penalties from offenders, not by California's tax dollars.

The Victims of Crime Program cannot erase the painful memories of a crime, but we hope it can help ease the financial burdens you face.

Please ready this brochure to see if the Program can help you or your family.

**Kelly J. Brodie**

Executive Officer  
Victims of Crime Program  
State Board of Control

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State Board of Control  
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**Customer Services Unit**  
1-800-777-9229  
**Hearing Impaired Relay Services**  
English: 1-800-735-2929  
Spanish: 1-800-855-3000  
www.boc.ca.gov

