

North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Prevent. Protect. Prepare.

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor

Reuben F. Young, Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Governor Perdue, Members of the North Carolina General Assembly

FROM:

Reuben F. Young, Secretary

DATE:

March 15, 2012

SUBJECT:

Annual Report on the Crime Victims Compensation Fund

Pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. § 15B-21, I am pleased to submit the Annual Report on the Crime Victims Compensation Fund. This program reimburses citizens who suffer medical expenses and lost wages as a result of being an innocent victim of a crime in North Carolina.

While no amount of money can erase the trauma and grief victims suffer, this aid can be crucial in the victims' recovery process. To the extent allowable by this program, paying for care to help restore victims' physical and mental health, replacing lost income of victims who cannot work, and reimbursing funeral costs of innocent victims of crime, helps victims regain their lives and their financial stability.

I am proud to inform you that our Director of Victims Compensation Services, Janice Carmichael, was elected to the Board of Directors for the National Association of VOCA (Victims of Crime Act) Administrators, for the second time, at the annual conference in September 2010. The esteem of Janice's peers, nationally, reflects well on your support of Victims Compensation Services and the Commission in their mission to assist innocent victims of crime throughout North Carolina.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. I will be glad to respond to any questions you may have on this report, or you may also direct any inquiries to my Legislative Affairs team of Douglas Holhrook, Director (825-2749), and Mary Jennings, Liaison (825-2792). They will assist you on these or any other matters related to our Department.

RFY:jc

cc:

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Annual Report on THE CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION COMMISSION and VICTIM COMPENSATION SERVICES DIVISION

March 2012

Prepared for The Governor and General Assembly

General Statute § 15B-21. Annual report.

The Commission shall, by March 15 each year, prepare and transmit to the Governor and the General Assembly a report of its activities in the prior fiscal year and the current fiscal year to date. The report shall include:

- (1) The number of claims filed;
- (2) The number of awards made;
- (2a) The number of pending cases by year received;
- (3) The amount of each award;
- (4) A statistical summary of claims denied and awards made;
- (5) The administrative costs of the Commission, including the compensation of commissioners;
- (6) The current unencumbered balance of the North Carolina Crime Victims Compensation Fund;
- (7) The amount of funds carried over from the prior fiscal year;
- (8) The amount of funds received in the prior fiscal year from the Department of Correction and from the compensation fund established pursuant to the Victims Crime Act of 1984, 42 U.S.C. § 10601, et seq.; and
- (9) The amount of funds expected to be received in the current fiscal year, as well as the amount actually received in the current fiscal year on the date of the report, from the Department of Correction and from the compensation fund established pursuant to the Victims Crime Act of 1984, 42 U.S.C. § 10601, et seq.

The Attorney General and State Auditor shall assist the Commission in the preparation of the report required by this section.

During fiscal year 2008-2009, and the current fiscal year through February 28, 2010, the Crime Victim Compensation Commission and the Victim Compensation Division of the Department of Crime Control & Public Safety used State and Federal funds to aid eligible victims of crime as follows:

(1)	Claims filed:	4,549
(2)	Awards made:	3,072
(2a)	Pending cases:	964
(3)	Amount of each award (average):	\$3,550
(4)	Claims denied and awards made:	3,072 awarded; 1,447 denied

- (5) Administrative costs of the Commission, primarily travel to meetings, travel to conferences and conference costs: \$5,106
- (6) Funds carried over from the prior fiscal year:

\$0

(7) Funds received in the prior fiscal year from the Department of Corrections:

\$641,147

Funds received in the prior fiscal year from the compensation fund established pursuant to the Victims Crime Act of 1984, 42 U.S.C. § 10601, et seq: \$2,357,900

(8) Funds expected to be received, and actually received to date, in the current fiscal year from the Department of Correction: \$600,000

Funds expected to be received in the current fiscal year from the compensation fund established pursuant to the Victims Crime Act of 1984, 42 U.S.C. § 10601, et seq: \$2,846,200

Other notable information:

- From the crime victims fund payments, 76% was medical/dental expenses and 18% was burial expenses.
- In FY 2010-2011, crime claims were investigated and paid on average 9.2 weeks after the claim was received compared to 17.7 weeks in FY 2009-2010.
- VCS expended the State Appropriation by January 1, 2012.
- From July 1, 2011 February 28, 2012, VCS has awarded 1,676 claims totaling \$5,327,627.
- An additional 182 claims have been awarded totaling \$1,254,338, but not paid to date.