

## CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION EMERGENCY AWARDS

- The Crime Victims Compensation Act allows emergency awards for relocation as well as funeral and burial expenses.**
- Emergency Awards can only be given on a reimbursement basis.
- The Crime Victims Compensation Program is the Payer of last resort. Applicants must exhaust all other forms of payment reasonably available before any award can be recommended.
- Any amount of life insurance proceeds in excess of \$25,000 will be deducted from a recommended award.
- For funeral and burial expenses, the services must have been performed and expenses incurred before an award can be recommended.
- The maximum award for funeral and burial expenses is \$10,000.
- For relocation, an award can only be recommended after the applicant has moved and paid eligible expenses for which reimbursement is being requested.
- Reimbursement for relocation is available for the security deposit and the first two months' rent.
- Emergency Awards must still meet eligibility criteria under the Crime Victims Compensation Act
- Emergency Awards will be requested for expedited payment; however, the payments will not be immediate. Claims must be reviewed by the Attorney General's Office and Court of Claims. After approval, the recommended award will be sent to the Illinois Comptroller for payment disbursement.
- To determine whether a matter is processed as an emergency, factors considered include but will not be limited to:
  - Funds available to the applicant
  - Type of compensation requested
  - Urgency of the request (Emergency)

❑ **Applying For and Receiving Emergency Awards**

- Applicants should make a note on their application when they are seeking emergency compensation.
- The applicant will be contacted by the Attorney General's Office to determine the nature of the emergency underlying the request.
- The claim will be reviewed by the Attorney General's office to determine whether eligibility requirements are met.
- The applicant must provide documentation to support all requests for payment. Documentation may include but not be limited to contracts, leases, insurance documents, receipts, invoices or other bills.
- If the necessary criteria are met, the application will be processed on an expedited basis. (***Expedited claims will be given priority over non-emergency claims***)

*For questions regarding emergency compensation contact the Office of the Illinois Attorney General at 1-800-228-3368. Individuals with hearing or speech disabilities can reach us by using the 7-1-1 relay service.*