ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM (ACP)

With increased public access to personal information, there is a rising need for address confidentiality for victims of family violence, stalking, human trafficking, child abduction, and sexual assault. ACP provides a substitute address and mail forwarding service for these victims and members of their household. ACP is a safety tool and a portion of an overall safety plan. It is not a witness protection program or a guarantee of safety. Trained advocates can assist with the application process. To find a local advocate, access the Texas Council on Family Violence website at *www.tcfv.org* or the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault website at *www.taasa.org*. To learn more about the ACP, go to *www.texasattorneygeneral.gov* or call (888) 832-2322 (statewide) or (512) 936-1750.

SEXUAL ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINER (SANE) CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

SANEs are specially trained registered nurses who conduct medical forensic exams and provide compassionate, trauma-informed care to survivors. SANEs may also serve as expert witnesses in court. The Office of the Attorney General's SANE Certification Program establishes minimum standards for registered nurses seeking certification to conduct sexual assault exams. The certification focuses on the care provided during a sexual assault exam for victims of sexual assault and abuse.

SEXUAL ASSAULT TRAINING PROGRAM (SATP)

The SATP ensures that sexual assault programs in Texas provide training to staff and volunteers who work with victims and survivors of sexual assault. This program ensures sexual assault programs meet the state standard to provide a 24-hour crisis hotline, crisis intervention, public education, advocacy, and accompaniment to hospitals, courts, and law enforcement and prosecutors' offices.

TEXAS INTEGRATED VICTIM SERVICES SYSTEM (IVSS) COUNTIES

The OAG has facilitated the implementation of Texas IVSS Counties, a statewide automated victim notification system designed to provide timely, reliable updates to victims and concerned citizens regarding offender custody and court status at the county level.

Users can register for notifications by visiting *https://ivss-counties.tdcj.texas.gov*. Once registered, users will automatically receive updates by phone or email when there is a change in an offender's custody or court status. Users may also call the IVSS Counties Call Center at (866) 268-8959 to check offender status or get assistance. Trained operators are available 24 hours a day. To check availability in your area, contact your sheriff's office or district or county attorney's office.

Texas IVSS Counties is a notification tool only. It does not replace emergency assistance or safety planning. Always contact local law enforcement in emergencies and a victim advocate for safety planning. The Victim Services Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice also provides information to crime victims on the status of state prison inmates via the TDCJ toll-free number: (800) 848-4284.

CONTACT INFORMATION

CRIME VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION

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(800) 983-9933

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Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to visit our website.



CRIME VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION

12/25

OUR MISSION

To assist in the compassionate and effective delivery of crime victim services by offering information, resources, and financial assistance to crime victims and the organizations assisting them.

CRIME VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION

Rebuilding lives damaged by the emotional, physical, and financial aftermath of violence takes courage and determination. Victims, families, and communities can receive assistance in this effort from programs in the Crime Victim Services Division of the Office of the Attorney General:

- Crime Victims' Compensation Program
- Sexual Assault Exam Reimbursement
- Emergency Medical Care Compensation
- Planning, Policy, and Program Development
- Address Confidentiality Program
- Sexual Assault Prevention and Crisis Services Program
- Texas Integrated Victim Services System Counties

CRIME VICTIMS' COMPENSATION (CVC) PROGRAM

The CVC Program helps victims of violent crime and their families and household members with the financial costs of crime. The CVC Program covers crime-related costs, such as medical expenses, mental health care, lost wages, relocation, and funeral expenses. The CVC Program is the last source of payment by law. Readily available collateral sources such as health insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, auto insurance, or Texas Workers' Compensation must be used before CVC funds may be applied. The CVC Program has basic eligibility requirements that determine who can receive assistance.

WHO CAN APPLY?

- Victims who were injured in a crime through no fault of their own.
- Persons injured while helping a victim of a violent crime.
- First responders injured while responding to a violent crime.
- Persons authorized to act on behalf of an incapacitated, deceased or minor victim.
- Persons paying crime-related bills for the victim.
- Family or household members of the victim requiring certain assistance, including counseling.
- Dependents of deceased victims.

WHAT CRIMES ARE COVERED?

The CVC Program assists victims of violent crimes or attempted crimes including sexual assault, homicide, family violence, and human trafficking. Some crimes involving vehicles are also covered, including intoxication offenses and failure to stop and render aid. The CVC Program does not assist with identity theft, routine car accidents, or property crimes.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

The crime must have happened in Texas to a U.S. resident (or the victim was a Texas resident, and the crime happened in a country without victim compensation.)

The application should be received within three years of the crime, with special exceptions made based on age, circumstances or with good cause. The crime must be reported to law enforcement within a reasonable amount of time. The applicant is required to cooperate with law enforcement and prosecutors.

Assistance may be reduced or denied if the victim: participated in the crime; engaged in illegal activity; was incarcerated at the time of the crime; knowingly or intentionally submitted false information; or did not cooperate with appropriate law enforcement agencies.

CVC APPLICATIONS & QUESTIONS

Every law enforcement agency and prosecutor's office in Texas is mandated to provide victims with information about the CVC Program. Hospitals and medical centers may also provide applications. You can also go to our website to use the CVC Portal, where you can create an online account to apply, upload documents, and stay updated throughout the process.

If you don't have access to the portal, you can still find applications, webforms to send documents more easily, and other helpful information on our website.

If you have any questions, our staff are here to help. Call us at (800) 983-9933.

Visit our website at: *www.texasattorneygeneral.gov*

SEXUAL ASSAULT EXAM REIMBURSEMENT

A victim of sexual assault is not required to pay for the forensic portion of the forensic medical exam under Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 56A. A CVC Program application is not required for service providers to be reimbursed for this expense. Instead, service providers seek reimbursement through the Sexual Assault Exam Reimbursement application portal.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE (EMC) COMPENSATION

For victims of sexual assault who do not wish to report the crime to law enforcement but need help covering medical costs incurred during the forensic exam, EMC Compensation is available. EMC covers the cost of medical care provided during the sexual assault exam and up to 30 days of prescribed, continuing medical care related to the assault following the exam.

Up to $25,000 may be reimbursed under EMC for sexual assault victims, depending on the crime date. Covered costs include:

- Medical treatment during the exam
- Medications prescribed at the time of the exam
- EMS transport to the hospital

Victims who initially apply for EMC and later decide they need additional coverage from the CVC Program may apply for full CVC assistance within three years of the date of the crime. Additional coverage may include lost wages or relocation assistance. Victims will be required to meet CVC program requirements, including reporting the crime, for a CVC application to be approved.

Because EMC only covers medical care related to the sexual assault exam within a limited time frame, there are fewer qualification requirements than for full CVC reimbursement.

PLANNING, POLICY, AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The Planning, Policy, and Development Program provides support and assistance to the OAG and its many divisions in carrying out the agency's mission and fulfilling legislative mandates. The OAG administers annual grants and contracts as authorized by the Texas Legislature. Programmatic expertise supports the seven victim assistance programs authorized by the Texas Legislature and other legislative mandates by:

- Providing content and practical experience
- Conducting research and evaluation to provide a basis for cost-benefit analysis and setting direction on victim and grant related issues
- Facilitating coordinated support for programs
- Enhancing statewide planning, policy, and program development