



Providers of Critical Victim Services Call for State Emergency Funding Help

Oregon City – Today Oregon’s District Attorneys called on the Oregon Legislature to convene an Emergency Board meeting to backfill Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding.

“We call on the Emergency Board to take immediate action to maintain critical services through the 2025 fiscal year. Without swift intervention, domestic violence programs, sexual assault advocates, Children’s Advocacy Centers, and District Attorney Victim Assistance Offices across Oregon face devastating cuts and layoffs. These essential services form the backbone of support for crime victims—cuts not only threaten their safety and rights, but also weaken the well-being of our entire community. When we stand with victims, we strengthen Oregon” **said John Wentworth, District Attorney of Clackamas County and President of the Oregon District Attorneys Association.**

“Oregon must put crime victims first by guaranteeing access to vital services—such as safe shelter for those escaping domestic violence, forensic exams for children seeking protection and justice, and guidance to help survivors navigate the criminal justice system,” **said Kevin Barton, District Attorney of Washington County.**

Marion County District Attorney Paige Clarkson, said "Oregon's victim support systems are on the brink of collapse, and swift action from lawmakers is crucial to preserve them. We’re already seeing staff layoffs, reduced services, and fewer resources for survivors. Lawmakers must act now to stop further harm.”

Oregon’s victim service providers were recently notified that they could anticipate as much as 80% reductions in pass-through funding starting immediately. The new federal application requirements for Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding in 2025 and 2026 include stipulations with which DOJ cannot comply with due to ORS 181A.826 (2021 Sanctuary Promise Act (H 3265, 2021).

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