



Commonwealth of Kentucky Public Protection Cabinet

Matthew G. Bevin, Governor

David A. Dickerson, Secretary

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Kentucky Claims Commission Awarded \$171,000 Grant *Funds will be used to pay crime victim compensation claims*

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Oct. 23, 2017) – The Kentucky Claims Commission (KCC) announced today that it was awarded a \$171,000 grant from the Crime Victims Fund within the Office of Justice Programs at the United States Department of Justice (DOJ).

Public Protection Cabinet Secretary David Dickerson stated that the grant will be used to pay crime victim compensation claims and to meet the needs of crime victims.

“The grant will further KCC’s mission of providing caring assistance and support to Kentucky’s crime victims,” said Dickerson.

Gov. Bevin reorganized the former Crime Victims Compensation Board in 2016 and created the Kentucky Claims Commission to streamline services and eliminate the inefficiencies that contributed to a backlog of \$2 million in unpaid claims.

Within months of the reorganization, the Commission processed 100 percent of payable cases for sexual assault forensic exams and began processing other unpaid claims. To date, KCC has processed 210 outstanding claims and continues to work on the remaining backlog.

Secretary Dickerson stated that the DOJ grant will provide important assistance as the Commission works to clear all unpaid crime victim compensation claims.

“Clearing the backlog is the Commission’s top priority,” said Dickerson. “Crime victims have already suffered a terrible injustice, and we want to make sure that they do not have to deal with the added stress of unpaid claims. The DOJ grant will assist the Commission in fulfilling the promise we made to the state’s crime victims.”

DOJ awards the formula grant each year to eligible state crime victim compensation programs, and each state’s award is determined through a pre-set allocation process. Funding for the grant comes from the federal Crime Victims Fund, which regulates the terms and use of the awarded funds.

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The Kentucky Claims Commission conducts an impartial and fair review of claims and tax appeals made by citizens against the Commonwealth. The Commission also provides comfort and assistance to crime victims by providing the resources to cover expenses relating to a crime, including medical, funeral, mental health counseling, dental, and other costs.

For more information on the Kentucky Claims Commission, visit boc.ky.gov.