

Violent Crime Victim

A subject of growing concern is compensation for victims of violent crimes. How can violent crime victims be compensated for the financial, emotional, and physical losses they may have suffered?

California established a fund to assist victims of violent crimes. This fund provides money to persons who have, as the direct result of a violent crime, suffered a monetary loss. State law requires that law enforcement agencies inform violent crime victims of the availability of state funds and how to file claims.

Violent Crime Victim Compensation

Any California resident is eligible for violent crime victim compensation who:

1. Has sustained an injury as a direct result of a violent crime;
2. Is legally dependent upon such an injured party for support; or
3. Is responsible for medical or burial expenses of a deceased violent crime victim.

To apply for compensation, you must submit a claim within one year after the crime and you must cooperate in the investigation and prosecution of the criminal.

Applications and further information are available from the CHP, your local District Attorney's Office, sheriff, police department, or the State Board of Control. The State Board of Control is responsible for administering the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board, P.O. Box 3036, Sacramento, California 95812-3036, toll free 1-800-777-9229.

Prior to payment, the State Board of Control will investigate and verify the claim. This may take up to a year or more. Awards are made from funds appropriated annually by the Legislature.

California Highway Patrol
Protective Services Division,
Emergency Operations and
Safety Services Section

601 N. 7th Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
Phone: (916) 843-3250
Fax: (916) 843-3236
ssp@chp.ca.gov



Crime Victim



Crime Victim



To: _____

The report that you recently filed with the CHP has been assigned to:

Investigator: _____

Phone number: _____

Your case has been assigned a report number:

If you wish to inquire about your case, please call Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm. If the investigator is not in, leave your name and phone number and your call will be returned.

Remember your case is only one of many assigned to the investigating officer. It is important and will be given as much consideration as possible. Please understand that certain things will be done in each case, but you will not be personally contacted by the investigating officer unless he/she needs further information or has solved your case.

- All serial numbered items will be entered into a state and nationwide computer system.
- Teletypes will be sent out to other law enforcement agencies where, hopefully, the items stolen or the suspects can be identified.
- Teletypes from other law enforcement agencies are checked daily.
- Similar cases are coordinated with other areas of the CHP as well as other law enforcement agencies.
- Fingerprints of known criminals using the same methods that were used in your case may be checked.
- Arrests of criminals made by the CHP or other law enforcement agencies will be closely checked to see if they could be responsible for your case. Their fingerprints will be checked, when applicable.

- Property held by the CHP will be closely checked in an effort to return it to the legal owner.

If you are contacted by anyone other than the CHP regarding the recovery of your property, notify your investigating officer immediately.

You are requested to:

- Make every effort to obtain any serial numbers of articles stolen.
- Keep the investigating officer advised of any information you may receive that will be of assistance to the investigation.
- Make sure that you list all stolen items in your report as accurately as possible, so that officers of the CHP or any other law enforcement agency receiving our teletypes will have the best possible description of your property.
- If the return of your property, or prosecution of the offender(s) is important to you, you must keep the CHP notified of any change of address. We cannot return your property or prosecute the offender(s) without you.

Other Points to consider

- Take measures to make yourself, your office, home, or vehicle secure against intruders. Mark your valuable items with your drivers license number, and mark all state property with the State Agency Identification number (S.A.I.N.).
- Record the serial number of items and keep them in a safe place.
- Every effort to locate your property and arrest the offender(s) will be made, but we must rely on you to supply the most accurate and up-to-date information available.
- If you identify a suspect in your report, you should give your reason for naming that person as a suspect.
- Remember that in the absence of proof, there may be very little the investigating officer can do to develop suitable evidence to present to the court.