

THE VICTIMS' RIGHTS PURSUANT TO THE CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION ACT (Official Gazette 80/08 and 27/11)

1. WHO MAY BE ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION?

Victim of a crime with elements of violence intentionally committed on Croatian territory after 1 July 2013 has the right to claim financial compensation:

- if he/she is a Croatian citizen, or a citizen of the European Union or resides on its territory
- if he/she suffered a serious personal injury or serious deterioration of health as a result of the offense
- if the offense is reported or recorded at the police or state attorney's office within six months from the date of the offense, whether the offender is known or not
- if a written application is submitted on the official form and required documents enclosed (the form is available at each police station, state attorney's office, municipal and county courts, and in electronic form on the

official website of the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, the State Attorney's Office, and municipal and county courts.

The victim may exercise his/her right to compensation for:

- **the cost of medical treatment,**
- **loss of earnings up to the amount of kn 35,000.00,**
- **close blood relative of a deceased victim is entitled to compensation for loss of statutory maintenance of up to kn 70,000.00 and funeral expenses up to the amount of kn 5,000.00**

2. HOW TO INITIATE THE PROCEDURE OF THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE RIGHT TO COMPENSATION?

The procedure starts with filling out an official form that must be accompanied by all

the required documents; the list is specified in the form.

The application is submitted to the Ministry of Justice within six months from the date of the offense, and may be filed later if the victim for legitimate reasons was not able to submit the application before the specified period, not later than three months from the date legitimate reasons ceased. After the expiry of three years following the commission of the offense, application may not be submitted.

To get assistance in completing the application form a victim can contact an official in the police station, the state attorney's office, the municipal and county courts or make a call to the toll-free phone of the National Call Center for Victims of Crime and Misdemeanour

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3. WHO DECIDES ON THE MERIT OF THE APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL COMPENSATION AND IN WHICH TERM?

The Committee on compensation to crime victims shall take a decision on the merits and the amount of compensation after the procedure and no later than 60 days from receipt of the full and complete application. Payment of fees shall be made within 30 days after the victim received a decision ordering payment of compensation.

4. CONSEQUENCES OF FALSE CRIME REPORTING AND RETURN OF GROUNDLESS PAYMENT OF FEES

In the case of a false report of a criminal offense the applicant shall bear criminal liability under the Criminal Code. In the case of groundless payment of fees due to the quoting of inaccurate and incomplete information in the application, or if after payment the authority determines that no criminal offense was committed, the Republic of Croatia has the right to request the return of the amount paid by the victim plus interest and procedure costs.

5. WHO IS NOT ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION PURSUANT TO THE CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION ACT?

Victims of crimes against the security of traffic and in case the damage was caused by terrorist acts and public demonstrations.

HOW CAN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE EXERCISE THE RIGHT TO FINANCIAL COMPENSATION?

- Who is considered to be a victim
- How to initiate the procedure
- Who and how soon shall decide on the application
- The consequences of a false report of a criminal offense
- Who does not have the right to compensation