

News Release

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Friday, Sept. 14, 2018

For Immediate Release

1 October Survivors Have 2 Weeks Left to Apply With Nevada Victims of Crime Program

Starting Monday, Sept. 17, anyone who was present during the 1 October shooting at the Route 91 festival has two weeks left to submit an application with the Nevada Victims of Crime program, or within one year of the date of the crime.

Funds from the Nevada Victims of Crime program may help reimburse people for out-of-pocket expenses resulting from the shooting such as medical bills or counseling co-pays not covered by insurance. Even if you live outside of Nevada, weren't physically injured in the shooting, or don't have any eligible expenses now, survivors are encouraged to apply for the program before the application due date of <u>Oct. 1</u>, <u>2018</u>, in case they incur future expenses that may be covered by the program. Mental health experts say it's not uncommon for survivors of mass violence and trauma to seek counseling months or years after an incident occurred when they become more aware of how they've been affected.

An application to apply for the Nevada Victims of Crime Program is posted on the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center's website at www.VegasStrongRC.org. Completed and signed applications need to be submitted to the Nevada Victims of Crime Program by mail, fax or email.

- The mailing address is: Nevada VOCP, PO Box 94525, Las Vegas, NV 89193-1525
- The fax numbers are: (888) 941-7890 or (702) 486-2825.
- Forms also can be scanned and emailed to: applications@voc-net.com.

If you need help filling out an application online, a video is posted on the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center's website at www.VegasStrongRC.org and on YouTube that walks viewers through the application process: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EJv9zadqgGg. Caring staff at the resiliency center is available to answer questions about the Nevada Victims of Crime Program, and they can assist anyone who needs help completing an application. The center can be reached by phone at (702) 455-2433 (AIDE) or toll-free at (833) 299-2433. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. You also can contact the Nevada Victims of Crime Program directly via its website: http://voc.nv.gov/.

"The Nevada Victims of Crime Program is dedicated to ensuring victims who were present at the tragedy on Oct. 1, 2017, have access to services available through our program, but they need to be in our system within one year of the date of the crime to qualify," said Michelle Morgando, program coordinator for the Nevada Victims of Crime Program. "It's important to submit an application by the due date of Oct. 1, 2018, to ensure you are eligible for funding assistance in the future if you incur eligible expenses such as counseling."

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Every state has a Victims of Crime program affiliated with the U.S. Department of Justice. Funding for the program comes from court-ordered fines and fees and helps victims of violent crimes pay for expenses related to the crime. To date the Nevada Victims of Crime Program has processed nearly 4,900 applications for assistance from the 1 October incident and paid more than \$2.8 million in claims.

The Vegas Strong Resiliency Center opened on Oct. 23, 2017, to provide free resources and support to anyone affected by the 1 October shooting including survivors, family members of victims, responders and those who witnessed the incident or tried to assist victims. Since the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center opened, it has served more than 7,000 people.

Services include victim advocacy and support; legal consultations for civil legal matters such as debt collection, foreclosure, insurance claims, and family law issues; grief counseling and spiritual care referrals; and technical assistance accessing online resources including FBI Victim Assistance Services for claiming personal items left behind at the 1 October concert venue. Partnering agencies represented on site at the Resiliency Center include Clark County's Department of Social Service, the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, the Nevada Victims of Crime Program, Nevada Division of Child and Family Services, Cark County Department of Family Services, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services, and the LVMPD Victims Services.

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Clark County is a dynamic and innovative organization dedicated to providing top-quality service with integrity, respect and accountability. With jurisdiction over the world-famous Las Vegas Strip and covering an area the size of New Jersey, Clark is the nation's 14th-largest county and provides extensive regional services to more than 2.25 million citizens and 45.5 million visitors a year. Included are the nation's 8th-busiest airport, air quality compliance, social services and the state's largest public hospital, University Medical Center. The County also provides municipal services that are traditionally provided by cities to 1 million residents in the unincorporated area. Those include fire protection, roads and other public works, parks and recreation, and planning and development.