



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
EDMUND G BROWN JR., Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 25, 2014
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Awareness Campaign Depicts Violent Crime, Available Help

Effort to include Bay Area railways and buses, website, social media

Sacramento, CA –Information that victims of crime can use to get help will soon permeate the railways and buses of San Francisco, Alameda, and Contra Costa counties — along with images depicting the harsh results of violent crimes. Beginning this week, the images and information will be displayed on the California Victim Compensation Program website and on the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit) and Municipal Transportation Agency (MUNI).

“For years, CalVCP has worked to help all victims of crime know we are here to help,” said Julie Nauman, Executive Officer of the California Victim Compensation Program. “We’ve spread awareness through collaborative partnerships, social media, trainings and community involvement, but believe this new effort will allow us to reach an even greater, specifically targeted, and more diverse population. I am confident that more victims of crime, along with their loved ones, will be able to get help from us.”

The campaign will run through the end of September and will reach four of the top ten most violent cities in California: Oakland, Richmond, Antioch, and San Francisco. In addition to their crime rates, these cities were chosen because of the existing gap between the high number of reported violent crimes and the low number of CalVCP applications submitted for assistance.

“We need to minimize that gap and ensure every victim is aware of the assistance the state offers to reduce the many hardships that result from a crime,” said Nauman.



Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley, a CalVCP partner and leader in victims' rights said, "crime victims suffer emotionally, physically and financially. The cost of crime is often overwhelming, but there is help and there are resources available for victims of crime through the 'California Victim Compensation Program' (CalVCP). Victims and their loved ones often face the immediate trauma of

being victimized and the associated costs that can include medical bills, mental health expenses, and emergency relocation. We are honored to partner with CalVCP in this effort to ensure that all victims are aware of the help and services available to them in California."

For more information regarding victim compensation and the current campaign, please visit <http://calvcp.ca.gov/campaign/>.

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The California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP) provides compensation for victims of violent crime who are injured or threatened with injury. Among the crimes covered are domestic violence, child abuse, sexual and physical assault, homicide, robbery, and vehicular manslaughter. Last fiscal year, the program assisted nearly 600 individuals each week, and provided over \$61 million in compensation to crime victims.

If a person meets eligibility criteria, CalVCP will compensate many types of services when the costs are not covered by other sources. Eligible services include medical and dental care, mental health services, income loss, funeral expenses, rehabilitation and relocation. Funding for CalVCP comes from restitution fines and orders, penalty assessments levied on persons convicted of crimes and traffic offenses, and matching federal funds.

For more information about victims' rights and services, visit CalVCP at calvcp.ca.gov.