



SB 299 - Equal
Access for Victims of
Police Violence Act

California Victim Compensation Program

- ★ **Payor of last resort for critical recovery costs** resulting from a violent crime including medical bills, funeral/burial costs, relocation, and counseling.
- Reimburses only if there is no other way to cover the cost** (e.g. insurance, medicaid, civil settlements).
- Lifeline that allows survivors and loved ones to focus on healing and recovery**, and address immediate needs.
- Combines federal and state funding sources** for victims, through California Victim Compensation Board (CalVCB).

Barriers to the Victim Compensation Program

- ★ **Eligibility restrictions lock survivors out, and particularly harm survivors of color.**
 - Denied based on the victim's alleged actions, blaming the victim.
 - Denied based on perceptions of whether the victim cooperated with law enforcement.
 - **All based on what law enforcement reports;** leads to racialized denials for Black and Brown survivors.
 - **Restrictions apply even when the victim is killed,** compounding trauma for family members who are left without support to bury their loved one, often having to resort to GoFundMe pages.
 - **Must have a police report in most cases,** even if there is other documentation proving that the victimization occurred.

- **Restrictions make it virtually impossible for victims of police violence and their families to access compensation.**

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- ★ **Recognizes victims of police violence and their loved ones as victims eligible for compensation** from CalVCB regardless of whether the officer is arrested or charged, and allows documentation other than a police report for these victims.
- Ensures survivors who lose loved ones to homicide can access compensation** regardless of allegations about the deceased victim, and regardless of whether they are ready to cooperate with law enforcement.
- Makes sure that no victim is denied mental health services** through CalVCB based on allegations about the victim or their cooperation.



CRIME SURVIVORS FOR
SAFETY AND JUSTICE



CALIFORNIANS
FOR **SAFETY AND JUSTICE**

**VICTIMS OF POLICE VIOLENCE
DESERVE ACCESS TO VICTIMS'
COMPENSATION.**

SUPPORT SB 299.