

Revised 6/11/18  
to include supplement explaining  
"Resources & Expenditure" reports.

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A N N U A L  
R E P O R T

# VICTIMS OF CRIME COMPENSATION OFFICE

We help  
put the pieces  
back together



NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
VICTIMS OF CRIME COMPENSATION OFFICE





**PAULA T. DOW,**  
*NJ Attorney General*

## New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

# Victims of Crime Compensation Office

### Message From The Executive Director

On behalf of the staff of the Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO), I am honored to issue this Annual Report which reflects the services rendered to New Jersey's crime victims during the past fiscal year. The Agency was relentless in its efforts effectively and efficiently to provide compensation to innocent victims of violent crime.

As reflected in more detail in this report, in FY2010 the VCCO received 3305 new applications, re-opened 392 claims and reviewed 1795 supplemental claims. The agency concluded 5,843 total claims with \$9,525,434.36 awarded to victims. The Agency's funding sources include federal grants, state appropriations and revenues from offenders. These funds served victims in all 21 Counties, including Essex County (\$2,814,161), Hudson (\$896,494), Camden (\$762,419) and Union (\$757,509).

Each Unit made strides in improving services to our victims. The Intake Unit developed bulletins which provide valuable information to new claimants regarding VCCO procedures and the documentation necessary to expedite a claim for emergency review.

The Investigative Unit developed comprehensive Standard Operations Procedures (SOPs) and designed a fast track mechanism for the most vulnerable victims, including child abuse, sexual assault and domestic violence victims. The Administrative staff has commenced a major Information Technology (IT) initiative to automate the entire process which will substantially reduce the time for processing victims' claims and to increase its capacity to identify revenue.

A key accomplishment was the elimination of the Appeals backlog and the scheduling of all appeals within 60 days of the request. This accomplishment is a credit to Dr. Leslie Smith, the Chair of the Review Board, the Board members and the VCCO staff working collaboratively.

Finally, the Agency opened a satellite office in Trenton which allows victims in Southern New Jersey to have easier access to assistance.

The Agency is proud of its continued success in carrying out its mission to help, respect and support victims. While the staff has dwindled, we have doubled our commitment to helping victims put the pieces of their lives back together. We will continue to forge ahead with compassion.



**MARSETTA LEE,**  
*VCCO Executive Director*



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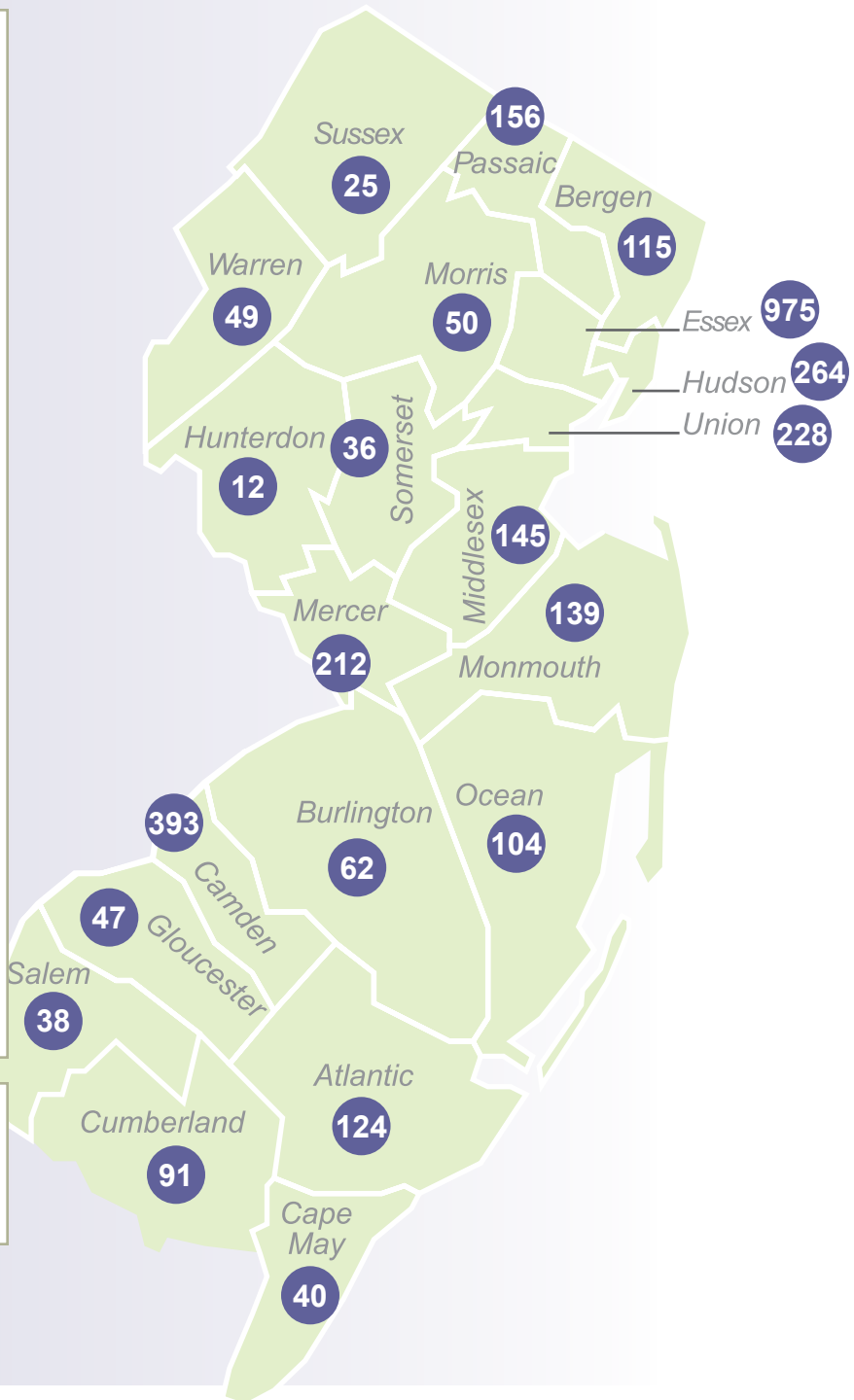
caring  
support  
dignity  
help  
respect



# FY 10 Claims Received by County

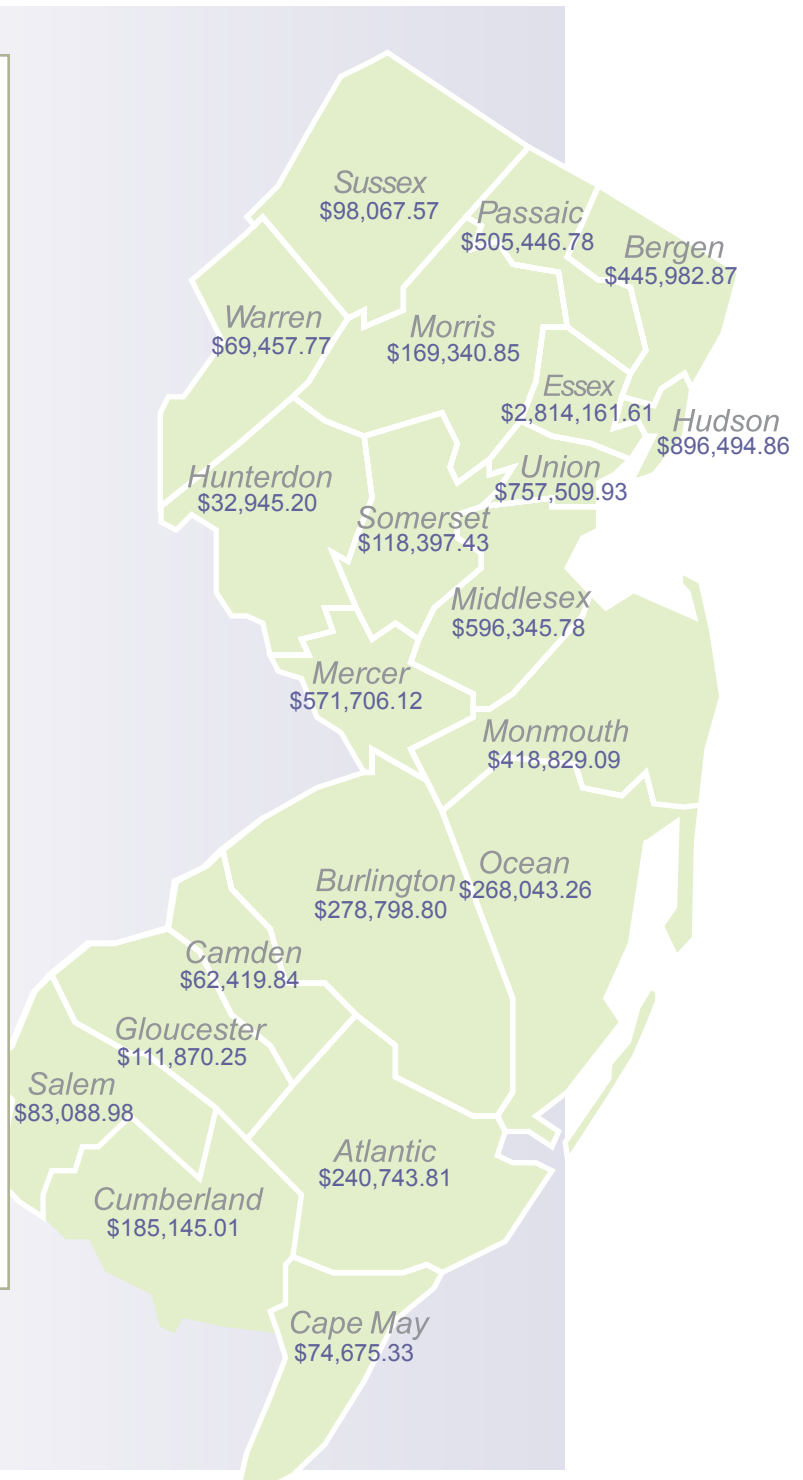
Atlantic	124
Bergen	115
Burlington	62
Camden	393
Cape May	40
Cumberland	91
Essex	975
Gloucester	47
Hudson	264
Hunterdon	12
Mercer	212
Middlesex	145
Monmouth	139
Morris	50
Ocean	104
Passaic	156
Salem	38
Somerset	36
Sussex	25
Union	228
Warren	49

