



Ohio Revised Code

Section 307.62 Crime victim assistance program - appropriating moneys.

Effective: July 1, 1992

Legislation: Senate Bill 32 - 119th General Assembly

(A) As used in this section:

(1) "County agency" includes any department, authority, commission, office, or board of the county.

(2) "Crisis intervention services" means short-term emotional or psychological aid provided in the form of counseling or referral for crime victims.

(3) "Emergency services" means the provision of aid including temporary shelter for victims who cannot safely remain in their current lodgings, repair of locks or boarding up of windows to prevent the immediate reburglarization of a home or an apartment, or provision of petty cash for meeting immediate needs related to transportation, food, shelter, and other necessities.

(4) "Support services" includes follow-up counseling, guidance for resolution of problems caused by the crime, and assistance in obtaining aid and services from social service agencies, criminal justice agencies, and the police.

(5) "Court-related services" means services calculated to assist crime victims in participating in criminal justice proceedings involving crimes committed against such victims, including transportation to court, child care while in court or at a court-related proceeding, escort services, and the filing of requests for restraining orders. "Court-related services" does not include the provision of an attorney to represent the crime victim in any criminal prosecution based upon the crime committed against such victim.

(6) "Crime prevention services" means educational programs and materials to help avoid and prevent the commission of criminal acts in the future.

(7) "Victim and offender mediation services" means services designed to provide victims the opportunity for a meeting to ask questions, express feelings, or discuss restitution agreements with



the convicted offenders or delinquent juveniles involved in the crimes against such victims.

(B) In addition to any money from another source appropriated for the same purpose, the board of county commissioners of any county may appropriate to a county agency, or grant to a private, nonprofit corporation or association, the money derived from a tax levied pursuant to division (II) of section 5705.19 of the Revised Code, for the public purpose of providing and maintaining in the county a crime victim assistance program offering crisis intervention services, emergency services, support services, court-related services, crime prevention services, or victim and offender mediation services. Money appropriated or granted under this section may be used to pay the salaries of employees of the county agency or of the private, nonprofit corporation or association who provide those services to clients of the agency, corporation, or association, but shall not be used to pay the fees of attorneys, doctors, mental health counselors, or other professionals who are not employees of the agency, corporation, or association.

All or some of the money may be given by the board in the form of a grant to a private, nonprofit corporation or association, if such corporation or association applies, on an application form prescribed by the board, for a grant to provide and maintain a crime victim assistance program. The board shall evaluate the application, and if such application is approved, the board shall enter into an agreement with the corporation or association granting all or some of the money. The agreement shall specify the following conditions for use of the money granted:

(1) That the recipient of the grant money shall keep current and accurate accounts of its use of the grant money;

(2) That, in accordance with rules adopted by the auditor of state pursuant to section 117.20 of the Revised Code, at least annually the recipient shall audit its crime victim assistance program. The recipient may contract with private auditors for performance of these audits. The cost of the audits shall be paid out of the grant money, except that no more than ten thousand dollars of the grant money may be expended per year on audits. A copy of the fiscal audit report shall be provided to the director of the recipient providing the crime victim assistance program, the board, the auditor of state, and the county auditor.

(3) That the recipient is liable to repay to the board any grant money that is improperly used;



(4) That the recipient shall repay to the board all grant money remaining unused at the end of the fiscal year or other accounting period for which the board granted the money. However, when the recipient is to receive grant money in the next succeeding fiscal year or other accounting period following the fiscal year or other accounting period for which the board granted the money, the recipient need not repay the grant money remaining unused.

(5) That a summary of program activities offered under the recipient crime victim assistance program annually be provided to the board.

The board shall not expend any money granted under this section until it has received a written agreement, signed by an officer or agent of the recipient authorized to legally bind the recipient, embodying all conditions stated in division (B) of this section and any other conditions specified in the agreement, regarding the use of the money granted by the board.

Upon discovering that money granted under this section is being or has been improperly used, the board, by resolution, shall demand that the recipient repay the improperly used money and shall transmit a certified copy of the resolution to the recipient. If the recipient does not repay the improperly used money within a reasonable period of time, the board shall direct the prosecuting attorney to bring a civil action to recover the improperly used money.