

POLICY FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES

The intention of the Victims Compensation Program is to provide eligible victims/survivors with financial assistance to attend funerals, criminal court proceedings, Parole Board hearings, and to participate in pre-sentence investigations.

An eligible surviving immediate family member of a victim in a homicide case is defined as a spouse, domestic partner, parent, sibling, child, grandparent, or grandchild.

Travel expenses are inclusive of meals reimbursed at the current State/Federal rate at the time of travel, lodging, and the costs of other transportation such as airfare, bus, train, or car rental fees based on a reasonable cost of service determined by the Program. If a victim/survivor resides in the state of Vermont they will be reimbursed at the current instate mileage rate or current gas price at the time of travel depending on the fiscal health of the Compensation Fund. If a victim/survivor resides outside the state of Vermont they will be reimbursed at the current gas price.

For all non-homicide criminal cases there is a \$2,000.00 travel expense cap per claim for the eligible victim to attend criminal court proceedings, Parole Board hearings, and to participate in pre-sentence investigations.

In all non-homicide criminal cases where there are multiple defendants being tried separately, the eligible victim will be entitled to an additional \$2,000.00 per defendant in travel expenses to attend criminal court proceedings, Parole Board hearings, and to participate in pre-sentence investigations as outlined above.

In homicide cases the \$2,000.00 travel expense cap does not apply.

If a criminal case results in a retrial, appeal, or re-sentencing, the victim/survivor is eligible for the expenses as outlined above.