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## COMPENSATION FOR CRIMINAL INJURIES

### **Do I have a Claim?**

If you have been injured, physically or psychologically as a result of a violent crime in the last 2 years you may well be entitled to claim compensation from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority.

A claim can also be made if your partner died as a result of a violent crime or you have had a close relationship with someone who has been involved in a violent crime and you were there at the time and saw what happened and as a result you have suffered psychological injuries.

### **How do I make a Claim?**

A detailed application form must be completed which deals with the incident, the injuries and losses you have suffered and the police crime reference details. Your application will then be considered and investigated by the CICA and a decision made as to whether you should recover compensation.

### **What will I need to Prove?**

You must be able to show that the incident occurred in the last 2 years in England, Scotland or Wales and that the injuries suffered are more than just minor injuries. You will also have to show that you reported the incident to the police as soon as possible after the event and that you helped with the police investigation. If you delayed reporting the incident to the police you will have to give reasons for your delay. It is important to remember that the police do not have to prosecute anyone else in order for you to recover compensation. Your own conduct before, during and after the incident will also be taken into account.

You will have to prove your injuries and usually this will be done by obtaining medical records and a report from an independent medical expert.

### **How much compensation will I receive?**

If you are successful with your claim you will receive a personal injury award for pain suffering and loss of earnings and other expenses in certain circumstances. The award will be based on the CICA's tariff scheme.

In fatal accident cases a fatal injury award can be made and funeral expenses can also be refunded.

*We'll make it better*

**How much will it cost to pursue a claim?**

We will give you the best idea as to costs as soon as we have all the available information. If we think your claim is likely to succeed and that you should recover a reasonable amount of compensation we may be able to agree that our fees should be paid out of the compensation at the end of the claim.

We have dealt with cases ranging from those where moderate injuries were suffered to very serious injuries. We hope we can be of help in dealing with your claim.

For advice or information on the above, please contact Richard Gregory or Rachel Barr on FREEPHONE: 0800 652 2204