

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission



## Crime Victim Services

### Crime Victim Compensation FY2015 Grant Overview

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the criminal justice system in Arizona

The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-2407, authorizes the distribution of Crime Victim Compensation funds to designated operational units in each county throughout the state. In accordance with Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) R10-4-101 through R10-4-111, Crime Victim Compensation funds are used to provide financial assistance to victims of crime for out-of-pocket expenses incurred as a direct result of the crime. For Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15), ACJC designated the county attorney office in each of Arizona's 15 counties as the operational unit for that county. Operational units are responsible for making compensation awards to claimants using funding allocated to each county based on a formula approved by ACJC. In FY15, ACJC awarded the 15 operational units a total of \$3,942,500 in state and federal funding for the Crime Victim Compensation Program. Programs collected an additional \$386,938 in restitution, subrogation, and other revenue available for compensation benefits during FY15. Throughout the year, operational units spent a total of \$3,626,205, with \$463,065 in state funds being used for operational unit administrative costs. Operational units are required to track expenditure and statistical data and report to ACJC on a quarterly basis. This report summarizes the program activity and expenditure data reported by the 15 operational units during FY15.

### Claims Received by Crime Type and Type of Disposition

If a victimization occurs in Arizona, or if an Arizona resident is victimized abroad, and the victim has incurred an economic loss as a result of the crime, the victim or surviving family may be eligible for compensation through the Crime Victim Compensation Program. In order to determine eligibility, the victim submits an application to the county program in which the victimization occurred. In Arizona, compensation applications are processed and paid at the county level. Once the application is received, the County Compensation Coordinator investigates and substantiates the

claim, and prepares the claim for a hearing before the County Compensation Board. The County Compensation Board hears all claims and makes all eligibility and payment decisions in compliance with Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) R10-4-101 through R10-4-111.

Crime Type	Number of Claims Received (FY14)	% of Total (FY14)	Number of Claims Received (FY15)	% of Total (FY15)
Assault	787	44.9%	682	42.2%
Child Abuse	325	18.5%	353	21.8%
Homicide	248	14.1%	216	13.4%
Sexual Assault	100	5.7%	117	7.2%
Other Veh. Crimes	92	5.2%	70	4.3%
Robbery	52	3.0%	28	1.7%
DWI / DUI	13	0.7%	30	1.9%
Kidnapping	8	0.5%	11	0.7%
Stalking	2	0.1%	7	0.4%
Arson	2	0.1%	0	0.0%
Terrorism	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
Other Crimes	124	7.1%	102	6.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,754</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1,616</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

In FY15, the Arizona Crime Victim Compensation Program received 1,616 claims; a decrease of 138 claims from last year (Table 1). A little less than half of the claims received were for those victimized by assault (682 claims). In addition, 353 claims were received for child abuse (21.8 percent) the largest category increase from FY14 when there were 325 claims for child abuse. Also, 216 claims were received for homicide (13.4 percent) and 117 were received for sexual assault (7.2 percent).

Operational units processed 1,623 claims in FY15, with 1,616 of those received in FY15. The additional claims processed were received late in FY14, but not processed until early FY15. Of the 1,623 claims processed, 82.9 percent of claims were approved (1,345 claims). A smaller percentage were denied (199, 12.3 percent) and 79 claims were not processed. Claims are denied for reasons outlined in the program rules including absence of a crime under state or federal law, the victim contributed substantially to their own victimization, failure to report the crime, or lack of cooperation with law enforcement. A claim is not processed if the victim withdraws the application or if the application is grossly incomplete, preventing further processing of the application.

## Amount Paid by Crime and Benefit Category

During the course of FY15, the Arizona Crime Victim Compensation Program paid a total of \$3,163,140 in benefits to victims, or providers on behalf of victims. This is an almost 18% decrease from FY14 (Table 2). The highest number of claims were received for assault victims. Correspondingly, assault victims also received the highest payout amount, receiving \$1,580,521. Homicide related claims received \$753,834, victims of vehicular crimes other than DWI/DUI received \$306,915, and victims of child abuse received \$208,411. A total of \$649,435 was paid to victims for domestic violence related crime. While the total amount paid out to victims decreased 17.7 percent from FY14 to FY15 the largest decreases can be seen for terrorist victims (66.6 percent decrease), sexual assault victims (47.0 percent decrease) and arson victims (29.3 percent decrease). However, other categories saw increases, the largest for and stalking victims (79.1 percent increase), and robbery (42.9 percent increase).

