

Policy for Pets Injured/Killed During the Commission of a Crime

The Victims Compensation Program will provide limited financial assistance to a victim whose pet is injured or killed during the commission of a crime. This policy will apply to all currently eligible Compensation crimes, as long as the nature of the injury/death is listed in the police documentation, and will also apply to the crimes of Cruelty to Animals and Aggravated Cruelty to Animals.

The Victims Compensation Program will consider payment for vet care not to exceed \$500.00. This includes, but is not limited to, medical, dental, or euthanasia. This cap is inclusive of all injured/killed pets in the household.

The Victims Compensation Program will consider payment for burial/cremation not to exceed \$250.00. This includes, but is not limited to, casket, urn, headstone, burial container, or small service. This cap is inclusive of all pets in the household killed during the commission of the crime.

The Program requires bill copies/receipts in order to consider payment to the provider or reimbursement to the victim. Under this policy, the Program may consider compensating individuals who are not the legal owner of the pet but who reside with it.

This policy is not intended to provide compensation to humane societies, town pounds, or other similarly designated individuals for reimbursement of expenses incurred for the temporary care of animals seized or forfeited pursuant to the animal cruelty statutes.

However, if a victim is disabled and uses a service animal, the Victims Compensation Program will consider payment of costs associated with the service animal that is injured or killed during a crime.

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(Parallel Justice Initiative)