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Crime Victim Compensation:
Assisting Crime Victims & Survivors of Sexual Assault
Victim Compensation & Assistance Division
Office of Attorney General Martha Coakley

Sexual assault can have a devastating impact on survivors. They can experience trauma from the assault and may feel re-victimized in navigating unfamiliar, confusing, and costly legal, healthcare and social service systems.

What is Victim Compensation?

Compensation for victims of violent crimes, and their families, is available through a program mandated by MGL c.258C, and administered by the Office of the Attorney General's Victim Compensation and Assistance Division. The law provides eligible claimants with assistance in paying crime related medical, dental, and mental health expenses, funeral and burial costs, and in addressing economic losses directly related to a violent crime occurring in the Commonwealth.

How can Victim Compensation assist sexual assault survivors?

The protocol and application are designated to assist survivors who have been sexually assaulted in Massachusetts and obtain a forensic exam at a local Massachusetts hospital, regardless if the crime is reported to law enforcement. The forensic sexual assault exam may be performed by a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) or other medical provider.

What expenses are covered?

The fund is available to assist survivors in paying for expenses incurred as a result of a forensic sexual assault exam. The Victim Compensation Division may assist with physician and hospital expenses, laboratory costs, ambulance transportation, medications prescribed or administered at the time of the exam and aftercare deemed medically necessary. In addition, the fund may compensate for costs related to obtaining testing for sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy.

How do survivors apply?

Applications for compensation are included in the Forensic Sexual Assault Exam Kits. They must be completed and submitted to: The Victim Compensation and Assistance Division, Office of Attorney General Martha Coakley, One Ashburton Place, Boston, MA 02128. Be sure to include a copy of the Treatment and Discharge form (**FORM #6**) with the sexual assault evidence collection kit number.

Compensation is available to all eligible victims of violent crime for medical and hospital expenses not covered by other sources. Please contact the Victim Compensation & Assistance Division if you have additional questions or concerns at 617-727-2200. You can also obtain additional information on our website at www.mass.gov/ago/