

STATE OF ALASKA
VIOLENT CRIMES COMPENSATION BOARD
THIRY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

WHY WAS THE VCCB ESTABLISHED?

The Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) was established by state law in 1972 to help mitigate the financial hardships innocent victims can suffer as a direct result of violent crime. As a key element in the recovery process, the VCCB provides timely financial help to victims in need and plays a crucial role in helping victims recover from the trauma and economic burden of criminal victimization.

The Board makes awards in a number of ways on behalf of innocent victims of certain violent crimes which occur in Alaska. The Board may compensate medical expenses, counseling costs, lost income, lost support, funeral expenses and/or other reasonable expenses and losses sustained by innocent victims of violent crimes in Alaska. The Board may also compensate similar losses sustained by Alaskans who are victims of violent crime in locations without a compensation program.

The Board provides for the payment of pecuniary loss to dependents of deceased victims and may award the full compensation available by statute to victims who are permanently disabled as a direct result of the crime. The program is a payer of last source. Compensation is awarded only for expenses not covered by a collateral source such as medical and automobile insurance, employee benefits, and assistance programs.

During this reporting period, the Board paid costs compensable under AS 18.67 on 582 cases involving victims age 17 and under and 485 cases involving victims age 18 to 65 and 2 cases involving victims over age 65. The number of claims awarded during this reporting period showed a 33% increase over the prior year.