



## Crime Scene Cleanup and The Victims Compensation Assistance Program

The Commonwealth's Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP) is committed to helping victims and their families ease the financial burden crime imposes upon them. An individual, who as a result of a crime, assumes the responsibility to pay for the cleanup of the crime scene may apply for compensation.

A maximum payment of \$500 per crime scene can be reimbursed for crime scene cleanup expenses related to the crime. Cleaning means to remove or attempt to remove blood and stains caused by bodily fluids, food, paint, or other materials used to deface property within a private residence or a private vehicle, or other dirt and debris caused by the processing of the crime scene. It does not include costs to replace damaged property. The \$500 maximum reimbursement amount is specified by law and VCAP does not have discretion to adjust this amount.

### **Eligible Crime Scene Cleanup Expenses Include:**

- The cost of cleaning supplies purchased for cleaning the scene.
- The cost of any necessary equipment purchased or rented.
- The cost of professional labor for cleaning the crime scene.

### **To be considered for reimbursement of crime scene cleanup expenses, the following needs to be provided:**

- Bills/receipts in the name of the person responsible for the expense, that includes the name and address of the provider, the date of service, the type of service provided, and the amount charged for each service.

### **The Payment Process:**

- All required documentation must be received before any payments can be processed. The quicker VCAP receives the requested information, the sooner any payments can be made by VCAP.
- If payment is owed to the provider, VCAP will send payment directly to the provider. Payments owed to the provider are released from the PA Department of Treasury within 2-4 weeks of being approved.
- If payment has been made by the victim/claimant, payment will be sent to the victim/claimant within 2 business days of being approved.

### **If you Have any questions regarding eligibility or additional services, please contact VCAP.**

- Telephone number: (800) 233-2339
- Fax: (717) 787-4306
- Email address: [ra-davesupport@pa.gov](mailto:ra-davesupport@pa.gov)