

2025

FY 2025 Crime Victims Compensation Board
Annual Report



KRIS KOBACH

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF KANSAS

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



KRIS KOBACH
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF KANSAS

CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION BOARD

Board Members

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Richard Samaniego, Wichita | Chair |
| Stuart Hite, Pittsburg | Member |
| Becky Dickinson, Wakarusa | Member |

Staff

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Kristen Czugala | Division Chief |
| Diana Espinoza | Claims Analyst |
| Jordan Cottingham | Claims Analyst |
| Holly Mace | Claims Analyst |
| Sharol Couch | Accounting Specialist |
| Tammy Cessna | Administrative Assistant |
| Kelly Vanderpool | Administrative Assistant |
| Nancy Deaver | Part-time Program Consultant |



STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

KRIS W. KOBACH
ATTORNEY GENERAL

MEMORIAL HALL
120 SW 10TH AVE., 2ND FLOOR
TOPEKA, KS 66612-1597
(785) 296-2215 • FAX (785) 296-6296
WWW.AG.KS.GOV

November 2025

TO: Honorable Laura Kelly, Governor
Members of the Kansas Legislature

Since its establishment by the Legislature in 1978, the Kansas Crime Victims Compensation Board continues to provide financial assistance to victims of violent crime. Many victims suffer financial hardship as the result of their victimization, incurring medical bills, funeral expenses, mental health costs, lost wages and other crime-related expenses. Although these crimes occur to no fault of their own, victims are still responsible for these costs. The Crime Victims Compensation Board's mission is, "**To award just compensation to victims for economic loss arising from violent crime.**" While no amount of money awarded to a victim can erase the trauma they experienced, the assistance can help to alleviate the financial burden they may face after experiencing violence.

The Board and staff maintain strong partnerships with law enforcement, prosecutors, victim advocates and service providers throughout the state to continue to support their mission. Continued outreach is a priority for the Board and Staff to ensure victims are made aware of their possible eligibility for the program and how they can be assisted.

During Fiscal Year 2025, the Crime Victims Compensation Board paid for 87 funerals of victims who were killed as the result of a crime in Kansas. Additionally, the Board assisted 69 victims with obtaining housing after they were no longer safe, having experienced a violent crime in their home, or at the hands of someone known to them. These are just two examples of the meaningful ways the Crime Victims Compensation Board assists victims in Kansas.

Supporting victims of crime is one of my top priorities as Attorney General, and the financial support provided by the Crime Victims Compensation Board is vital to Kansans who experience violence. I am grateful to the Board Members and my staff who administer this program and continue to support the mission to help victims of violent crime with unexpected costs. On behalf of my staff and innocent victims of crime in Kansas, I thank you for your continued support of the Kansas Crime Victims Compensation Board.

Sincerely,

Kris W. Kobach
Kansas Attorney General

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Introduction..... | 1 |
| Composition of the Crime Victims Compensation Board | 1 |
| Eligibility | 2 |
| Diminishment of Compensation | 3 |
| Benefits | 4 |
| Revenue Sources | 5 |
| Application Summary | 6 |
| Demographics | 7 |
| Awarded Claims..... | 8 |
| Expenses Paid | 9 |
| Denied/Closed Claims | 10 |
| Comments from Victims and Others Who Work with the Program..... | 11 |

*All reported values are subject to audit and correction following the close of the fiscal year.

Introduction

The Crime Victims Compensation Board (CVCB) was established by the Kansas Legislature in 1978 pursuant to *K.S.A. 74-7301, et seq.*, to provide monetary compensation for out-of-pocket medical expenses, loss of earnings or support, burial expenses, and other costs associated with the treatment of injuries sustained as a result of being a victim of a violent crime. Compensation provided in fiscal year 2025 totaled **\$2,013,453**. In the 47 years of its existence, from 1978 through 2025, the Board has granted payments to crime victims totaling **\$107,676,555**. While financial assistance alone does not provide complete restoration, the Legislature is to be commended for recognizing that monetary aid can relieve some of the immediate pressures and stresses that compound the consequences of crime.

Composition of the Crime Victims Compensation Board

The Crime Victims Compensation Board is a three-member Board appointed by the Attorney General. Members are subject to confirmation by the Kansas Senate. No more than two members of the Board are to be of the same political party. The chair is required by statute to be a person regularly admitted to practice law in Kansas. Each board member is appointed for a term of four years. The Crime Victims Compensation Board consists of eight staff members: a director, three claims analysts, one accounting specialist, two administrative assistants and one part-time program consultant. The Board meets monthly to review claim summaries, make claim determinations, and hear appeals.

