

State of Alaska FY2004 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Public Safety Victims for Justice Component Budget Summary

Component: Victims for Justice

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Component Mission

To provide comprehensive services such as crisis intervention, individual or peer group support, and court accompaniment to violent crime victims and survivors, who have suffered from homicide, felony assaults, robbery and burglary.

Component Services Provided

Victims For Justice (VFJ) provides the following services to victims of crime:

- Crisis intervention to victims experiencing acute stress because of a violent crime. Available 24-hours a day for support to victims;
- Individual and peer group, specialized grief counseling;
- Advocacy and support throughout the law enforcement, criminal justice and medical systems;
- Referrals and cooperative relationships with the police, medical examiner's office, district attorney's office, Division of Family and Youth Services, court personnel, corrections, violent crimes compensation and other victim services providers;
- Assistance with the preparation of victim impact statements;
- Preparation and distribution of specialized materials aimed at reducing the impact of violent crime on victims;
- Court accompaniment and information about the criminal justice process for survivors of homicide, during and after the trial proceedings;
- Community prevention and education;
- Private remembrance ceremonies for the family of victims of homicide; and
- Court-watch program training for volunteers to monitor and produce public evaluation reports on the criminal justice system.

Component Goals and Strategies

To reduce the impact of crime on victims, their families and the community by providing services to survivors of homicide victims and victims of physical assault. Funds appropriated for this program are administered by the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Key Component Issues for FY2003 – 2004

Every two hours and 41 minutes, a violent crime is committed in Alaska (UCR 2000). For every violent crime committed, hundreds of hours are spent on the investigation, the arrest, the trial, the conviction, the sentence, and the rehabilitation of the perpetrator.

Thousands of Alaskans are victimized by violent crime each year, affecting families, friends, and communities. Victims of violent crime experience acute stress, overwhelming grief, and the need for information about all aspects of their victimization. Available 24 hours of the day, 365 days of the year, Victims for Justice provides countless hours of crisis

intervention, support, assistance, and advocacy to Alaska's crime victims.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2002

In FY2002 the following services were provided to a total of 286 victims of violent crime:

- 964 Individual and group counseling sessions,
- 411 Legal advocacy services, and
- 211 Safety checks and follow-ups.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 37.05.316 Grants to named recipients

Victims for Justice
Component Financial Summary

All dollars in thousands

	FY2002 Actuals	FY2003 Authorized	FY2004 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0
73000 Contractual	0.0	0.0	0.0
74000 Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0
75000 Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	246.0	246.0	246.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	246.0	246.0	246.0
Funding Sources:			
1004 General Fund Receipts	246.0	246.0	246.0
Funding Totals	246.0	246.0	246.0

Victims for Justice

Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2004

The current level of service will be maintained without significant changes.

Summary of Component Budget Changes

From FY2003 Authorized to FY2004 Governor

All dollars in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2003 Authorized	246.0	0.0	0.0	246.0
FY2004 Governor	246.0	0.0	0.0	246.0