State Total	3,305
Out of State / Unknown	0
Total	3,305



# FY 10 Claims and Dollar Amount Paid for each county

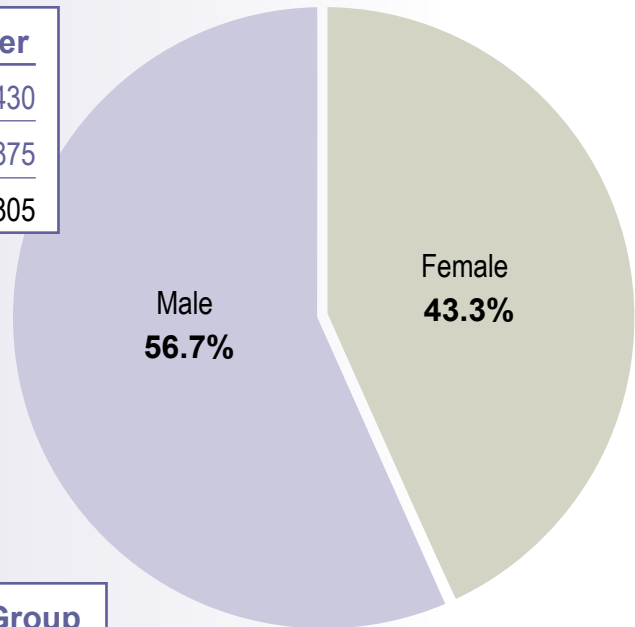
County	Claims	Paid
Atlantic	73	\$240,743.81
Bergen	129	445,982.87
Burlington	59	278,798.80
Camden	243	762,419.84
Cape May	30	74,675.33
Cumberland	62	185,145.01
Essex	588	2,814,161.61
Gloucester	39	111,870.25
Hudson	187	896,494.86
Hunterdon	10	32,945.20
Mercer	151	571,706.12
Middlesex	134	596,345.78
Monmouth	127	418,829.09
Morris	53	169,340.85
Ocean	71	268,043.26
Passaic	130	505,446.78
Salem	21	83,088.98
Somerset	32	118,397.43
Sussex	24	98,067.57
Union	166	757,509.93
Warren	19	69,457.77
Out-Of-State	9	25,963.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,357</b>	<b>\$9,525,434.36</b>



# FY 10 Demographics

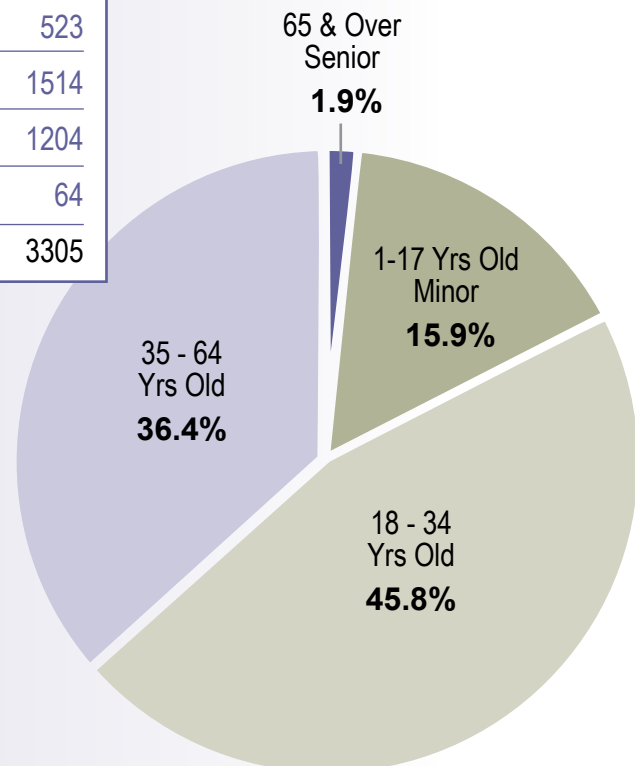
## Claims Received By Gender

Female	1430
Male	1875
<b>Total</b>	<b>3305</b>



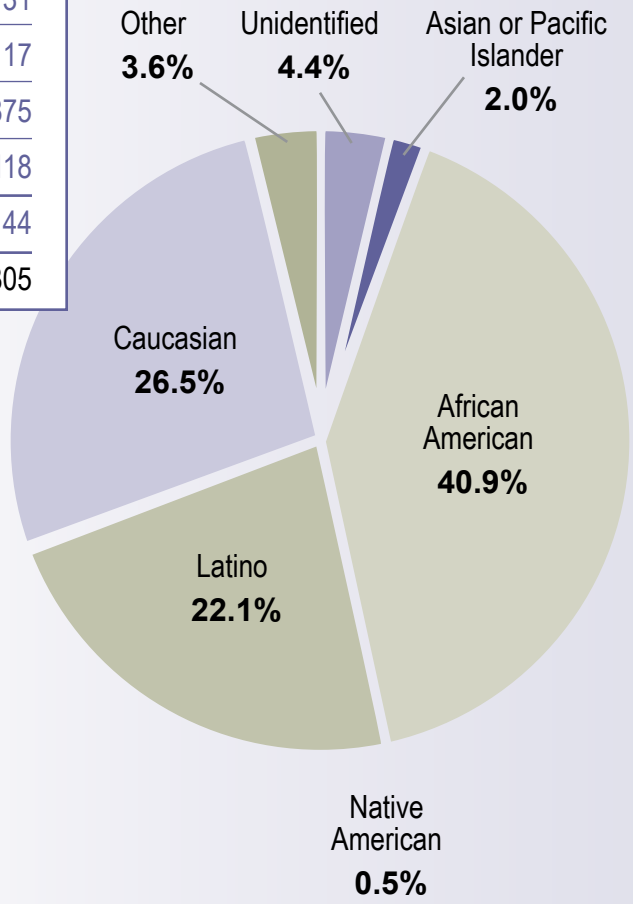
## Claims Received By Age Group

Minor 1-17 Yrs Old	523
18 - 34 Yrs Old	1514
35 - 64 Yrs Old	1204
Senior 65 and Over	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>3305</b>





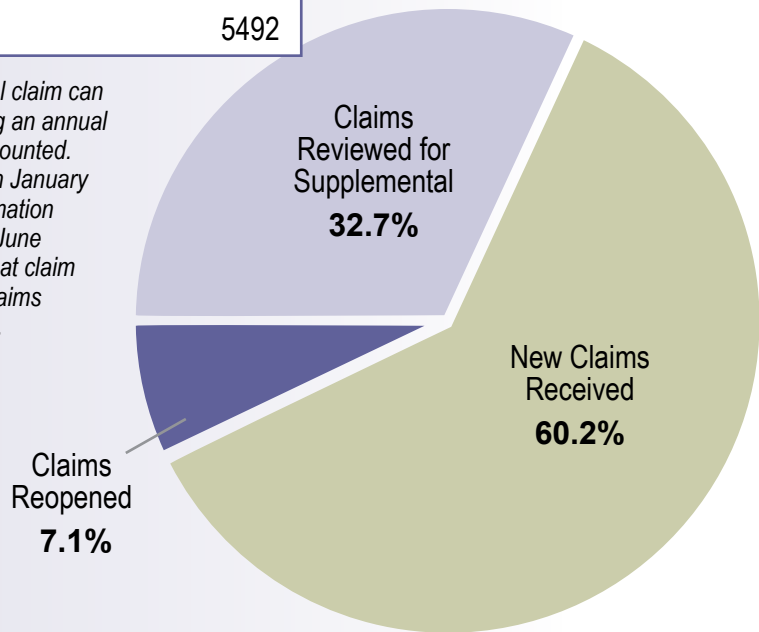
<b>Claims Received by Race</b>	
Asian or Pacific Islander	66
African American	1354
Latino	731
Native American	17
Caucasian	875
Other	118
Unidentified	144
<b>Total</b>	<b>3305</b>