This is an absolute answered prayer. I don't have enough words to express our gratitude!! Thank you so much for working on this...We can't replace our [loved one], but we can share our memories and our gratitude with those around us for helping in our time of need...Again, thank you so much from our family.

—Survivor 2025

Eligibility

- An application for compensation may be filed by:
 - (1) the victim;
 - (2) a dependent of a deceased victim;
 - (3) a third person other than a collateral source; or
 - (4) an authorized person acting on behalf of any of the above.
- The claim must be filed within five years of the incident with certain exceptions for sexual assault cases (child sexual assault claims are based on the date the crime was reported to law enforcement officials). Effective July 1, 2024, the Board may waive the filing limit if it finds it would be a severe injustice to deny the victim compensation.
- For children who witness a violent crime, applications may be submitted until their 19th birthday.
- 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 incident occurred in Kansas or was committed outside the United States against a person whose domicile is in Kansas.
- The incident was reported to law enforcement officials within 72 hours or a forensic medical examination was obtained within seven days of the crime. The Board may waive the reporting or examination time limit with a good cause finding for the delay. Child human trafficking and/or sexual abuse victims do not have to meet this requirement.
- The victim and/or claimant fully cooperated with law enforcement officials during the investigation and prosecution of his or her case with an exception for child human trafficking victims.
- 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.

➤ Compensation may be awarded only if the Board finds that unless the claimant is awarded compensation, the claimant will suffer financial stress as the result of economic loss that is otherwise reparable. A claimant suffers financial stress only if the claimant cannot maintain his or her customary level of health, safety and education without undue financial hardship.

Diminishment of Compensation

The board may diminish a claim if:

- The board finds the claimant or victim has not fully cooperated with the appropriate law enforcement agencies.
- The economic loss is recouped from other sources, including collateral sources.
- The board deems reasonable...
 - ...Because of the *contributory misconduct* of the claimant or of a victim whom the claimant claims (does not apply to child human trafficking victims).
 - ...Because the victim was likely engaging in or attempting to engage in unlawful activity at the time of the crime (does not apply to claims for sexual assault, domestic violence, or human trafficking).

CONTRIBUTORY MISCONDUCT

K.A.R. 20-2-8

Acts or behaviors that may signify contributory misconduct:

- Consent, provocation or incitement, including the use of fighting words or obscene gestures.
- Willing presence in a vehicle operated by a person who is known to be under the influence of alcohol or an illegal substance.
- Abuse of alcohol or an illegal substance.
- Failure to retreat or withdraw from a threatening situation if an option to do so is readily available.
- *Failure to act as a prudent person.*

These acts and behaviors may be excused in cases involving domestic abuse or sexual assault.

BENEFITS

Compensation payable to a victim, 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.

Compensable Costs/Limits

- Medical Expenses – Including transportation to obtain medical assistance – \$25,000 maximum.
- Rehabilitation Services.
- Mental Health (maximums):
 - Inpatient psychiatric care – \$10,000
 - Outpatient counseling – \$5,000
- Grief therapy for family members of homicide victims – \$1,500
All therapy is subject to a \$90.00 per hour maximum allowance.
- Dependent Economic Loss, Wage Loss and Replacement Services – Maximum of \$800 per week.
- Funeral and related expenses –\$7,500.
- Moving Expenses – reasonable allowance compensable at recommendation of law enforcement or prosecution.
- Reasonable replacement costs for items of clothing and bedding seized as evidence.
- Crime Scene Cleanup – \$2,500 – including replacement of items removed due to being biohazardous or were damaged as part of evidence collection.
- Attorney Fees – \$45 per hour, for claim preparation only.
- Compensation cannot be provided for pain and suffering.

