

# Quarterly News

Fall 2017



**VIRGINIA VICTIMS FUND**

*Helping Innocent Victims of Crime*

OFFICIALLY CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION FUND

A Division of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission

Web: [www.virginiavictimsfund.org](http://www.virginiavictimsfund.org) • Mail: P.O. Box 26927, Richmond, Virginia 23261 • Phone: 1.800.552.4007 • Fax: 804.823.6905

## VVF ANNOUNCES PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION AT THE VIRGINIA VICTIMS ISSUES CONFERENCE AT KINGSMILL

The Virginia Victims Fund is pleased to announce that we are offering a **FREE** class at Kingsmill Resort entitled “Why won’t you pay my claim?!”. This class will take place the morning before the Virginia Victim Assistance Network Annual Conference opens. Come enjoy lunch on us and learn about the documentation the Virginia Victims Fund needs to make expenses payable. We will discuss different crime types, and advocates will participate in an interactive exercise to help understand the claims process. Whether you are a new advocate or a seasoned veteran, this class can help!

Where: Kingsmill Resort, Randolph Room

When: November 15, 2017 10am – 1pm

**RSVP by November 10, 2017 to Brienna Stammer,**  
[brienna.stammer@virginiavictimsfund.org](mailto:brienna.stammer@virginiavictimsfund.org)



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**Mail Tip:** Any claim-relevant documents can be emailed to our office using the main email below!

## **WE’RE MOVING!** The Virginia Victims Fund is heading downtown!

Our new location will be:

**333 E. Franklin St., Richmond, Virginia 23219**

Effective immediately, our local telephone number has changed from 804.367.1018 to 804.205.3531. Our toll-free number will remain the same. Our fax number has changed from 804.367.1021 to 804.823.6905. Our mailing address will remain the same. Our office will not have access to computers or phones Monday, November 13, Wednesday, November 22, and Monday, November 27.

**WEBFILE TIP:** When entering a VVF claim in WebFile, all physical assaults (simple, aggravated, malicious wounding, etc.) are classified under the “Assault” incident type. The category of “Other” incident is intended to include violent felonies that may be compensable, but are not listed in the *Incident Type* drop-down list. Please don’t hesitate to contact VVF if you have any questions while entering a claim.

**Main Fax: 804.823.6905**

**Main Email:**

[info@virginiavictimsfund.org](mailto:info@virginiavictimsfund.org)

**SAFE Fax: 804.823.6907**

**SAFE Email:**

[safe@virginiavictimsfund.org](mailto:safe@virginiavictimsfund.org)

**Medical Provider Status**

**Request:**

[status@virginiavictimsfund.org](mailto:status@virginiavictimsfund.org)

**RESTITUTION TASKFORCE** Members of our staff have participated in the Enhancing Restitution Workgroup with the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court as well as the Victim's Restitution Brochure Workgroup with DCJS. The Enhancing Restitution Workgroup provided recommendations to the Crime Commission for handling restitution in Virginia. The Victim's Restitution Brochure will be available from the Department of Criminal Justice Services. As always, if you have any questions about restitution as it relates to VVF, please contact Cathy Day, our Fund Development Coordinator.

### ORDERING COURT COSTS OF FORENSIC EXAMS

The SAFE Payment Program, a division of the Virginia Victims Fund, processes payment for sexual assault forensic exams conducted on victims of an alleged sexual assault according to § 19.2-165.1 of the Code of Virginia. Under this code, the Commonwealth of Virginia can recover the costs paid for these exams as the law directs that "upon conviction of the defendant in any case requiring the payment of medical fees authorized by this section, the court shall order that the defendant reimburse the Commonwealth for payment of such fees." Specific assessment direction can be found under § 17.1-275.5(A)(15) of the Code of Virginia.

The SAFE Payment Program established a process with the Fund Development Department to identify more opportunities to ensure court costs for forensic exam payments are ordered. Fund Development monitors VVF claims for convictions in sexual assault cases and notifies SAFE. SAFE sends a letter to the clerk's office and copies the Commonwealth's Attorney with the amount paid and instructions for adding the amount to court costs.

The SAFE Payment Program **still needs your help**. Not all victims of sexual assault will file a VVF claim. If you are aware that sentencing is imminent on a sexual assault case, please contact the SAFE Payment Program by phone, email, or fax to request a court cost letter to be sent.

SAFE Fax: 804.823.6907 SAFE Email: [safe@virginiavictimsfund.org](mailto:safe@virginiavictimsfund.org) SAFE Phone: 804.205.3531.



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