# FY 10 Total Annual Activity

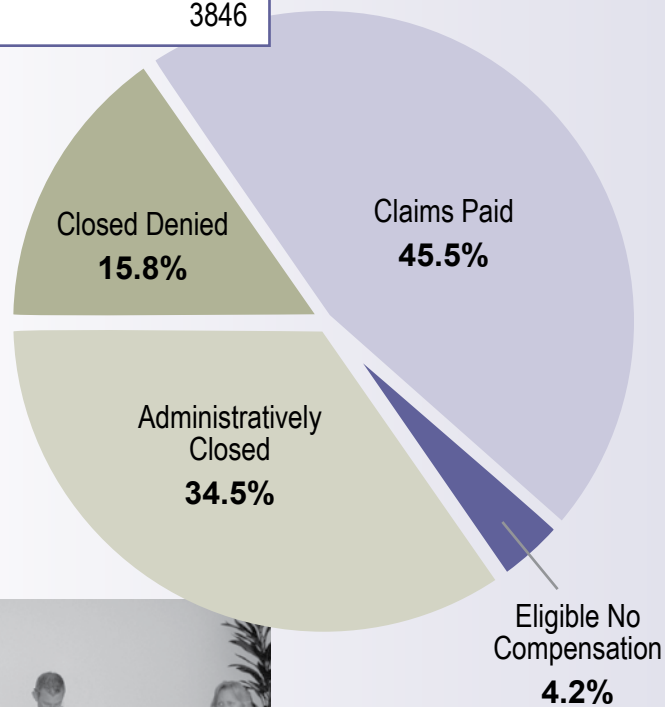
Total Annual Activity	
New Claims Received	3305
Claims Reopened	392
Claims Reviewed for Supplemental	1795
<b>Total</b>	<b>5492</b>

*Caveat - Because an individual claim can fall in various categories during an annual period, claims can be double counted. Example: New claim opened in January can be closed for lack of information in April, and then reopened in June upon receipt of information. That claim will be captured in both new claims and claims reopened statistics.*

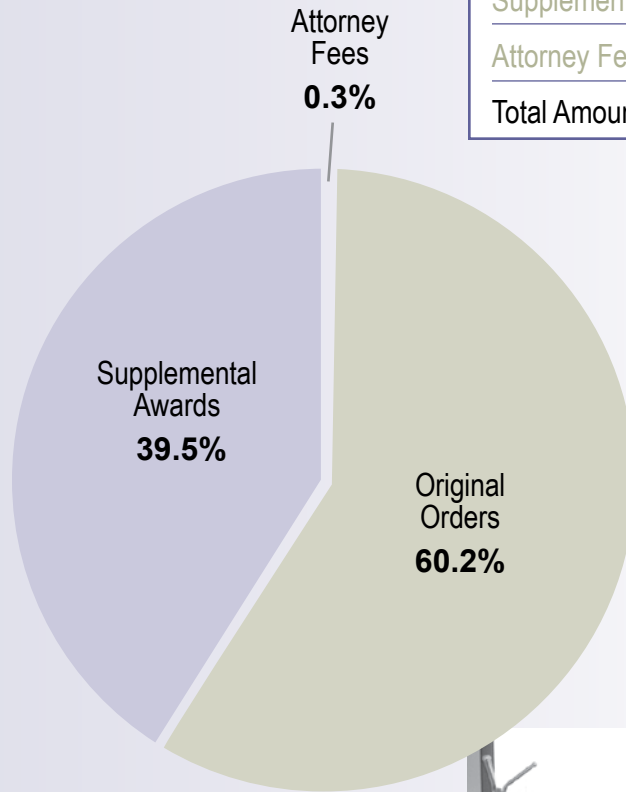


# Original Claims Disposition

Original Claims Disposition	
Claims Paid	1750
Eligible No Compensation	162
Administratively Closed	1328
Closed Denied	606
<b>Total Claims Concluded</b>	<b>3846</b>



# Awards Analysis

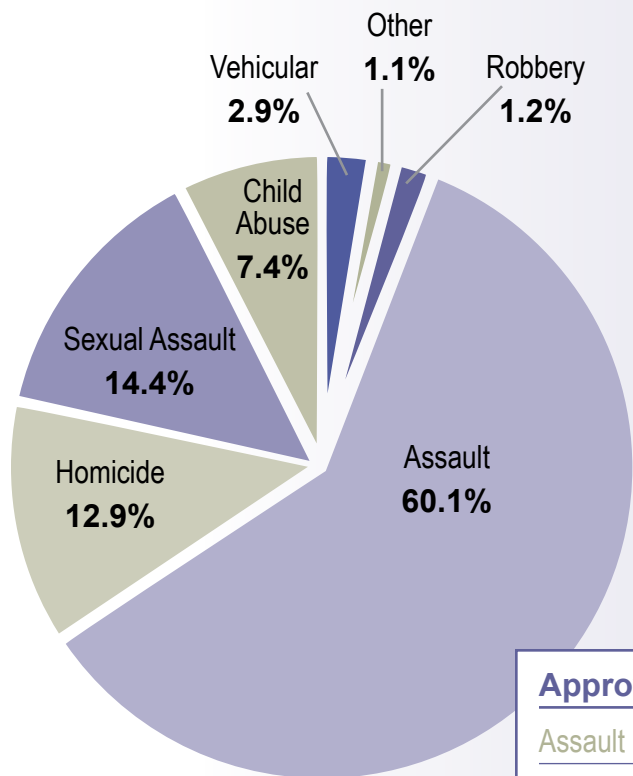


Awards Analysis	
Original Orders	\$5,731,076.28
Supplemental Awards	3,764,699.22
Attorney Fees	29,658.86
<b>Total Amount Award</b>	<b>\$9,525,434.36</b>



# FY 10 Approved Claims

## by Crime Type Percentage Analysis



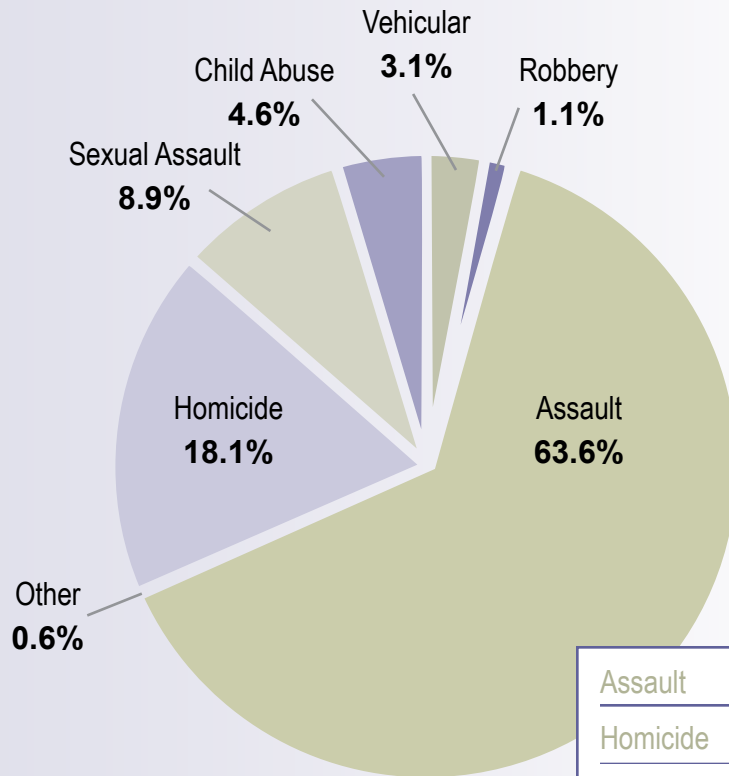
Assault	2,232	\$6,059,790.05
Homicide	479	1,723,110.13
Sexual Assault	536	844,465.19
Child Abuse	275	438,874.18
Vehicular	106	300,610.00
Robbery	43	100,359.25
Other*	42	58,225.56
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3,713</b>	<b>\$9,525,434.36</b>

\* Other - Included: Kidnapping, Arson, Stalking, Burglary, Tampering With A Cosmetic, Drug Or Food Product, Miscellaneous

