

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission



## Crime Victim Services Crime Victim Compensation FY2016 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 2016 (FY16), 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 FY16, ACJC awarded the 15 operational units a total of \$3,893,600 in state and federal funding for the Crime Victim Compensation Program. Programs collected an additional \$397,415.29 in restitution, subrogation, and other revenue available for compensation benefits during FY16. Throughout the year, operational units spent a total of \$3,802,760 with \$485,119 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 FY16.

### Claims Received by Crime Type

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 (FY15)	% of Total (FY15)	Number of Claims Received (FY16)	% of Total (FY16)
Assault	682	42.20%	646	38.25%
Homicide	216	13.40%	248	14.68%
Sexual Assault	117	7.20%	88	5.21%
DWI / DUI	30	1.90%	65	3.85%
Robbery	28	1.70%	57	3.37%
Other Veh. Crimes	70	4.30%	49	2.90%
Child Abuse (historical)*	353	21.80%	10	0.59%
Kidnapping	11	0.70%	6	0.36%
Arson	0	0.00%	5	0.30%
Stalking	7	0.40%	3	0.18%
Terrorism	0	0.00%	2	0.12%
Child Physical Abuse/Neglect*			334	19.78%
Child Pornography*			37	2.19%
Child Sexual Abuse*			19	1.12%
Burglary**			8	0.47%
Fraud/Financial Crimes**			4	0.24%
Human Trafficking**			0	0.00%
Other Crimes	102	6.30%	108	6.39%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,616</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1689</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

In FY16, the Arizona Crime Victim Compensation Program received 1,689 claims; an increase of 73 claims from last year (Table 1). Over 1/3 of the claims received were for those victimized by assault (646 claims). The total number of claims for a child related crime\* increased to 400 claims from 353 in FY15. There were decreases in the number of claims for victimization from assault, sexual assault, other vehicular, kidnapping, and stalking.

Operational units processed 1,678 claims in FY16. Of the 1,678 claims processed, 83 percent of claims were approved (1,392 claims) 14 percent were denied (228 claims) and 3 percent (58 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.

\* The original child abuse category was phased out during FY16, and three new categories for child related crimes were created.

\*\* Additional crime type categories were added effective FY16.

## Amount Paid by Crime and Benefit Category

During the course of FY16, the Arizona Crime Victim Compensation Program paid a total of \$3,405,345 in benefits to victims, or providers on behalf of victims (Table 2). The overall amount of benefits paid increased by \$242,205 or 7.11%. The highest number of claims were received for assault victims (Table 1). Correspondingly, assault victims also received the highest payout amount, receiving \$1,555,880. Homicide related claims received \$873,463, victims of vehicular crimes other than DWI/DUI received \$262,124.

A total of \$632,572 was paid to victims for domestic violence related crime.

While the total amount paid out to victims increased 7.66 percent from FY15 to FY16, the largest increases can be seen for DWI/DUI victims (224.81% increase), and sexual assault victims (64.64 percent increase). However, other categories saw decreases, the largest for arson and terrorism, where no benefits were paid out in FY16, followed by a decrease in benefits paid out for robbery and other vehicular crimes.

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 FY16, totaling \$1,289,704 (Table 3). Funeral expenses followed with a total of \$819,928. The smallest expense category was crime scene clean-up with a total of \$4,129. From FY15 to FY16, the largest benefit category increase was seen for work loss expenses which increased by 52.8 percent, while medical, mental health, transportation, and crime scene clean-up expenses all decreased.

### 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 FY16, the Arizona Crime Victim Compensation Program awarded a total of \$144,266 for transportation related expenses, with the highest percentage being paid to reimburse expenses to attend mental health appointments related to the victimization (\$71,411). An additional \$40,498 was awarded for expenses to attend court hearings and \$26,477 was awarded for expenses to attend medical appointments.

**Table 2: Amount Paid by Crime Type, FY15-FY16**

Crime Type	Total Paid (FY15)	% of Total (FY15)	Total Paid (FY16)	% of Total (FY16)
Assault	\$1,580,521	49.97%	\$1,555,880	45.69%
Homicide	\$753,834	23.83%	\$873,463	25.65%
Other Veh. Crimes	\$306,915	9.70%	\$262,124	7.70%
DWI / DUI	\$62,690	1.98%	\$203,620	5.98%
Sexual Assault	\$61,542	1.95%	\$101,324	2.98%
Robbery	\$101,045	3.19%	\$64,297	1.89%
Child Abuse (historical)*	\$208,411	6.59%	\$20,414	0.60%
Kidnapping	\$12,449	0.39%	\$15,242	0.45%
Stalking	\$2,835	0.09%	\$2,900	0.09%
Arson	\$9,092	0.29%	\$0.00	0.00%
Terrorism	\$70	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
Child Sexual Abuse			\$197,503	5.80%
Child Abuse/Neglect			\$25,101	0.74%
Fraud/Financial Crimes			\$1,453	0.04%
Human Trafficking			\$1,226	0.04%
Child Pornography			\$1,068	0.03%
Burglary			\$477	0.01%
Other Crimes	\$63,735	2.01%	\$79,253	2.33%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,163,140</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$3,405,345</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Table 3: Amount Paid by Benefit Category, FY15-FY16**

Benefit Category	Total Paid (FY15)	% of Total (FY15)	Total Paid (FY16)	% of Total (FY16)
Medical	\$1,508,961	47.7%	\$1,289,704	37.87%
Funeral	\$571,212	18.1%	\$819,928	24.08%
Work Loss	\$465,117	14.7%	\$710,726	20.87%
Mental Health	\$464,518	14.7%	\$436,592	12.82%
Transportation	\$146,054	4.6%	\$144,266	4.24%
Crime Scene Clean-up	\$7,279	0.2%	\$4,129	0.12%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,163,140</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$3,405,345</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Table 4: Transportation Costs by Type, FY15-FY16**

Transportation Cost Type	Total Paid (FY15)	% of Total (FY15)	Total Paid (FY16)	% of Total (FY16)
Mental Health Appointment	\$55,481	45.3%	\$71,411	49.50%
Court Hearing	\$62,485	38.0%	\$40,948	28.38%
Medical Appointment	\$19,478	13.3%	\$26,477	18.35%
Safety Threat	\$8,148	5.6%	\$3,545	2.46%
Forensic Exam	\$463	0.3%	\$1,885	1.31%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$146,054</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$144,266</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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