Revenue Sources

The Crime Victims Compensation Board receives funding from both the state and federal government. The monies come from the following sources:

- **10.94 percent of all fines, penalties and forfeitures** remitted from Kansas district courts.
- **Fines, penalties and forfeitures from federal convictions.** These funds are administered through Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grants by the Office for Victims of Crime within the U.S. Department of Justice. States may apply for a grant each year equal to 60 percent of the total awarded to victims from state funds in the previous federal fiscal year.
- **Court-ordered restitution** from offenders, subrogation, and refunds. Judges are encouraged to order offenders to pay restitution to reimburse the fund for awards granted. Refunds and funds from subrogation are received when a claimant's financial obligation has been met through a collateral source.
- **Kansas Department of Corrections.** Five percent of the gross wages of inmates employed in a private industry program other than work release, a portion of supervision fees from parolees and probationers, and administrative fees assessed to inmates for maintenance of their trust accounts are paid to the Crime Victims Compensation Fund.

| Crime Victims Compensation – State Revenue FY 2025 | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| REVENUE SOURCES | FY 2025 | FY 2024 | FY 2023 | FY 2022 |
| Fines / Penalties | \$1,646,807 | \$1,600,125 | \$1,763,313 | \$1,824,389 |
| Restitution | \$334,869 | \$287,918 | \$183,308 | \$217,589 |
| Subrogation | \$14,168 | \$9,620 | \$22,859 | \$30,197 |
| Parole Supervision and Administrative Fees | \$398,417 | \$328,495 | \$332,095 | \$447,286 |
| Inmate Contributions Prison Industries Employment (PIE) | \$1,257,613 | \$1,261,725 | \$1,277,986 | \$1,210,956 |
| TOTAL REVENUE RECEIVED | \$3,651,874 | \$3,487,883 | \$3,579,561 | \$3,730,417 |

Application Summary

Fiscal Years 2022 - 2025

| | FY 2025 | FY 2024 | FY 2023 | FY 2022 |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| *New Applications Received | 1,580 | 1,569 | 1,725 | 1,425 |
| Total Number of Applications Approved | 909 | 717 | 749 | 703 |
| Total Number of Applications Denied as Ineligible | 266 | 148 | 169 | 79 |
| Total Number of Applications Closed | 459 | 758 | 483 | 443 |
| Total Amount Awarded | \$2,013,453 | \$2,279,936 | \$2,692,958 | \$2,380,821 |

*Applications neither approved nor denied are still in the processing phase

*Applications are considered closed if a victim withdraws their application or if the Division of Crime Victims Compensation is unable to process the claim for administrative reasons.

Demographics

*Primary Victims By Age – FY 2025

| ADULT CATEGORY | TOTAL CLAIMS |
|----------------|--------------|
| Minor (0-17) | 418 |
| Adult (18-59) | 1,033 |
| 60 and Older | 74 |
| Not Reported | 3 |

*Primary Victims By Gender – FY 2025

| GENDER | TOTAL CLAIMS |
|--------------|--------------|
| Female | 1,040 |
| Male | 467 |
| Not Reported | 21 |

*Primary Victims By Race/Ethnicity – FY 2025

| RACE/ETHNICITY | TOTAL CLAIMS |
|---|--------------|
| American Indian/Alaskan Native | 22 |
| Asian | 13 |
| Black/African American | 241 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 329 |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 5 |
| White Non-Latino/Caucasian | 714 |
| Some Other Race | 6 |
| Multiple Races | 101 |
| Not Reported | 97 |

*Direct victims are considered primary claims while an indirect victim is considered a secondary claim

Awarded Claims

| Total Claims Awarded by Crime and Expense FY 2025 | | |
|---|---------------|--------------------|
| Crime | Payments Made | Amount Paid |
| ARSON | 1 | \$285 |
| ASSAULT | 348 | \$619,332 |
| BURGLARY | 2 | \$1,168 |
| CHILD ABUSE MURDER | 13 | \$22,810 |
| CHILD PHYSICAL ABUSE | 20 | \$8,515 |
| CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIAL | 22 | \$8,422 |
| CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT | 177 | \$76,385 |
| CHILD WITNESS TO CRIME | 21 | \$6,548 |
| DOMESTIC ABUSE | 332 | \$471,807 |
| DOMESTIC ABUSE (HOMICIDE) | 27 | \$67,737 |
| DUI | 29 | \$50,383 |
| DUI/HOMICIDE | 10 | \$30,424 |
| HOMICIDE/MURDER | 106 | \$304,803 |
| KIDNAPPING | 13 | \$9,041 |
| OTHER | 7 | \$4,945 |
| OTHER VEHICULAR | 25 | \$59,044 |
| ROBBERY | 25 | \$48,862 |
| SEXUAL ASSAULT | 196 | \$152,898 |
| STALKING | 27 | \$22,542 |
| VEHICULAR HOMICIDE | 12 | \$47,502 |
| TOTAL PAYMENTS MADE | 1,413 | |
| TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED ON CLAIMS | | \$2,013,453 |