### Approved Claims by Crime Type and Award Amount

Assault	Physical Assault	1,651	\$4,924,914.75
	Domestic Violence	523	1,071,138.62
	Terroristic Threats	32	30,375.51
	Harassment	26	33,361.17
Homicide		479	1,723,110.13
Sexual Assault		536	844,465.19
Child Abuse	Physical Assault	27	48,584.22
	Sexual Assault	248	390,289.96
Vehicular		106	300,610.00
Robbery		43	100,359.25
Other*		42	58,225.56
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>3,713</b>	<b>\$9,525,434.36</b>

# FY 10 Award Amount by Crime Type Percentage Analysis

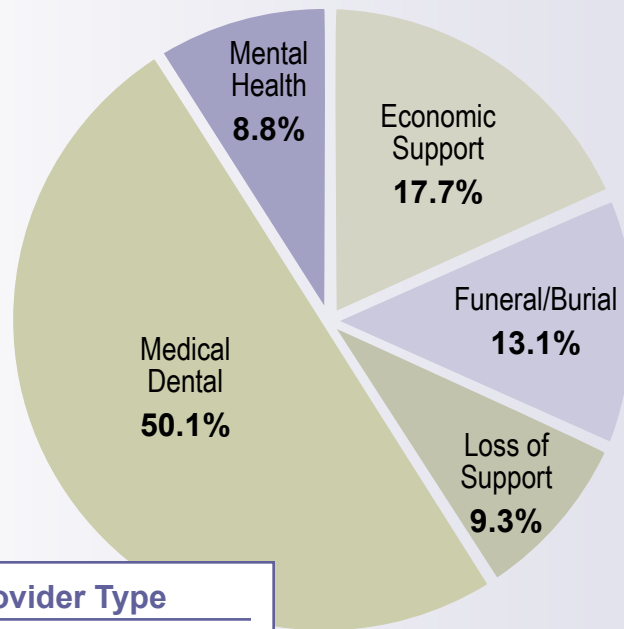


Assault	\$6,059,790.05
Homicide	1,723,110.13
Sexual Assault	844,465.19
Child Abuse	438,874.18
Vehicular	300,610.00
Robbery	100,359.25
Other*	58,225.56
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$9,525,434.36</b>



# FY 10 Award Amount

## by Provider Type



### Award Amount by Provider Type

Provider Type	Pay Amount
Attorney Criminal Rights	\$30,358.75
Attorney Private	29,658.86
Crime Scene Clean-Up	6,401.78
Economic Support	1,687,859.43
Emergency	23,433.22
Funeral/Burial	1,246,345.81
Loss Of Support	887,478.81
Medical/Dental	4,774,374.39
Mental Health	838,976.79
VCCO Assessments	546.52
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,525,434.36</b>

*Economic Support Includes:*

- Domestic Serv./Child Care/ Home Health Assis.
- Home/Auto Modifications/ Medical Equipment
- Loss Of Earnings/ Loss of Support
- Relocation Services
- Stolen Cash
- Transportation(all)

*Note: Minor categories total 1% of the total award*

# Restitution, Subrogation

## Report for FY 2010

VCCO

### Restitution, Subrogation Report for FY - 2010

Month	Year	Restitution	Civil Suit	Refund	Others	Total
July	2009	\$18,921.62	\$200.00	\$883.22	\$0.00	\$20,004.84
August	2009	13,216.24	6,491.68	13,800.00	175.00	33,682.92
September	2009	4,589.79	4,109.20	0.00	8,241.19	16,940.18
October	2009	31,017.14	49,533.27	2,975.00	2,676.29	86,201.70
November	2009	14,855.68	2,715.72	1,082.72	0.00	18,654.12
December	2009	16,447.44	0.00	1,230.00	1,847.80	19,525.24
January	2010	33,128.18	52,685.55	0.00	3,952.06	89,765.79
February	2010	1,936.39	0.00	1,500.00	5,145.72	8,582.11
March	2010	23,067.34	13,001.65	0.00	0.00	36,068.99
April	2010	40,696.89	15,980.25	5,292.00	2,454.40	64,423.54
May	2010	9,443.63	2,235.35	0.00	697.83	12,376.81
June	2010	12,264.19	27,488.58	1,950.00	1,226.12	42,928.89
<b>Total</b>	<b>FY-2010</b>	<b>\$219,584.53</b>	<b>\$174,441.25</b>	<b>\$28,712.94</b>	<b>\$26,416.41</b>	<b>\$449,155.13</b>



# Summary for Annual Report

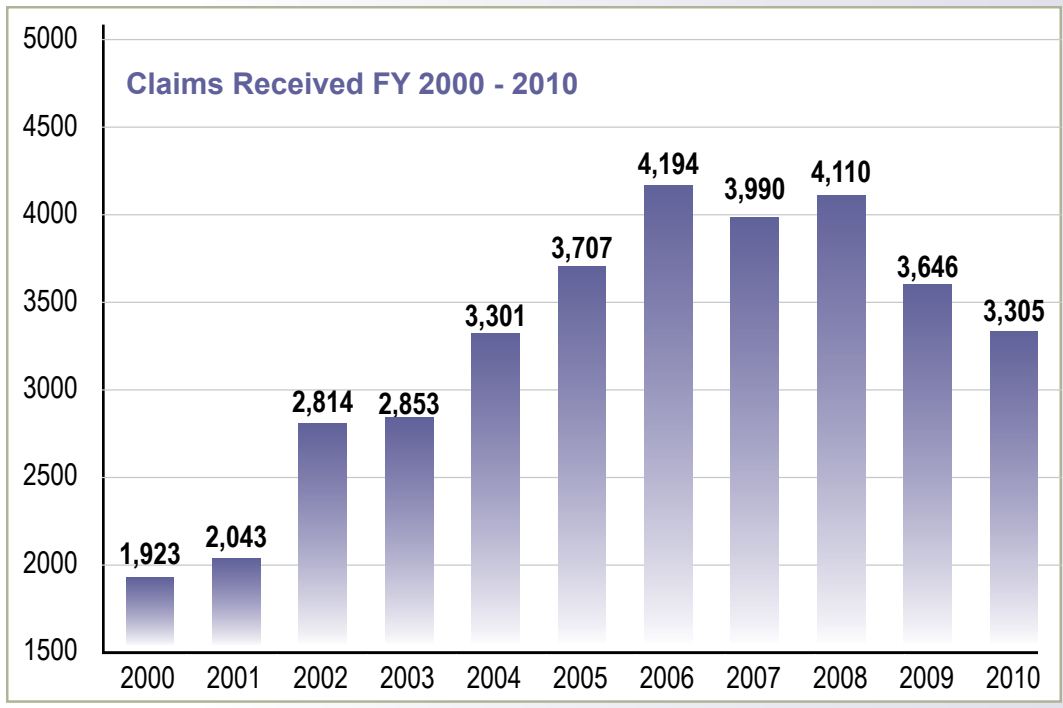
## FY 2010 Revenue Statement

Revenue, Grants, State Appropriations, Carry-forwards, and Budget Language

<b>FY 10 Revenue</b>		
<b>Revenue Source</b>		<b>Amount</b>
VCCO NET		\$4,925,171
Criminal Disposition Penalties		440,789
Commissary		2,670,133
Sex Crime Treatment		45,125
Donations		98
Restitution		219,585
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$8,300,901</b>
<b>Federal Grants</b>		
<b>Federal Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Grant Periods:</b>	
FFY 2009 ARRA Stimulus	10-1-08 through 9-30-11	\$1,410,761
FFY 2009	10-1-08 through 9-30-12	5,404,000
FFY 2010	10-1-09 through 9-30-13	1,991,000
<b>Total Grants Available</b>		<b>\$8,805,761</b>
<b>FY 10 State Appropriations</b>		
<b>Direct State Services</b>		
Salaries and Wages		\$656,000
Material and Supplies		20,000
Services Other Than Personnel		31,000
Maintenance and Fixed Charges		19,000
Outreach Program		35,000
State Claims		3,372,000
<b>Total Appropriations</b>		<b>\$4,133,000</b>
<b>Total FY 10 Revenues</b>		<b>\$21,239,662</b>

## FY 2010 Expenditure Summary

<b>Salaries &amp; Operations</b>		
Salaries and Wages		\$1,586,126
Material and Supplies		9,526
Services Other Than Personnel		31,000
Maintenance and Fixed Charges		15,526
Outreach Program		14,675
<b>Total Salaries &amp; Operations</b>		<b>\$1,656,853</b>
<b>State &amp; Federal Claims</b>		
State Claims (Direct Payments to Victims)	\$6,130,266	
State Claims (Claims Processing Expenses)	43,321	
		<b>\$6,173,587</b>
<b>Federal Claims - Grant Year '08</b>		
Federal Claims (Direct Payments to Victims)	\$1,543,140	
Federal - Administrative Cost	208,800	
		<b>\$1,751,940</b>
<b>ARRA Stimulus Federal Claims - Grant Year '09</b>		
Federal Claims (Direct Payments to Victims)	\$1,340,466	
Federal Administrative Cost	70,205	
		<b>\$1,410,671</b>
Federal Claims - Grant Year '09		0
Federal Claims - Grant Year '10 (Pending \$1.9 Mil )		0
		<b>\$3,162,611</b>
<b>Total State &amp; Federal Grants</b>		<b>9,336,198</b>
<b>Total FY 10 Expenditures</b>		<b>\$10,993,051</b>



