



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

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State Agencies and Key Officials Focus On Sustaining Crime Victim Restitution Fund

*First-Ever Restitution Summit Addresses Economy's Diminishing Effects on State's Restitution Fund;
Charts Course to Preserve Solvency for Future Victims*

SACRAMENTO – Today, the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board (VCGCB) and the California District Attorneys Association (CDA) sponsor a statewide Restitution Summit to address declining revenues into the State's Restitution Fund. The Summit, at the Secretary of State Auditorium in Sacramento, features an impressive list of panelists, including: presiding judges, district attorneys, chief probation officers and state officials who will discuss their roles, approaches and challenges in assuring the availability of the Restitution Fund.

“While applications for victim services continue to increase each year by 8% and the dollar amount paid out is on the rise, revenue into the Restitution Fund has not kept pace,” said Julie Nauman, Executive Officer, Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board. “If we do not act immediately on finding sustainable solutions to preserve the Restitution Fund solvency, services to victims of violent crime are in jeopardy.”

A recent survey conducted by the VCGCB discovered that 51% of California counties found a decrease in offender revenue this past year and cited the recession and unemployment as two of the major reasons for the decrease. The Summit was created to help address some of the issues associated with lower than expected revenue as well as unite a brain trust of key stakeholders who can review approaches, define processes and ultimately, a viable solution.

“Our goal is to engage critical stakeholders throughout the state to share views and ideas on Restitution while identifying potential long term actions that will sustain Fund solvency for the years to come,” said Mike Ramos, San Bernardino District Attorney and VCGCB Board Member. “As a District Attorney, I see the emotional and financial devastation that victims go through on a daily basis. It is our responsibility to protect this right each victim deserves.”

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As the first in the nation and continued model for victim compensation, CalVCP celebrates 45 years of service, reaching the milestone of \$2 billion in compensation payments. Since its inception, the program has helped victims with crime-related expenses including funeral and medical costs, income loss as well as relocation. The program for these services is supported from restitution fines, penalties and federally matched grants.

For more information on the Restitution Fund visit www.vcgcb.ca.gov/restfocus.aspx or www.calvcp.ca.gov if you are a victim of a violent crime.

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About the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board

The Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board governs two distinct programs: The CA Government Claims Program (GCP) helps resolve claims against State agencies and employees for money or damages. The California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP) provides compensation for victims of violent crime who are injured or threatened with injury. For more information on either program, visit www.vcgcb.ca.gov.

About the California District Attorneys Association

Composed of county counsels and district attorneys, the California District Attorneys Association (CDAA) has been in existence for over 90 years. With over 2,500 members, the CDAA serves as a source of continuing legal education and legislative advocacy for its membership and provides a forum for the exchange of information and innovation in the criminal justice field.