

after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 11, 1996], the Attorney General shall report to Congress on the amounts received and distributed from fines for offenses under this chapter [probably means chapter 90 of title 18, added by section 101(a) of Pub. L. 104-294] deposited in the Crime Victims Fund established by section 1402 of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10601).”

§ 10605. Establishment of Office for Victims of Crime

(a) Office established within Department of Justice

There is established within the Department of Justice an Office for Victims of Crime (hereinafter in this chapter referred to as the “Office”).

(b) Appointment of Director; authority; restrictions

The Office shall be headed by a Director (referred to in this chapter as the “Director”), who shall be appointed by the President. The Director shall report to the Attorney General through the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs and shall have final authority for all grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts awarded by the Office. The Director shall not engage in any employment other than that of serving as the Director, nor shall the Director hold any office in, or act in any capacity for, any organization, agency, or institution with which the Office makes any contract or other agreement under this chapter.¹

(c) Duties of Director

The Director shall have the following duties:

(1) Administering funds made available by section 10601 of this title.

(2) Providing funds to eligible States pursuant to sections 10602 and 10603 of this title.

(3) Establishing programs in accordance with section 10603(c) of this title on terms and conditions determined by the Director to be consistent with that subsection.

(4) Cooperating with and providing technical assistance to States, units of local government, and other public and private organizations or international agencies involved in activities related to crime victims.

(5) Such other functions as the Attorney General may delegate.

(Pub. L. 98-473, title II, §1411, as added Pub. L. 100-690, title VII, §7123(a), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4420; amended Pub. L. 112-166, §2(h)(5), Aug. 10, 2012, 126 Stat. 1285.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, the last place it appears in subsec. (b), was in the original “this part”, which has been translated as reading in the original “this chapter” meaning chapter XIV of title II of Pub. L. 98-473 to reflect the probable intent of Congress because chapter XIV of title II of Pub. L. 98-473 which comprises this chapter, does not contain parts.

AMENDMENTS

2012—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 112-166 struck out “, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate” before period at end of first sentence.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2012 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 112-166 effective 60 days after Aug. 10, 2012, and applicable to appointments made on

and after that effective date, including any nomination pending in the Senate on that date, see section 6(a) of Pub. L. 112-166, set out as a note under section 113 of Title 6, Domestic Security.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section not applicable with respect to a State compensation program that was an eligible State crime victim compensation program on Nov. 18, 1988, until Oct. 1, 1991, see section 7129 of Pub. L. 100-690, as amended, set out as an Effective Date of 1988 Amendment note under section 10601 of this title.

§ 10606. Repealed. Pub. L. 108-405, title I, § 102(c), Oct. 30, 2004, 118 Stat. 2264

Section, Pub. L. 101-647, title V, §502, Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4820, related to rights of crime victims. See section 3771 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure.

§ 10607. Services to victims

(a) Designation of responsible officials

The head of each department and agency of the United States engaged in the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime shall designate by names and office titles the persons who will be responsible for identifying the victims of crime and performing the services described in subsection (c) at each stage of a criminal case.

(b) Identification of victims

At the earliest opportunity after the detection of a crime at which it may be done without interfering with an investigation, a responsible official shall—

(1) identify the victim or victims of a crime;

(2) inform the victims of their right to receive, on request, the services described in subsection (c); and

(3) inform each victim of the name, title, and business address and telephone number of the responsible official to whom the victim should address a request for each of the services described in subsection (c).

(c) Description of services

(1) A responsible official shall—

(A) inform a victim of the place where the victim may receive emergency medical and social services;

(B) inform a victim of any restitution or other relief to which the victim may be entitled under this or any other law and¹ manner in which such relief may be obtained;

(C) inform a victim of public and private programs that are available to provide counseling, treatment, and other support to the victim; and

(D) assist a victim in contacting the persons who are responsible for providing the services and relief described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C).

(2) A responsible official shall arrange for a victim to receive reasonable protection from a suspected offender and persons acting in concert with or at the behest of the suspected offender.

(3) During the investigation and prosecution of a crime, a responsible official shall provide a victim the earliest possible notice of—

¹ See References in Text note below.

¹ So in original. Probably should be followed by “the”.

