

HISTORY OF CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION

Washington's Crime Victims Compensation Program began primarily as the result of a series of editorials in the early 1970's in the state's two major newspapers.

The theme of the editorials was that criminals were having their room and board and medical needs met by the state's prison system while victims were left with medical bills and other costs to pay because of the offenders crime.

The Legislature deemed this unfair and in 1973 passed the Crime Victims Compensation Act.

Program of

Lutheran Community Services

210 W. Sprague Ave.
Spokane, WA 99201
Tel: 866.751.7119 (24 Hours)
Fax: 509.747.0690

Your Resource for Information and Assistance

Spokane Crime Victim Service Center
1.866.751.7119

Crime Victim Compensation Program
Department of Labor and Industry
1.800.762.3716

Protecting the rights of crime victims



SPOKANE CRIME VICTIM SERVICE CENTER

Your Resource for Information and Assistance



Call to Get Help
1.866.751.7119



CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM



WHAT DOES CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION DO?

If you or a loved one has suffered personal injury from a violent crime, the Washington State Crime Victim Compensation Program may be able to help. This program was created to help victims with the many costs associated with violent crime. The program provides financial compensation to crime victims for such expenses as medical bills, loss of

earnings, and funeral expenses.

While no amount of compensation can erase the painful memories of violent crime, we hope this program will help in your recovery and ease some of the financial burdens you face.

The Crime Victims Compensation Program is the "payer of last resort". This means Crime Victim

Compensation can pay only after primary insurance has paid, if you have insurance coverage.

Examples of primary insurance include:

- *Your own medical insurance*
- *Public health care such as medical coupons or VA*
- *Auto, life, or homeowner's insurance policies*

What Are the Requirements?

- 1) Notify law enforcement of the crime within **one year** or within one year of when a report could have reasonably been made.
- 2) CVCP must receive the application:
 - ✓ Within two years of reporting the crime to law enforcement.
 - ✓ Within two years of your eighteenth birthday if you were a minor at the time of the crime.
 - ✓ Within five years from reporting the crime to law enforcement with good cause.
- 3) You need to use benefits available from all other public and private insurance first.
- 4) You need to reimburse CVCP if you receive an insurance settlement or proceeds from a lawsuit based on the crime.

Who Can File?

You must meet the following requirements:

- Bodily injury or severe emotional stress resulting from the crime
- Survivors of a homicide victim.
- Reasonable cooperation with law enforcement
- Washington residents injured by an act of terrorism in a foreign country

Am I Eligible?

Benefits cannot be paid to someone:

- Injured while participating in a felony
- Injured while confined in jail, prison or institutionalized
- Who incited, provokes or consented to the crime
- Who is unwilling to provide reasonable cooperation to law enforcement

What Benefits Are Available?

- Payment of medical, dental and mental health counseling bills
- Partial payment of lost wages
- Partial payment of funeral costs
- Modification to homes and vehicles to accommodate permanent injuries
- Limited pension payment if the crime prevents you from returning to work permanently
- Limited pension payment to the spouse or child of a deceased victim
- Counseling family members of sexual assault victims and homicide victims

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