# Benefits in a Nutshell

## Crimes Covered

- Aggravated Assault
- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Burglary
- Robbery
- Sexually Related Crimes
- Kidnapping
- Acts Constituting Domestic Violence
- Drug and Food Tampering
- DWI
- Carjacking
- Hit & Run
- Eluding a Police Officer
- Human Trafficking

## What You Need to File

- Completed NJ VCCO Application
- Police Report
- Copies of Bills and Receipts of all Related Losses
- Documentation

## Time Requirements

- Report Crime to Police Within 3 Months
- File Claim Application with NJ VCCO within 2 Years

## Benefits Provided

- \$25,000 Maximum

## Mental Health Counseling

- Homicide Survivor- \$12,500
- Injured Victim- \$12,500
- Secondary Victim(s)- \$7,000
- Group Counseling- \$50 per Session per Victim

## Medical Bills

- Medical Bills not Covered by Other Sources
- Chiropractic/Physical Therapy-30 Sessions
- Medical Supplies and/or Other Prescription Drugs
- Medical Related Transportation

## Loss of Earnings or Financial Support

- Maximum Amount-\$600/Week
- Loss of Support- 48 Months
- Loss of Earnings- Direct Victim-104 Weeks
- Permanent Disability- Direct Victim-60 Months
- Loss of Earnings- Secondary Victim-\$7,000 to Care for Primary Victim

## Others

- Funeral Cost-\$5000
- Transportation to Funeral-\$200/Person or \$1,000 Total
- Crime Scene Cleanup- \$2,000
- Relocation Expenses- \$2,500
- Domestic Help- \$50/Day not to exceed \$6,500 Total
- Child Care/Day Care Services- \$6,500
- Victims' Rights Attorney Fees (Criminal Matter)- \$125/Hr with a \$1,000 Maximum
- Attorney Fees for Representing Victims in VCCO Claim (Up to 15% of the Award)

## Catastrophic Injuries

- Supplemental \$35,000 for Rehabilitative Services Only



# Claims Processing

## **Intake Phase:**

Claims are processed in the chronological order in which they are received by the Office. Upon receipt of an application, the claim is opened, given a claim number, an acknowledgment of receipt is sent to the applicant, and if needed, additional information is requested. All requests for emergency assistance are reviewed immediately.

## **Bill Review:**

Bills are screened for the proper name and address, federal tax I.D. number, CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) codes & date of service. Any missing information and collection notices are returned to the provider/claimant with a letter requesting an itemized bill, where applicable. Once all the information is gathered, bills are input into the Claims Processing System. The bills are then forwarded to the appropriate unit for processing of the claim.

## **Eligibility Phase:**

After a police report is received, the assigned investigator will review all the circumstances surrounding the incident, by conversing with police and prosecutorial personnel and securing related information from the courts. The investigator will make a recommendation to accept the claim as eligible for compensation or to deny compensation because there has been a failure to comply with the eligibility criteria.

## **Compensation Phase:**

Once determined eligible for compensation, the claim enters the compensation phase. The investigator will verify losses by communicating directly with providers of medical services, securing insurance benefit statements, and gathering loss of earnings and disability payment information.

## **Payment Processing:**

After the Order of Payment is written and approved the case is received in Accounting. The voucher is reconciled to the order and mailed to the provider. Upon receipt of a signed voucher, the Accounting Unit processes the payment and submits it to OAG administration for approval in New Jersey Comprehensive Financial System.

Claimants do not receive a voucher; their payments are processed the day after the Order is signed.



# Eligibility

## Eligibility Criteria

- An application for compensation may be filed by (1) the victim; (2) a dependent of a deceased victim; (3) an authorized person acting on behalf of the victim; or (4) any other person who has demonstrated an eligible expense for which they have become responsible for due to the victimization.
- The claim must be filed within two years of the crime, but may be considered after two years if the VCCO determines that “good cause” existed for the delayed filing.
- The victim suffered bodily injury or death as a result of the criminal actions of another or the victim needs mental health counseling because of emotional trauma resulting from a violent crime.
- The crime must be reported to the police within three months after it occurs, but may be considered if reported to the police after three months if the VCCO determines that good cause existed for the delay.
- The crime must occur in New Jersey (residency not required), or the victim must be a New Jersey resident who was injured in another state or jurisdiction that does not have a crime victim compensation program or has a program which has not provided full compensation for the crime-related losses.
- The victim must cooperate fully with the police and prosecutor’s office; however, eligibility is not dependent upon conviction or prosecution of the offender.



- The claimant was not the offender or an accomplice of the offender. An award may not be made to another person if the award would unjustly benefit the offender or accomplice.
- The victim must be an “innocent victim” of a crime, which means that the VCCO must consider whether the victim’s conduct contributed to the injuries suffered.

# Compensation Criteria

## Compensable Crimes\*

The VCCO may order the payment of compensation for personal injury or death that resulted from the commission or attempt to commit any of the following offenses:

- Aggravated assault
- Threats to do bodily harm
- Lewd, indecent or obscene acts
- Indecent acts with children
- Kidnapping
- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Aggravated sexual assault, sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual contact, criminal sexual contact
- Any other crime involving violence including domestic violence
- Burglary (personal property loss or damage will not be compensated)
- Tampering with a cosmetic, drug or food product
- Driving a vehicle, commercial or private, or boat while under the influence of alcohol or narcotics
- Theft of an automobile, eluding a law enforcement officer or unlawful taking of a motor vehicle where injuries to the victim occur in the course of the offender operating the automobile

*\*It should be noted that simple assault is not a compensable crime.*

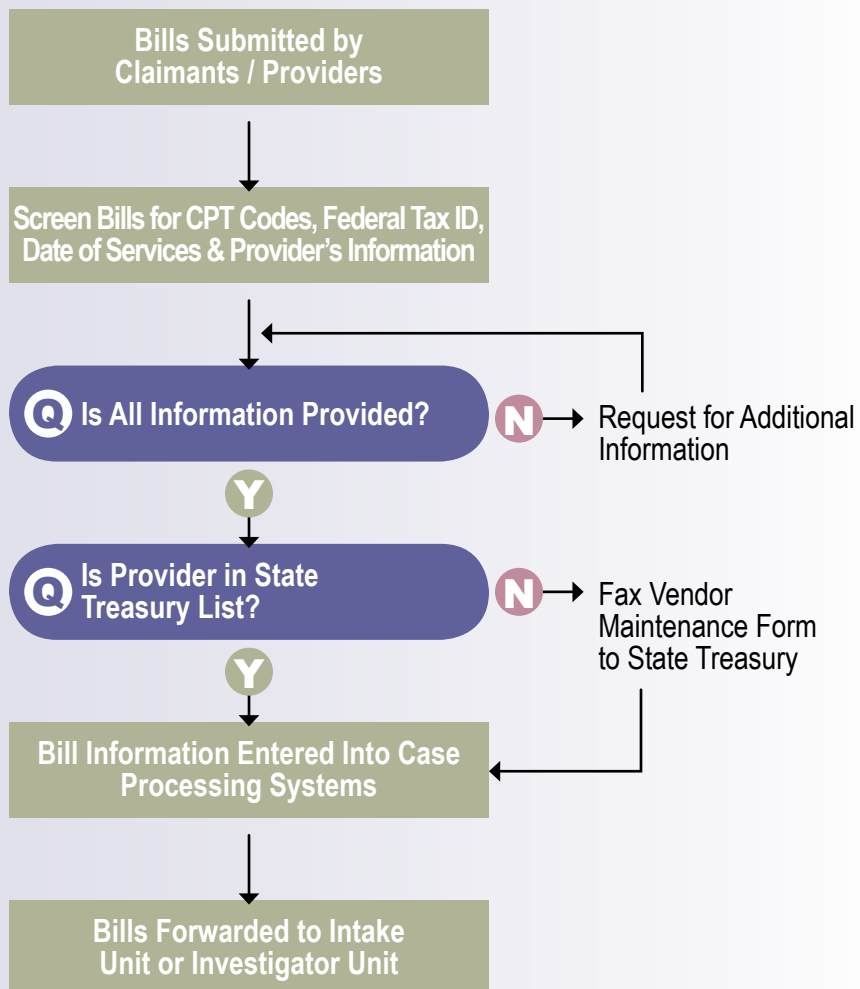
## Compensable Benefits

Compensation payable to a victim, providers and to all other claimants sustaining economic loss because of injury to or death of that victim, may not exceed \$25,000 in the aggregate, and may include:

- Medically related expenses not covered by other insurance or benefits programs.
- Mental health counseling up to \$12,500 for a direct victim and up to 24 sessions not to exceed \$7,000 for immediate family members.
- Loss of support for dependents in homicide cases and from offender in domestic violence cases. Maximum of \$600 per week not to exceed 48 months.
- Loss of earnings for direct victims up to \$600 per week not to exceed 24 months.
- Funeral expenses of up to \$5,000.
- Limited transportation costs for funerals and medical treatment.
- Limited domestic service up to \$6,500 for child care, day care and after school care costs.
- Crime Scene Cleanup expenses up to \$2,000.
- Relocation expenses up to \$2,500 when necessary as a result of the crime, where the health and safety of the victim are jeopardized.
- Reimbursement for up to \$200 in stolen cash resulting from assault and robbery, if you are at least 60 years old or determined to be disabled and meet financial guidelines.
- Attorneys are limited to receiving fees that are set by statute.
- Catastrophic Benefits – Supplemental \$35,000 for rehabilitative services only.

