



NC Department of Public Safety  
OFFICE OF VICTIM COMPENSATION SERVICES

Josh Stein, Governor

Jeffrey Smythe, Secretary  
Diane Barber, Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairs of the Senate & House Appropriations Committee  
Chairs of the Senate & House Appropriations Subcommittees  
on Justice and Public Safety,  
Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly

FROM: Jeffrey Smythe, DPS Secretary  
Diane Barber, Director

Handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is "Jeffrey Smythe" and the bottom signature is "Diane Barber".

DATE: March 13, 2026

RE: NC Office of Victims Compensation Administrative Report

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. §15-B-21, the department respectfully submits the Annual Report on the Crime Victims Compensation Fund.

Attached please find the State Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Report (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025) and the State Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Report (July 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026) for the Victims Compensation Program.



## NC Office of Victim Compensation Services

STATE FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025  
July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

Number of claims filed	3,359
Number of awards made	2,465
Total \$ of awards paid	\$9,110,147
The amount of funds carried over from the prior fiscal year	\$5,545,898
Summary of awards, denials and pending claims	Attached

STATE FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026  
July 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026

Number of claims filed	1886
Number of awards approved	1219
Total \$ of awards paid	\$3,856,967
The amount of funds carried over from the prior fiscal year	\$5,779,047
NC Crime Victim Commission Administrative Costs	\$859,804.51
NC Crime Victims Fund Unencumbered Balance	\$10,394,340
Funds Received from the Department of Adult Correction and the Division of Juvenile Justice Prior Fiscal Year 2024-2025	\$427,226.20
NC Crime Victims Commission Funds Received Prior Fiscal Year	\$3,742,000
Funds Received and Expected from Department of Adult Correction and the Division of Juvenile Justice	\$524,351
Funds Received and Expected from NC Crime Victims Fund	\$3,659,000

## **OUTREACH EFFORTS**

The NC Office of Victim Compensation Services (VCS) and the NC Department of Public Safety (NCDPS) Communications Office continued to leverage digital channels, in-place advertising opportunities and event outreach to increase awareness of the NC Victim Compensation Program.

### *Statewide Campaign Objectives and Outreach Activities*

The statewide campaign was designed with clear objectives to enhance the accessibility and awareness of the North Carolina Victim Compensation Program. The primary goal was to provide educational resources directly at the point of application, ensuring that individuals seeking support could easily access helpful information. In addition, the campaign sought to actively engage and grow the network of direct service providers who refer survivors of violent crime and families of homicide victims to the program.

### *Digital and Targeted Outreach Efforts*

To effectively reach a broad audience, the campaign team utilized a variety of digital channels. These included the NCDPS website, social media platforms, streaming video and audio services, and programmatic display advertisements. The team also maintained regular communication with direct service providers—such as law enforcement officers, court advocates, funeral home directors, and the staff of nonprofit organizations—through targeted email outreach, mailings, and phone calls.

### *Place-Based Advertising and Distribution of Materials*

In addition to digital efforts, place-based advertising was employed across North Carolina. Ads were prominently displayed on top of gas pumps and in convenience store windows, maximizing visibility among community members. The team further supported outreach by distributing program pamphlets in bulk to direct service providers and individually to members of the public, enhancing awareness and accessibility of compensation resources statewide. Place-based advertising provided 7.7 million estimated impressions (views) while other ads provide an estimated 14.4 million impressions. The campaign ends in July 2026 and will deliver more than 22 million impressions.

### *Online Application Launched*

In November 2025, VCS launched its online application portal, enabling victims and their families to submit compensation claims using computers, tablets, or mobile phones. The VCS website was also updated to clarify eligible expense types, outline required supporting documentation, and to improve the FAQ section. These enhancements will help applicants avoid delays caused by incomplete submissions.

