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IDAHO INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

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Mindy Montgomery, Director

February 25, 2009

Wayne Hammon
Administrator
Division of Financial Management
PO Box 83720
Boise ID 83720-0032

Dear Wayne,

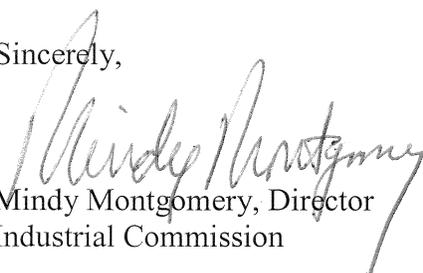
The Industrial Commission's Crime Victims' Compensation Program (CVCP) may be eligible for federal stimulus money administered through a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) supplemental grant. The CVCP receives VOCA funding annually and would have to make separate application for stimulus money available through the VOCA fund. The funding guidelines and grant requirements have not yet been published by the Office for Victims of Crime; U.S. Dept. of Justice. We anticipate that \$353,500 in stimulus money will be available to the CVCP.

We request the Governor's support in receiving this money. If approved, we would use this money to offset additional costs for sexual assault forensic examinations and cover increases in costs related to treatment for crime related injuries as more Idahoans find themselves without other resources to cover their crime related medical and mental health expenses.

The Commission understands that this funding is one time money and hopes to use this funding as temporary relief from increasing expenses until more permanent funding and cost containment measures can be implemented. The CVCP currently has legislation pending (Senate Bill 1046) to increase fines imposed on criminal convictions in Idaho, which is the primary funding source for the program. If passed, it will take time for the statutory changes to show a positive impact on the CVCP fund. The fund balance was depleted by 21% in FY 2007 and 33% in FY 2008, primarily due to rising medical costs. Also, the Commission is exploring options to implement a permanent fee schedule for payments made on behalf of victims to limit the impact of rising medical costs.

We look forward to meeting with the Federal Stimulus Committee on March 4, 2009. If you have any questions in the meantime, please let me know. Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter.

Sincerely,


Mindy Montgomery, Director
Industrial Commission