



The OVC  
**VOCA**  
Center

The OVC Center for VOCA Administrators

# The OVC VOCA Center Team

**Janelle Melohn**

Director

**Suzanne Breedlove**

Senior Program Manager, Victim Compensation

**Kellie Rabenhorst**

Senior Program Manager, Victim Assistance

The OVC VOCA Center

# Support for Victim Compensation Program Administrators

- ❑ Addressing Gaps in Services
- ❑ Improving Grant Administration
- ❑ Increasing Compensation Benefits
- ❑ Streamlining Application Processes
- ❑ Implementing Trauma-informed Practices
- ❑ Reaching Underserved Populations
- ❑ Sharing Best Practices
- ❑ Effective Outreach to Crime Victims
- ❑ Virtual Learning Communities and Online Resources
- ❑ New Administrator Academy
- ❑ Peer Coaching
- ❑ Meeting and Networking Opportunities
- ❑ Addressing Crime Victim Barriers to Accessing Compensation

# VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act of 2021

# Good Cause Exceptions for Cooperating with Law Enforcement

A program can waive the requirement for a victim to cooperate with law enforcement if a program determines such cooperation may be impacted due to a victim's age, physical condition, psychological state, cultural or linguistic barriers, or any other health or safety concern that jeopardizes the victim's wellbeing.

# Compensation Formula Allocation Increase

Increases the victim compensation allocation from 60% to 75% of eligible payouts to victims from non-federal sources.

# Restitution and Subrogation Revenue

*Section 1402(b)(3) of the  
Victims of Crime Act of 1984  
(34 U.S.C. 20101) is amended  
to say:*

For the purposes of calculating amounts awarded in the previous fiscal year under this subsection, the Director shall not require eligible crime victim compensation programs to deduct recovery costs or collections from restitution or from subrogation for payment under a civil lawsuit.

# No Cost Extensions

The VOCA Fix provides that the United States Attorney General has the discretion to review and award renewals and extensions beyond the year of the award plus three subsequent years.



# VICTIM COMPENSATION

## Opening The Doors: Changes in Eligibility Rules

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM ET

# SESSION GOALS

- To expand Victim Compensation Administrators' existing knowledge of what is considered “good cause” for not cooperating with law enforcement and prosecution.
- To learn, under what circumstances, Victim Compensation Programs waive the requirement for a police report to be filed for eligibility of compensation.

# Let's Hear From the Panel

Lynda Gledhill, California

Robert Hamill, Iowa

Brian Hendrix, Oklahoma

Frank Zubia, New Mexico



# Poll Question



Does your state have a good cause exception policy or procedure for not cooperating with law enforcement?

# Poll Question

What other documents can your program use in lieu of a police report to validate the crime?



# Poll Question



Are you interested in expanding your state's ability to find good cause for not reporting or cooperating?

# Breakout Sessions



15 minutes to discuss with peers

Select 1 person to report back on 2-3 main points or ideas

# Breakout Session Report Out



# Session Wrap-Up



Use  
Camera to  
Access  
Session  
Survey

Contact us at: [VOCACenter@ncja.org](mailto:VOCACenter@ncja.org)

or Call: 202-480-5551

[Click here for the OVC VOCA Center Website](#)

The OVC Center for VOCA Administrators is supported by cooperative agreement number 2020-V3-GX-K052, awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this product are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.