## PROCESSING OF CLAIMS

(7/1/2024 – 6/30/2025)

### CLAIMS ACTIONS DATA

1. Claims pending at beginning of period: 1141 claims
2. Claims received/filed during period: 2855 claims
3. Claims approved during period: 2465 claims
4. Claims denied during period: 894 claims
5. Claims paid during period: 2373 claims
  - RV: 1131
  - CV: 1242
6. Average number of weeks between receipt of an application and completion of decision-making process:
  - RV claims: 24 weeks
  - CV claims: 17.5 weeks
  - All claims: 20 weeks
7. Average number of weeks between completion of decision-making process and actual payment: 2 weeks

### APPLICATIONS RECEIVED - STATISTICS BY VICTIM AGE

Age Range	Applications Received
Age 0-12	1535
Age 13-17	126
Age 18-24	314
Age 25-59	644
Age 60 and Older	87
Unknown	149
Total	2855

**PAYMENT STATISTICS BY CRIME TYPE**

TYPE OF CRIME	# CLAIMS PAID	\$ AMOUNT PAID
Assault	500	\$3,667,239
Child Physical Abuse/Neglect	109	\$112,871
Child Sexual Abuse	322	\$410,833
Domestic Violence**	297	**
DWI/DUI and other vehicular crimes	32	\$266,367
Homicide	559	\$3,486,092
Other	16	\$75,595
Sexual Assault and stalking	835	\$1,091,149
TOTALS	2373	\$9,110,145

NOTE: The count of claims paid in this section usually differs from the total count of claims approved for payment shown earlier. Reason: Some claims “approved for payment” were (or will be) paid after the end date of this report’s date range, and some claims paid during this report’s date range were approved for payment prior to the date range.

\*\* Domestic Violence is a federal victimization type that is associated with the crime e.g. assault is the crime, but it is associated with a domestic violence situation. Of the 2373 claims that were paid, 297 of them (across all crime types) were associated with domestic violence.

**EXPENSES PAID (BY CATEGORY)**

EXPENSE CATEGORY	\$ AMOUNT PAID
Mental Health	\$96,698
Economic Support	\$459,858
Medical and/or Dental Services	\$4,971,023
Funeral/Burial Services	\$3,573,769
Crime Scene Cleanup and Other Misc	\$8,797
Total	\$9,110,145

## **PROCESSING OF CLAIMS**

(7/1/2025 – 1/30/2026)

### **CLAIMS ACTIONS DATA**

1. Claims received/filed during period: 1886 claims
2. Claims approved during period: 1219 claims
3. Claims denied during period: 344 claims
4. Claims paid during period: 1219 claims
  - RV: 673
  - CV: 546
5. Average number of weeks between receipt of an application and completion of decision-making process: All claims: 15.7 weeks
6. Average number of weeks between completion of decision-making process and actual payment: 2 weeks

### **APPLICATIONS RECEIVED - STATISTICS BY VICTIM AGE**

<b>Age Range</b>	<b>Applications Received</b>
Age 0-12	316
Age 13-17	194
Age 18-24	365
Age 25-59	921
Age 60 and Older	90
Total	1886

**PAYMENT STATISTICS BY CRIME TYPE**

TYPE OF CRIME	# CLAIMS PAID	\$ AMOUNT PAID
Assault	203	\$1,126,090
Child Physical Abuse/Neglect	15	\$39,527
Child Sexual Abuse	242	\$284,475
Domestic Violence**	105	**
DWI/DUI and other vehicular crimes	16	\$69,005
Homicide	254	\$1,701,707
Other	4	\$6875
Sexual Assault and stalking	485	\$629,559
TOTALS	1219	\$3,856,967

NOTE: The count of claims paid in this section usually differs from the total count of claims approved for payment shown earlier. Reason: Some claims “approved for payment” were (or will be) paid after the end date of this report’s date range, and some claims paid during this report’s date range were approved for payment prior to the date range.

\*\* Domestic Violence is a federal victimization type that is associated with the crime e.g. assault is the crime, but it is due to domestic violence. Of the 1219 claims that were paid, 105 of them (across all crime types) were associated with domestic violence.

**EXPENSES PAID (BY CATEGORY)**

EXPENSE CATEGORY	\$ AMOUNT PAID
Mental Health	\$38,172
Economic Support	\$199,226
Medical and/or Dental Services	\$1,897,511
Funeral/Burial Services	\$1,679,445
Crime Scene Cleanup and Other Misc	\$42,613
Total	\$3,856,967