Crime Type	Total Paid (FY14)	% of Total (FY14)	Total Paid (FY15)	% of Total (FY15)
Assault	\$1,925,101	50.1%	\$1,580,521	50.0%
Homicide	\$1,060,898	27.6%	\$753,834	23.8%
Other Veh. Crimes	\$231,405	6.0%	\$306,915	9.7%
Child Abuse	\$204,237	5.3%	\$208,411	6.6%
Robbery	\$70,714	1.8%	\$101,045	3.2%
DWI / DUI	\$75,968	2.0%	\$62,690	2.0%
Sexual Assault	\$116,130	3.0%	\$61,542	1.9%
Kidnapping	\$9,510	0.2%	\$12,449	0.4%
Arson	\$12,863	0.3%	\$9,092	0.3%
Stalking	\$1,582	0.0%	\$2,835	0.1%
Terrorism	\$210	0.0%	\$70	0.0%
Other Crimes	\$137,407	3.6%	\$63,735	2.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,846,025</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$3,163,140</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Compensation payments can be awarded in six different benefit categories: medical, funeral, mental health, work loss, transportation costs, and crime scene clean-up. Varying limits apply to each category. Medical expenses were the largest expense category paid by the Arizona Crime Victim Compensation in FY15, totaling \$1,508,961 (Table 3). Funeral expenses followed with a total of \$571,212; \$465,117 was paid for work loss; and \$464,518 was paid for mental health expenses. From FY14 to FY15, the largest benefit category increase was seen for crime scene cleanup expenses which increased by 586.5 percent, while funeral, medical, and work loss expenses all decreased.

Benefit Category	Total Paid (FY14)	% of Total (FY14)	Total Paid (FY15)	% of Total (FY15)
Medical	\$2,487,912	65.8%	\$1,508,961	47.7%
Funeral	\$520,132	13.8%	\$571,212	18.1%
Work Loss	\$348,687	9.2%	\$465,117	14.7%
Mental Health	\$379,343	10.0%	\$464,518	14.7%
Transportation	\$39,569	1.0%	\$146,054	4.6%
Crime Scene Cleanup	\$2,718	0.1%	\$7,279	0.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,778,361</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$3,163,140</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Type of Transportation Costs

In February of 2013, changes in the compensation program rules created a separate category for transportation expenses and expanded the category to include reimbursement of travel expenses to court hearings, forensic exams, and relocation costs because of a substantiated safety threat. Transportation costs were already available to attend mental health appointments and medical appointments, and had previously been tracked as expenditures in the related benefit categories. In FY15, the Arizona Crime Victim Compensation Program awarded a total of \$146,054 for transportation related expenses, with the highest percentage being paid to reimburse expenses to court hearings (\$62,485). An additional \$55,481 was awarded for expenses to attend mental health appointments related to the victimization and \$19,478 was awarded for expenses to attend medical appointments.

Transportation Cost Type	Total Paid (FY14)	% of Total (FY14)	Total Paid (FY15)	% of Total (FY15)
Court Hearing	\$40,346	37.6%	\$62,485	45.3%
Mental Health Appointment	\$44,329	41.4%	\$55,481	38.0%
Medical Appointment	\$17,295	16.1%	\$19,478	13.3%
Safety Threat	\$4,583	4.3%	\$8,148	5.6%
Forensic Exam	\$619	0.6%	\$463	0.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$107,172</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$146,054</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

This summary sheet was prepared by:  
**Larry Grubbs, Program Manager**  
**Arizona Criminal Justice Commission**  
**1110 W. Washington, Suite 230**  
**Phoenix, Arizona 85007**  
**(P) 602.364.1154**