# Bill Entry Process

VCCO



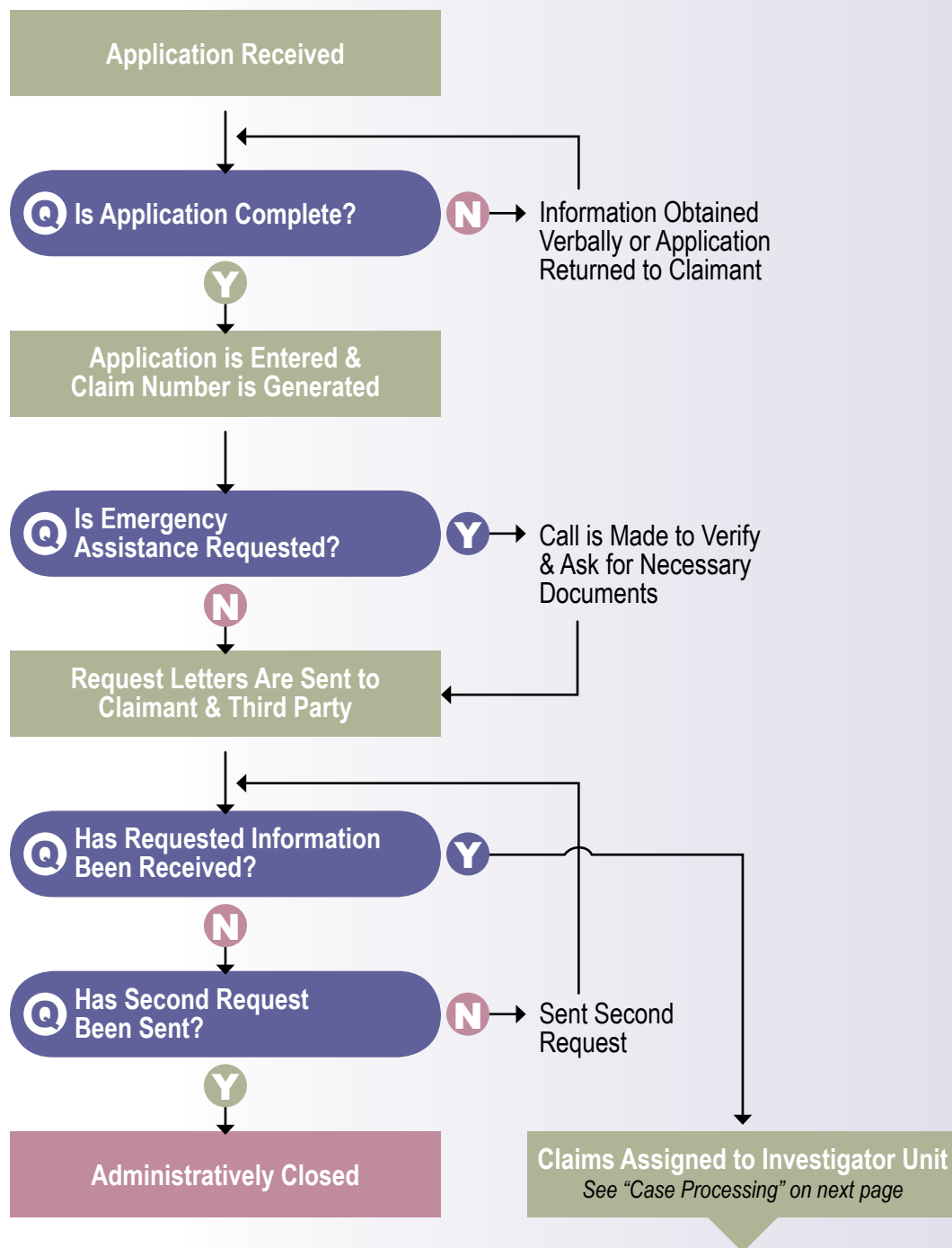
**Q** Question

**Y** Yes

**N** No

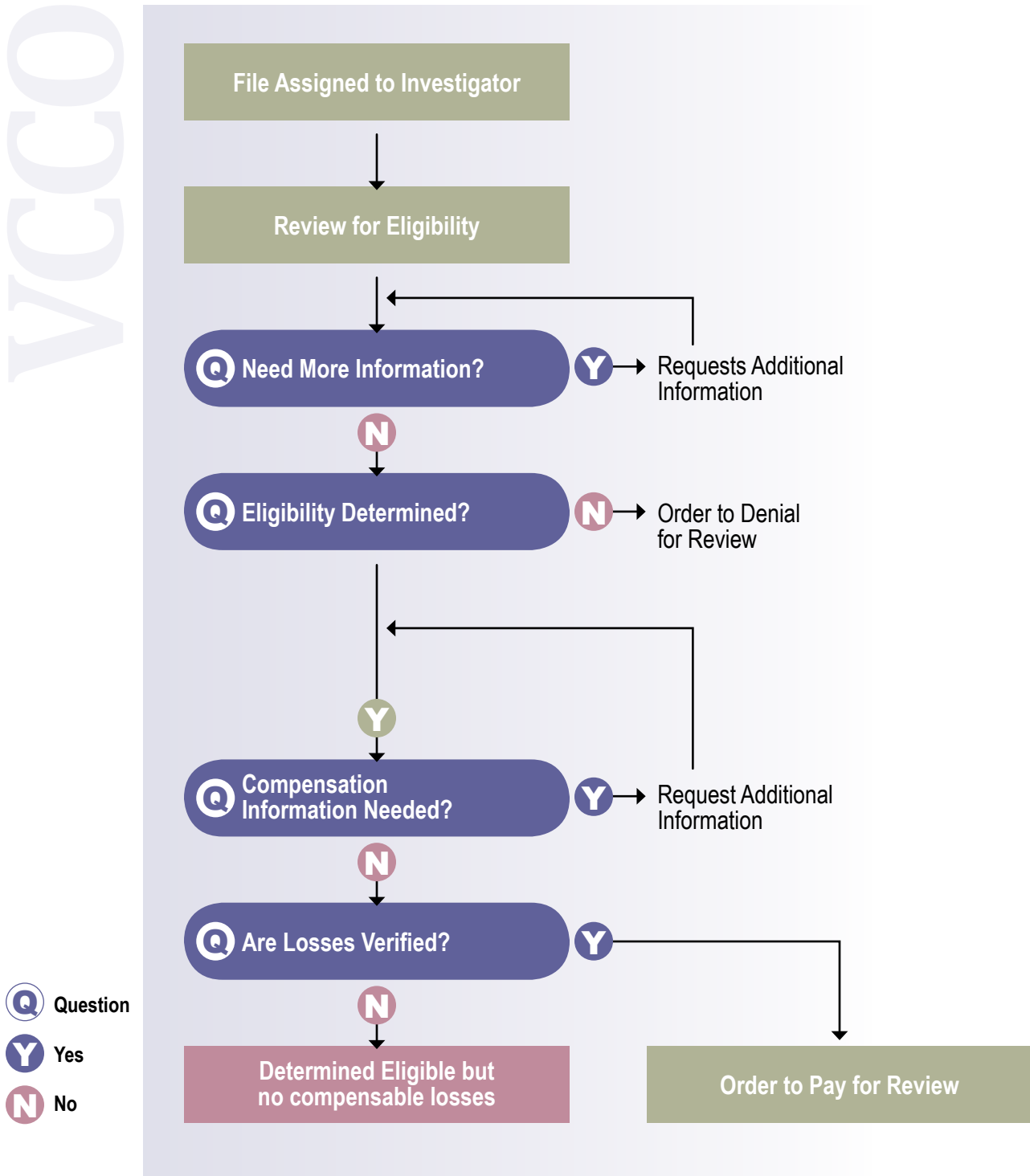


# Intake Processing Unit



# Case Processing

VCCO



- Q Question
- Y Yes
- N No

# FY 10 Intake Processing Statistics

<b>Days between date of incident and filed claim with VCCO</b>	
Less than 1 Month	1,069
More than 1 Month and less than 6 Month	1,452
More than 6 Month and less than 1 Year	362
More than 1 Year and less than 2 Year	252
More than 2 Year and less than 5 Year	109
More than 5 Years	61

<b>Time between claim opened and assigned to Investigative Unit</b>	
Less than 1 Month	636
Less than 2 Month	494
Less than 3 Month	311
Less than 4 Month	344
Less than 5 Month	47
Less than 6 Month	22
More than 6 Month	14

<b>FY2010 Walk In Stats</b>													
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
<b>Investigator Assigned Claims</b>	23	35	47	33	27	58	29	15	55	66	49	54	491
<b>New Applications</b>	62	87	70	71	65	66	59	42	49	54	68	62	755
<b>Claims in In-Take Unit</b>	69	70	72	75	70	31	47	54	47	32	34	46	647
													1893

# Frequently Asked Questions

VCCO

## How much compensation can I receive?

Compensation benefits may be awarded up to a maximum of \$25,000 per claim and an additional \$35,000 in catastrophic benefits.

