

FUNDING SOURCES/RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

The state's violent crimes compensation program is funded through both state and federal funds. Approximately 56% of the amount awarded annually in compensation comes from a legislative appropriation of state funds. These state funds are currently available because Permanent Fund dividends are withheld from certain persons convicted of crimes in Alaskan courts and earmarked for use by the compensation program to help victims.

In 1984, federal legislation established a Crime Victims Fund. Monies from this fund are available for distribution by state compensation programs. Alaska's compensation program must qualify annually for federal grants and has done so successfully since inception of the fund. Approximately 44% of the funds awarded annually come from this fund.

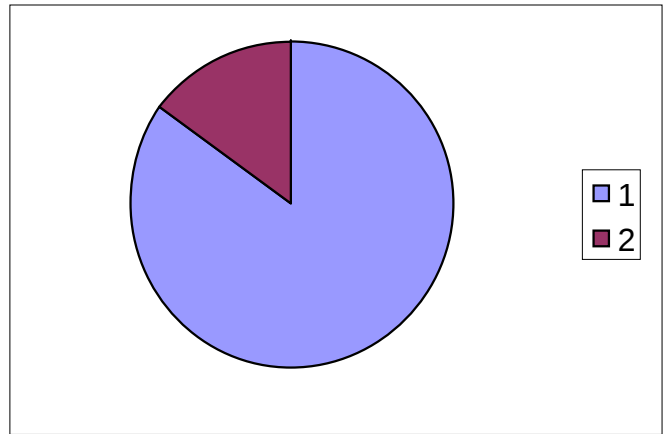
In 1996, Board staff began tracking unrestricted revenues paid to the Board, but unavailable for award to victims. This court ordered restitution, income from inmates working in correctional industries programs, and refunds from the exercise of the state's subrogation rights could provide additional state funds for award to victims and their service providers.

Adopting the principles of restorative justice, the Board is committed to condemning the criminal act and holding offenders accountable. The Board understands that a violent criminal act is an act against individuals and not just against the community or the State. Therefore, Board staff continue to track and monitor offender restitution to the Board. The Board continues to seek support for the legislation necessary to implement the Crime Victim Compensation Fund.

FUNDING SOURCES AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

The greatest portion of the compensation program's budget serves eligible innocent victims directly. Awards are made to compensate expenses and losses. The following chart illustrates the Board's commitment to keeping administrative costs at a minimum which enables maximum compensation to victims for eligible costs. In addition to typical expenses, administrative costs include the payment of attorney fees for assistance with claim filing. During this reporting period, the Board decreased administrative costs over the previous reporting period. This allowed more funds to be available for direct compensation to victims and on their behalf.

The Board maximizes awards made by minimizing administrative costs. The Board has continued to reduce administrative costs each year. The reductions have made more funds available for direct award to victims and their service providers.



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