Expenses Paid

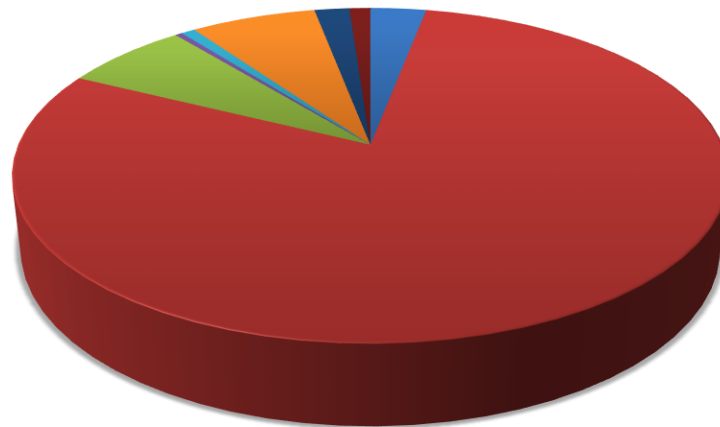
Total Amounts of Expenses Paid by Type FY 2025

| Crime | Payments Made | Amount Paid |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| MEDICAL | 677 | \$1,120,221 |
| FUNERAL | 107 | \$380,908 |
| WAGE LOSS/DEPENDENT SUPPORT | 69 | \$230,062 |
| MENTAL HEALTH | 350 | \$122,335 |
| RELOCATION | 91 | \$124,723 |
| OTHER EXPENSES | 10 | \$12,592 |
| MILEAGE | 35 | \$9,977 |
| REPLACEMENT SERVICES | 67 | \$6,067 |
| CRIME SCENE CLEAN-UP | 7 | \$6,568 |
| TOTAL PAYMENTS MADE | 1,413 | |
| TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED ON CLAIMS | | \$2,013,453 |

Denied/Closed Claims

| REASON FOR DENIAL - FY 2025 | TOTAL |
|---|------------|
| Contributory Misconduct or Illegal Activity | 8 |
| Failure to Cooperate | 18 |
| Failure to Report or Obtain Forensic Medical Exam | 1 |
| Filed Late (beyond 5 years) | 2 |
| Out-of-State Crime | 5 |
| No Evidence of a Person Crime | 211 |
| Claimant is the Offender | 3 |
| Duplicate Application | 18 |
| TOTAL CLAIMS DENIED 2025 | 266 |

Denial Reasons FY 2025



- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Contributory Misconduct ■ Failure to Cooperate ■ Filed Late (beyond 2 years) ■ Out-of-State Crime | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ No Evidence of a Person Crime ■ Failure to Report or Obtain Exam ■ Duplicate Application ■ Claimant is the Offender |
|---|--|

| REASON FOR CLOSURE - FY 2025 | TOTAL |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Unable to Process | 401 |
| Withdrawn by Claimant/Victim | 58 |
| TOTAL CLAIMS CLOSED 2025 | 459 |

Comments from Victims and Their Families

- *I don't know how to thank you for approving my need for help in my situation, it has lightened so much weight off my shoulders...Thank you very much!!*
- *Thank you for helping me and being understanding and listening. I am very appreciative of your help and thank you so very much for your support. Thank you and God bless.*
- *I appreciate the Board and you for seeing and expediting my moving hardship with the payment. Thanks so much for your hospitality and patience.*
- *I am so grateful you were able to pay this bill. I would never [have] been able to pay on my own.*
- *Thank you very much for your help...Resilience and perseverance, have been brought because of safety programs like this! Please thank those that work with you on our behalf.*
- *Thank you to Kelly, Diana, and the Board for helping me attain compensation. This process was well worth my time and energy. The benefits will help me tremendously in my lifelong healing.*
- *I appreciate all your help.*
- *Staff were very kind.*
- *Thank you for all the help during this hard time.*



Division of Crime Victims Compensation

120 SW 10th Ave, 2nd Floor

Topeka, KS 66612-1597

(785) 296-2359

(785) 296-0652 (Fax)

www.ag.ks.gov