



# Office of the Attorney General of Guam

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### OAG's Crime Victim Compensation Program Meets Grant Funding Eligibility

April 25, 2017 - Tamuning, Guam - Late last week, Attorney General Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson received notice from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime(OVC), informing her of the Criminal Injury Compensation Commission's (CICC) eligibility under Fiscal Year 2018 Victims of Crimes Act (VOCA) victim compensation formula grant funding.

"This is a promising sign for the CICC that it will have a steady source of funding for eligible crime victims and their families to receive reparations, helping to offset some costs incurred during their time of tragedy, pain or loss as a result of a crime," said General Barrett-Anderson.

Currently, the CICC Fund is comprised of monies received from fines imposed on defendants in certain criminal cases. This letter attesting Guam's eligibility from Acting Director Marilyn M. Roberts, U.S. Department of Justice, OVC, brings the Commission one step closer to reimbursement from the federal government. For every dollar awarded by the CICC, Guam is entitled to a 60-cent match. Guam's CICC Program eligibility is based on compliance with 42 U.S.C. §10602 (b).

"For years, victims have not only been deprived of their due compensation, but Guam has lost out on this formula grant funding. This brings us one step closer to ensuring the sustainability of this program for those who need it," continued General Barrett-Anderson.

For over a decade, the CICC was defunct due to lack of quorum and rules. In 2013, Senator Frank Aguon Jr. amended the law, allowing the Attorney General to oversee the administration of the CICC. During her first year in office in 2015, General Barrett-Anderson reestablished the commission by creating administrative rules and regulations, and meeting with members, Palé Mike Crisostomo, Dr. Lisa Flores, and Denise Mendiola-Hertslet. The first victim compensation awards were approved in April 2016. To date, \$90,569.27 has been awarded.

Guam Crime Victims who are eligible for compensation under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Commission may visit our website at [www.guamag.org](http://www.guamag.org), or contact the CICC Administrator at 475-3324 ext. 5030.

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