(A) the status of the investigation of the crime, to the extent it is appropriate to inform the victim and to the extent that it will not interfere with the investigation;

(B) the arrest of a suspected offender;

(C) the filing of charges against a suspected offender;

(D) the scheduling of each court proceeding that the witness is either required to attend or, under section 10606(b)(4)² of this title, is entitled to attend;

(E) the release or detention status of an offender or suspected offender;

(F) the acceptance of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere or the rendering of a verdict after trial; and

(G) the sentence imposed on an offender, including the date on which the offender will be eligible for parole.

(4) During court proceedings, a responsible official shall ensure that a victim is provided a waiting area removed from and out of the sight and hearing of the defendant and defense witnesses.

(5) After trial, a responsible official shall provide a victim the earliest possible notice of—

(A) the scheduling of a parole hearing for the offender;

(B) the escape, work release, furlough, or any other form of release from custody of the offender; and

(C) the death of the offender, if the offender dies while in custody.

(6) At all times, a responsible official shall ensure that any property of a victim that is being held for evidentiary purposes be maintained in good condition and returned to the victim as soon as it is no longer needed for evidentiary purposes.

(7) The Attorney General or the head of another department or agency that conducts an investigation of a sexual assault shall pay, either directly or by reimbursement of payment by the victim, the cost of a physical examination of the victim which an investigating officer determines was necessary or useful for evidentiary purposes. The Attorney General shall provide for the payment of the cost of up to 2 anonymous and confidential tests of the victim for sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV, gonorrhea, herpes, chlamydia, and syphilis, during the 12 months following sexual assaults that pose a risk of transmission, and the cost of a counseling session by a medically trained professional on the accuracy of such tests and the risk of transmission of sexually transmitted diseases to the victim as the result of the assault. A victim may waive anonymity and confidentiality of any tests paid for under this section.

(8) A responsible official shall provide the victim with general information regarding the corrections process, including information about work release, furlough, probation, and eligibility for each.

(d) No cause of action or defense

This section does not create a cause of action or defense in favor of any person arising out of

the failure of a responsible person to provide information as required by subsection (b) or (c).

(e) Definitions

For the purposes of this section—

(1) the term “responsible official” means a person designated pursuant to subsection (a) to perform the functions of a responsible official under that section; and

(2) the term “victim” means a person that has suffered direct physical, emotional, or pecuniary harm as a result of the commission of a crime, including—

(A) in the case of a victim that is an institutional entity, an authorized representative of the entity; and

(B) in the case of a victim who is under 18 years of age, incompetent, incapacitated, or deceased, one of the following (in order of preference):

(i) a spouse;

(ii) a legal guardian;

(iii) a parent;

(iv) a child;

(v) a sibling;

(vi) another family member; or

(vii) another person designated by the court.

(Pub. L. 101-647, title V, §503, Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4820; Pub. L. 103-322, title IV, §40503(a), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 1946.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 10606(b)(4) of this title, referred to in subsec. (c)(3)(D), was in the original “section 1102(b)(4)”, meaning section 1102(b)(4) of Pub. L. 101-647, which has been translated as reading section 502(b)(4) of Pub. L. 101-647 to reflect the probable intent of Congress because Pub. L. 101-647 does not contain a section 1102 and section 502(b)(4) relates to the right of crime victims to be present at public court proceedings. Section 10606 of this title was subsequently repealed by Pub. L. 108-405, title I, §102(c), Oct. 30, 2004, 118 Stat. 2264.

CODIFICATION

Section enacted as part of the Victims' Rights and Restitution Act of 1990 and also as part of the Crime Control Act of 1990, and not as part of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 which comprises this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (c)(7). Pub. L. 103-322 inserted at end “The Attorney General shall provide for the payment of the cost of up to 2 anonymous and confidential tests of the victim for sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV, gonorrhea, herpes, chlamydia, and syphilis, during the 12 months following sexual assaults that pose a risk of transmission, and the cost of a counseling session by a medically trained professional on the accuracy of such tests and the risk of transmission of sexually transmitted diseases to the victim as the result of the assault. A victim may waive anonymity and confidentiality of any tests paid for under this section.”

§ 10608. Closed circuit televised court proceedings for victims of crime

(a) In general

Notwithstanding any provision of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure to the contrary, in order to permit victims of crime to watch criminal trial proceedings in cases where the venue of the trial is changed—

² See References in Text note below.