

VICTIMS' RIGHTS

The Mississippi Constitutional Crime Victims' Bill of Rights states that *crime victims have the right to be treated with fairness, dignity and respect throughout the criminal justice system; and the right to be informed, present and heard. For more information about your rights, contact our office.*



HOW TO APPLY

VISIT

AttorneyGeneralLynnFitch.com/divisions/bureau-of-victim-assistance/ to complete the **Crime Victim Compensation** application online or print the form found online and mail or fax it using the information on the form. **Notarization is no longer necessary. Maximum award is \$20,000.**

RESOURCES

Additional services are provided through the Attorney General's Office, Bureau of Victim Assistance

Services include information and referral, victim advocacy, and court related services. **For more information, contact:**

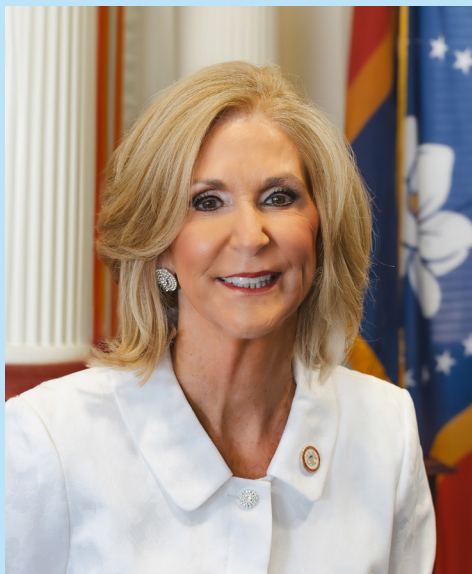
**Office of the Mississippi Attorney General
Bureau of Victim Assistance**

Post Office Box 220 Jackson, MS 39205

601.359.6766 | 800.829.6766

601.576.4445 (Fax)

AttorneyGeneralLynnFitch.com



Lynn Fitch
ATTORNEY GENERAL



Lynn Fitch
ATTORNEY GENERAL

BUREAU OF VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Mississippi Crime Victim
Compensation

Easing the aftermath of crime

OFFICE OF THE MISSISSIPPI ATTORNEY GENERAL
BUREAU OF VICTIM ASSISTANCE
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ELIGIBILITY

Who May Be Eligible?

- **Individual must be the victim of a violent crime who has suffered personal injury, death, or extreme psychological trauma as a result of the crime.** Types of crime include: assault, hit & run, homicide, sexual assault, domestic violence, DUI crashes, stalking, child abuse, and kidnapping;
- Dependents of a deceased victim;
- Persons authorized to act on behalf of the victim or dependents of a deceased victim;
- Family members of the victim who have mental health or funeral expenses related to the claim;
- A Mississippi resident who is a victim of a violent crime in a foreign country which does not provide crime victim compensation; and
- A person who witnessed a violent crime and suffered extreme psychological trauma as a result.

COVERAGE

What Is Not Covered?

- Stolen and/or damaged property;
- Payment for pain and suffering;
- Attorneys fees; and
- Expenses paid by all other available sources of payment such as insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, disability benefits and Workers' Compensation which must pay first.

***Other limitations apply.**

What May Be Covered?

- Medical expenses up to \$15,000 per claim;
- Transportation costs to medical and/or mental health services that are at least 45 miles one way from the victim's/claimant's residence, up to \$500 per claim;
- Mental health counseling for the victim/victim's family members, up to \$3,500 per claim;
- Lost wages for the victim, up to \$600 per week for 52 weeks, not to exceed \$20,000 per claim;
- Funeral expenses, up to \$6,500 and transportation costs to make arrangements or to attend funeral, up to \$800 per claim;
- Lost wages for claimant to make arrangements or to attend funeral, up to \$600 per claim for one week;
- Loss of support for dependents of a deceased victim, up to \$600 per week for 52 weeks, not to exceed \$20,000 per claim;
- Domestic violence temporary housing assistance, up to \$500 one time benefit;
- Domestic violence relocation assistance, up to \$2,000 one time benefit;
- Court related travel reimbursement, up to \$1,000 per claim;
- Repair/replacement costs for damaged exterior windows, locks, doors and/or other security devices of a residential dwelling, up to \$1,000 per claim; and
- Crime scene cleanup, up to \$1,000 per claim (assaults & homicides only).

***Expense verification is required.
Other limitations apply.**

QUALIFICATION

How Do I Qualify?

- Must report the crime to law enforcement officials within 72 hours or show good cause for not reporting;
- Application must be received within 36 months after the date of the crime;
- In cases of child sexual abuse, the application must be received within 36 months after the crime was reported, but not later than the victim's 25th birthday;
- Must cooperate with law enforcement investigation and prosecution; and
- Must not have contributed to, provoked or in any way caused the injury or death.

Who Does Not Qualify?

- The offender and/or accomplice to the offender;
- A victim/claimant who engaged in illegal conduct;
- Anyone injured in a motor vehicle incident unless the vehicle was used by the offender (1) intentionally as a weapon, (2) in a hit & run, (3) while driving under the influence (DUI), (4) in an attempt to flee from law enforcement, or (5) causing injury to a child who is in the process of boarding or exiting a school bus;
- Anyone incarcerated in a penal institution when the crime occurred;
- A victim/claimant who, after the injury on which the application is based, is convicted of any felony and the conviction becomes known to the Division; and
- A victim/claimant who has been under the supervision of any Department of Corrections within 5 years prior to the victim's injury or death.