



# Office of Victim Services

The following is a **Broadcast Email** to all OVS Funded Victim Assistance Programs:

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Dear Colleague:

In response to the COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) pandemic and the Governor's related Domestic Violence Task Force recommendations, on June 18, 2020 Governor Cuomo signed [Executive Order 202.43](#) (EO), which temporarily suspends and modifies the laws under which OVS operates. **The EO was further extended on August 13, 2020.**

This EO provides expanded access to OVS victim compensation in instances where victims of domestic violence-related crimes are unable to report their crimes to law enforcement due to current COVID-19-related restrictions but can access a certified residential program for victims of domestic violence. OVS, with the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) and the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) issued a [joint letter](#) explaining the EO. The OCFS list of certified residential programs for victims of domestic violence can found [here](#).

This EO is effective through **September 11<sup>th</sup>**, but it may be continued by further action by the Governor. Please review and feel free to share with your own networks.

On behalf of the New York State Office of Victim Services, thank you for your commitment to providing the highest quality services to innocent victims of crime in New York State.

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