

Every Crime Victim Matters



If you or someone you know has been a victim of a crime, help may be available from the New York State Office of Victim Services (OVS).

OVS provides financial compensation to innocent victims of crime and funds a network of victim service providers. For example, OVS may be able to help with:

- Medical bills and counseling expenses
- Burial and funeral costs
- Forensic medical exams after sexual assault
- Crime scene cleanup
- Lost wages
- Relocation expenses
- Transportation expenses to court



**Office of
Victim Services**

OVS is a payer of last resort; all other sources of assistance must be used before the agency can pay victims/family members for out-of-pocket losses related to the crime. The crime must have been promptly reported to the proper authorities.

New York State has several laws that prohibit the intimidation and harassment of witnesses to a crime, including intimidating a victim or witness, harassment, tampering with a witness, and coercion. If you have been harassed, intimidated or coerced, contact your local police department, sheriff's office or district attorney's office for help or more information.

OVS can connect you with a victim assistance program in your community. To learn more or get help, visit:

www.ovs.ny.gov

or Call 1-800-247-8035