## Who is eligible?

A victim of a crime who has sustained personal injury, mental trauma or death, a surviving spouse, parent/guardian, child or other relative dependent for support upon a victim of a crime who died as a direct result of such crime, or a person injured while trying to prevent a crime or while assisting a police officer in making an arrest.

## What will the Agency pay for?

- Relocation
- Psychological counseling
- Loss of support or earnings
- Hospital, physician and physical therapy

## What losses are not covered?

- Property damage or loss, except crime scene cleanup
- Pain and suffering

## How can I get help to file an application?

Law enforcement agencies, your County Office of Victim/Witness Advocacy or call the VCCO at 1-877-658-2221.

## What factors can disqualify an applicant?

- A victim whose behavior contributed to the crime and injuries suffered
- A victim who was engaged in illegal activity at the time of the crime
- An offender or an accomplice of the offender
- Anyone in prison for a crime when the incident occurred
- A victim of a motor vehicle or boating accident except those listed under Crimes for Which Compensation is Available
- A victim of a motor vehicle or boating incident where the victim knew, or had reason to believe, the vehicle or vessel was being operated by the offender while under the influence of alcohol or narcotics
- A victim who is a non-resident of New Jersey and the crime incurred in a location other than New Jersey
- Failure to file a police report
- Failure to cooperate with law enforcement

## Is the VCCO the primary payer of my crime related expenses?

No, the Victims of Crime Compensation Office is the payer of last resort. The VCCO will award compensation for the balance of crime-related expenses not reimbursed first from other sources such as medical insurance or disability benefits.

### **How do I apply for compensation?**

Applications are available from the 21 county prosecutors' offices through their respective Victim/Witness Coordinator. The Coordinators will assist crime victims in filling out the form.

You can also download an application from the VCCO's Web site at [www.njvictims.org](http://www.njvictims.org) or call 973-648-2107 for assistance.

### **How long does it take to receive benefits?**

It depends upon the amount and length of time the claimant and/or providers take to supply information. By statute N.J.S.A. 52:4B-18, the VCCO will make its determination regarding the application within six months of acknowledgement by the VCCO of receipt of the completed application and any and all necessary supplemental information.

### **Does VCCO handle some matters as emergencies?**

Yes, emergency claims are usually paid within 30 days. The VCCO may grant an emergency award based on financial hardship, urgent medical problems or for health or safety reasons.

### **Does the agency provide translation services?**

Yes, the VCCO can arrange for translation services to assist you in processing your claim. Please call ahead for an appointment to ensure the services of a Spanish translator. Applications are available in Spanish.

### **Will the agency pay if crime occurred outside New Jersey?**

Yes. However, you must first exhaust your claim in the jurisdiction where the crime occurred. Each of the 50 states and Washington, DC have a victim compensation program.



# Common Reasons For Denial

There are many reasons that the Victims of Crime Compensation Office may deem a claim as ineligible. Listed below are some of the most common reasons a claim may be denied.

- Open warrants/Pending criminal charges/Victim is incarcerated.  
N.J.A.C. 13:75-1.7 (l)
- Outstanding VCCO Penalties.  
N.J.A.C. 13:75-1.7 (k)
- Failure to cooperate with law enforcement.  
N.J.A.C. 13:75-1.6 (e)
- Contributory conduct.  
N.J.A.C. 13:75-1.6 (e)
- Non-Compliance with VCCO statute of limitations.  
N.J.A.C. 13:75-1.5 (a) and N.J.A.C. 13:75-1.5 (b)
- Non-compensable crimes.  
N.J.S.A. 52:4B-11

The reasons listed above do not encompass all of the reasons a claim may be denied. Each claim filed with the Victims of Crime Compensation Office is reviewed on a case-by-case basis.



# Appeals Process

- Claim is denied, determined eligible with no compensation or limited pay.
- Claimant disagrees with the determination.
- Appeal is requested by claimant or his/her attorney upon VCCO denial.
- Appeal is scheduled and notification of appeal date is made at least 15 days prior to the appeal.
- Hearing held before the VCC Review Board; claimant and the Agency present respective positions.
- Review Board considers all of the relevant evidence along with any applicable statute or regulation and either affirms the denial, overturns the denial, or remands the file to obtain additional information necessary to render a decision.
- Review Board issues a Final Order and Decision on the Appeal within 60 days of the hearing date.
- If the decision is reversed, the Agency processes the claim accordingly.
- Appeal of the Review Boards Final Order and Decision must be made to the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of the State of New Jersey within 45 days of receiving the Review Board's Final Order and Decision.

## Most Common Issues Raised on Appeals

The most common issues raised on appeals are: Contribution and time filing limitations (3 months for a police report & 2 years for filing a VCCO claim).

### Contribution:

NJAC 13:75-1.6(e)

The VCCO reserves the right to consider any circumstances it deems to be relevant, including, but not limited to, provocation, consent, participation in an illegal activity or behavior on the part of the victim which directly, or indirectly, contributed to his or her injury or death, the prior case history of the victim which may also include matters pertaining to the victim's medical history, and whether the victim cooperated with reasonable requests of law enforcement authorities or showed a compelling health or safety reason why they could not cooperate.

### Late filing:

NJAC 13:75-1.5(a)

For claim applications submitted prior to November 30, 1981, all claims must have been filed within one year of the date of the incident upon which the claim is based. For claim applications submitted on or after November 30, 1981, all claims must be filed within two years after the date of the incident upon which the claim is based or, if after that date, upon determination by the VCCO that good cause exists for the delayed filing.

NJAC 13:75-1.5(b)

The incident must have been reported to the police within three months of its occurrence or the date from which the claimant had knowledge or reason to believe that a crime had occurred.

# Hearing Stats

## Victims of Crime Compensation Office Review Board

VCCO



*Top row, left to right: Marsetta Lee, Richard Gill, Kathy Yuill, John Holl.  
Bottom row, left to right: Megan Harris, Phillip Ross, Rita Carr-Volpe, Leslie Smith, Olga Bradford.*

Reversed	15
Reversed in part	6
Remanded for additional info	3
Upheld	19
<b>Total hearings</b>	<b>43</b>



# Outreach and Training

The Outreach and Training Group is made up of personnel from the Investigative Unit, the Intake Unit and the Support Staff. To gear up a comprehensive program, the group identified the most critical groups to target with our new claim applications, brochures, and tri-fold information cards in both English and Spanish. Hospitals, domestic violence programs, universities, and social service agencies were identified as critical entities with whom to partner in the service of crime victims. Letters were sent to those targeted groups with an order form for our printed materials, and an offer to do training for their respective staffs. The response was encouraging, and led to ten training sessions and participation in two information fairs between January and June.

## Outreach Materials Distributed - FY 2010

	Claim Application	Informational Brochures	Tri-Fold Card	Miranda Warning Card	Small Poster	Large Poster
English	7,174	19,209	8,219	3,730	549	408
Spanish	4,040	16,069	5,760	2,165	209	129

A power point presentation was developed and has been modified several times to meet the specific informational needs of the group being trained. There is now an experienced group of trainers available in the office.

Wherever we go, we remind everyone to utilize our Web site for more detailed information about our office, to download our claim application, to order more printed materials and to find important links to other Web sites.



# Working Groups & Committees\*

## Annual Report Committee

Brian Penn, *Coordinator*  
James R. Casserly  
Winston Tsang

## Training

*(Case Processing, Intake, Investigators)*

Mary Ellen Bonsper, *Coordinator*  
Melissa Verardi, *Coordinator*  
Peter Kobylarz, *Coordinator*  
Craig DiFiore  
Gloria Franco  
John Holl  
Maggie Miranda  
Jackie Sierchio

## Comprehensive SOPs & Policies

John Holl, *Coordinator*  
Mary Ellen Bonsper, *Coordinator*  
Craig DiFiore  
Tobi Footman  
Richard Gill  
Peter Kobylarz  
Brian Penn  
Melissa Verardi

## Web site & Brochures

Kathy Yuill, *Coordinator*  
James R. Casserly, *Coordinator*  
Jayne McNee  
Brian Penn  
Mimi Rosenshein

## Penalty Revenue Committee

Margaret Pillar, *Coordinator*  
James R. Casserly, *Coordinator*  
Doug Brooks  
Elizabeth Lucano  
Mimi Rosenshein  
Jackie Sierchio  
George Smith

## Regulations/Statues

John Holl, *Coordinator*  
Mary Ellen Bonsper  
Craig DiFiore  
Richard Gill  
Peter Kobylarz

## Strategic Plan for Comprehensive CP Tracking

James R. Casserly, *Coordinator*  
Jeff Zuber, *Coordinator*  
Craig DiFiore

Mary Ellen Bonsper  
Melissa Verardi  
Richard Gill  
Winston Tsang  
Mimi Rosenshein  
Peter Kobylarz

## General Training

James R. Casserly, *Coordinator*  
Daisy Quiles  
Elizabeth Lucano  
Jayne McNee  
Margaret Pillar

## Outreach & Awareness

### Core Group

Marsetta Lee  
Sharon Koch  
Maggie Miranda

### Field Group

Tom Cicalese  
Peter Kobylarz  
Sharon Koch  
Elizabeth Lucano  
Maggie Miranda  
Jessica Morejon  
Tabitha Otero  
Ken Thomas  
Winston Tsang  
Michelle Williams

### Backup

Richard Gill  
Brian Penn  
Kathy Yuill

## National Crime Victims' Rights Week

Craig DiFiore, *Coordinator*  
Melissa Verardi, *Coordinator*  
Sharon Koch, *Coordinator*  
James R. Casserly  
GerriAnn DeCicco  
Richard Gill  
Jayne McNee

\* *Executive Director Marsetta Lee serves as exofficio member of all committees.*

## New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

# Victims of Crime Compensation Office

### Mission Statement

The New Jersey Victims of Crime Compensation Office provides compensation to innocent victims of violent crime for some expenses they suffer as a result of the crime. In carrying out its mission, the VCCO is mindful of the special needs of those victimized by crime and their right to be treated with fairness, compassion and respect.

### Crime Victims Constitutional Amendment

(N.J. Constitution, article 1, section 22.)

A victim of a crime shall be treated with fairness, compassion and respect by the criminal justice system. A victim of a crime shall not be denied the right to be present at public judicial proceedings except when, prior to completing testimony as a witness, the victim is properly sequestered in accordance with law of the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey. A victim of a crime shall be entitled to those rights and remedies as may be provided by the Legislature. For the purposes of this paragraph, "victim of a crime" means: a) a person who has suffered physical or psychological injury or has incurred loss or damage to personal or real property as a result of a crime or an incident involving another person operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and b) the spouse, parent, legal guardian, grandparent, child or sibling of the decedent in the case of a criminal homicide.

### VCCO Staff



*Left to right - top to bottom:*  
Doug Brooks, Jessica Morejon, Melissa Verardi, Mary Ellen Bonsper, George Smith, Richard Gill, Peter Kobylarz, Craig DiFiore, John Holl, Zuanette Cabrera, Gerriann DeCico, Maggie Miranda, Marvette Jones, Kathy Yuill, Gloria Rueda, Mimi Rosenshein, Gloria Franco, Michele Manaviglia, Margaret Pillar, Winston Tsang, Marsetta Lee, Sharon Koch, Brian Penn, Mark Roff, Jayne McNee, Tobi Footman, Elizabeth Lucano, James R. Caserby, Vanessa Gomez, Daisy Quiles, Tanny Kyak, Tabitha Otero.  
*Not present:*  
Bonnie Drucks, Tom Cicalese, Jacqueline Sierchio, Ken Thomas, Michelle Williams, Rosemarie de Vera, Jeff Zuber.

# New Jersey

## Crime Victims' Bill of Rights

VCCO

### N.J.S.A. 52:4B-36. Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses

The Legislature finds and declares that crime victims and witnesses are entitled to the following rights.

- a. To be treated with dignity and compassion by the criminal justice system;
- b. To be informed about the criminal justice process;
- c. To be free from intimidation;
- d. To have inconveniences associated with participation in the criminal justice process minimized to the fullest extent possible;
- e. To make at least one telephone call provided the call is reasonable in both length and location called;
- f. To medical assistance if, in the judgment of the law enforcement agency, medical assistance appears necessary;
- g. To be notified if presence in court is not needed;
- h. To be informed about available remedies, financial assistance and social services;
- i. To be compensated for their loss whenever possible;
- j. To be provided a secure but not necessarily separate, waiting area during court proceedings;
- k. To be advised of case progress and final disposition;
- l. To the prompt return of property when no longer needed as evidence;
- m. To submit a written statement about the impact of the crime to a representative of the county prosecutor's office which shall be considered prior to the prosecutor's final decision concerning whether formal criminal charges will be filed; and
- n. To make, prior to sentencing, an in-person statement directly to the sentencing court concerning the impact of the crime. This statement is to be made in addition to the statement permitted for inclusion in the pre-sentence report by N.J.S.A. 2C:44-6. In any homicide prosecution the victim's survivor may display directly to the sentencing court at the time of this statement a photograph of the victim taken before the homicide.



# VCCO Staff

## **Executive Director**

Marsetta Lee

## **Assistant Attorney General**

John Holl

## **Administrative**

James R. Casserly, Manager

Margaret Pillar, Manager

Bonnie Drucks

Elizabeth Lucano

Jayne McNee

Daisy Quiles

Mimi Rosenshein

## **Information Technology**

Jeff Zuber, Manager

Winston Tsang

## **Intake**

Melissa Verardi, Manager

Brian Penn, Supervisor, Grants Manager

Zuanette Cabrera

Tom Cicalese

Gerriann DeCicco

Rosemarie de Vera

Vanessa Gomez

Tanny Kyak

Jessica Morejon

Tabitha Otero

## **Bill Entry**

Gloria Franco, Manager

Michele Maraviglia

Gloria Rueda

## **Supervisors of Investigators**

Mary Ellen Bonsper

Craig DiFiore

Richard Gill

## **Investigators**

Doug Brooks

Tobi Footman, Sr. Investigator

Marvette Jones

Peter Kobylarz, Sr. Investigator

Sharon Koch, Sr. Investigator

Maggie Miranda

Mark Roff

Jacqueline Sierchio

George Smith

Ken Thomas

Michelle Williams

Kathy Yuill



**Victims of Crime Compensation Office  
Summary Chart - Fiscal Data  
As of 6/11/18**

<b>Resources</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>
Revenues	\$8,676,760	\$8,300,901
State	\$4,656,724	\$1,170,675
Federal	\$2,438,041	\$3,148,560
Carry Forward	\$4,246,854	\$9,499,242
<b>Total Resources</b>	<b>\$20,018,379</b>	<b>\$22,119,378</b>
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salaries	\$1,968,184	\$1,853,372
Non-Salary	\$666,335	\$445,474
<b>Total Operational Costs</b>	<b>\$2,634,519</b>	<b>\$2,298,846</b>
<b>Claims Expenditures</b>		
State	\$4,125,455	\$6,128,299
Federal	\$2,438,041	\$2,869,555
<b>Total Claim Expenditures</b>	<b>\$6,563,496</b>	<b>\$8,997,854</b>

Claim expenditures are not equivalent to the claim awards. An award amount represents the value of benefits received by victims and other claimants, while the claim expenditure amounts reflect the portion of these awards that have been paid out to claimants and service providers.

# Information/Speaker Request Form

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## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:

E-mail:

Provider, Organization, Association:

Phone:

Fax:

Address:

Shipped to Address:

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## MATERIAL REQUESTED

Application Request:  YES  NO

Number of Applications:  1  5  10  25  50  100  200

Miranda Card Request:  YES  NO

Number of Miranda Cards:  1  5  10  25  50  100  200

Poster Request:  YES  NO

Number Posters:  1  5  10  25  50  100  200

Brochures Request:  YES  NO

Number of Brochures:  1  5  10  25  50  100  200

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## SPEAKER REQUESTED

Request a Speaker:  YES  NO

Day:

Time:

Fax to: 973.648.3937, Mail to: VCCO, 50 Park Place, Newark NJ 07102  
or submit your request using our online form at [www.njvictims.org](http://www.njvictims.org)



NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

**VICTIMS OF CRIME COMPENSATION OFFICE**

*www.njvictims.org* • TOLL FREE 877-658-2221