



VICTIMS of CRIME SUPPORT PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT
2006 – 2007

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Enquiries about this publication should be directed to: GPO Box 370 Canberra City, ACT, 2601

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Telephone: Canberra Connect 132 281

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Office of the Victims of Crime Co-ordinator

Court Level 2 ACT Magistrates Court
Knowles Place
GPO Box 370
Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: (02) 6217 4431/4381
Fax: (02) 6217 4501

Email: vocc@act.gov.au

Friday, 14th September 2007

The Hon Simon Corbell, MLA
Attorney General
ACT Legislative Assembly
London Circuit
CANBERRA 2601

Dear Mr Corbell

I am pleased to submit to you, pursuant to section 6(1) of the *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004* and in accordance with the requirements referred to in the Chief Minister's Annual Reports Directions, the Annual Report for the Victims of Crime Coordinator. It has been prepared in conformity with the *Victims of Crime Act 1994*.

I hereby certify that the attached report is an honest and accurate account and that all material information on the operations of the Victims of Crime Coordinator during the period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 has been included and that it complies with the Chief Minister's Annual Report Directions.

I also hereby certify that fraud prevention has been managed in accordance with Public Sector Management Standard 2, Part 2.4.

Section 13 of the *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004* requires that you cause a copy of the Report to be laid before the Legislative Assembly within 3 months of the end of the financial year.

Yours sincerely

Robyn Holder
VICTIMS OF CRIME COORDINATOR

INTRODUCTION

This is the sixth Annual Report of the Victims of Crime Support Program in the ACT. It comprises reports dealing with aspects of the Victims of Crime Support Program provided by the ACT Government.

CONTACT OFFICERS

Robyn Holder
Victims of Crime Coordinator
02 6217 4431

Anne Barrie
Manager, Victims Services Scheme
1800 822 272

Hugh Jorgensen
Registrar, Magistrates Court
02 6217 4444

ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

AFP	Australian Federal Police (ACT Policing)
AIC	Australian Institute of Criminology
ANU	Australian National University
DPP	Director of Public Prosecutions
DVCS	Domestic Violence Crisis Service
DVPC	Domestic Violence Prevention Council
DVC	Domestic Violence Coordinator
FEMAG	Foundation for Effective Markets and Governance
FVIP	Family Violence Intervention Program
UN	United Nations
VOCAL	Victims of Crime Assistance League (ACT)
VoCC	Victims of Crime Coordinator
VSS	Victims Services Scheme

1.

VICTIMS OF CRIME COORDINATOR

PART A

VICTIMS OF CRIME COORDINATOR REVIEW

The Organisation

The Victims of Crime Co-ordinator (VoCC) is an independent statutory appointment of the ACT Government. The position was established in July 1995 within the (then) ACT Attorney-General's Department pursuant to the *Victims of Crime Act 1994*. It is administered within the Magistrates Court.

The Victims of Crime Co-ordinator has the power to:

- be present at the hearing of a proceeding in court, unless the court directs otherwise;
- investigate conduct in the administration of justice where there are reasonable grounds to assume a breach of the Governing Principles;
- report matters to the Attorney-General; and
- do all things necessary or convenient in connection with the performance of her functions.

The position-holder also performs the statutory functions of the Domestic Violence Project Coordinator under the *Domestic Violence Agencies Act 2001*.

The primary clients of the VoCC are residents and visitors to the ACT who have become victims of crime. Principal stakeholders of the Office are the victims of crime as a whole constituent group and the ACT Attorney General. Other stakeholders include agencies engaged in the administration of justice being ACT Policing, the Director of Public Prosecutions, Courts Administration and ACT Corrective Services. Government and non-government services assisting victims of crime are also stakeholders to the VoCC Office.

The mission of the VoCC Office is to enhance the response of the criminal justice system to victims of crime. The core values of the VoCC Office are integrity, independence, trustworthiness, persistence, and effectiveness.

Key objectives of the VoCC Office are to:

- Improve system-wide communication, quality standards and responses to people victimised by crime in partnership with justice and community agencies, develop and implement projects and programs.
- Encourage and support agencies to implement and sustain operational procedures that observe the spirit and letter of the Governing Principles in the Treatment of Victims of Crime (section 4, *Victims of Crime Act 1994*).
- Promote reforms in the administration of justice and in services for people victimised by crime.

- Ensure that all those engaged in the administration of justice adhere to the Governing Principles in the Treatment of Victims of Crime; and act as an advocate, and information source for people victimised by crime.

Highlights for 2006-2007

Produced and published a statistical report and overview of the Family Violence Intervention Program 1998-2006

Provided a detailed submission to the Review of the *Mental Health (Treatment and Care) Act 1994* and participated in the Review Reference Group

Managed research into Indigenous victims of family violence access to justice and services

Managed research into the experience of victims of sexual assault with the ACT criminal justice system

Delivered two Family Violence Intervention Workshops for Northern Territory Legal Aid

Provided detailed submission to the Public Accounts Committee enquiry on the ACT Auditor General's Report into Courts Administration.

Outlook for 2007-2008

The priorities for the VoCC remain those specified by the *Victims of Crime Act 1994*, and described as objectives (above). The establishment of a new agency that combines the Office of the VoCC and the Victims Services Scheme (VSS) will involve significant challenges. The requirement for a new client database will be critical to the success of the integrated agency. The increased resources allocated for victims of crime in the 2007-2008 Budget will focus on improving access to counselling and support, and reducing waiting times.

Specific targets for 2007-2008 include to:

- Seek a law reform review of the *Victims of Crime Act 1994*.
- Establish a new victim services agency integrating the Victims Services Scheme and the Office of the VoCC.
- Implement initiatives to mark the 10th Anniversary of the Family Violence Intervention Program.
- Publish research reports into *Access to Justice for Indigenous Victims of Family Violence* and into *Sexual Assault Victims & Their Experience of Justice in the ACT*.

Overview

The Victims of Crime Coordinator's Office

The Victims of Crime Coordinator's Annual Reports over recent years have reported on significant concern about the resources available to fulfil the statutory duties contained with the *Victims of Crime Act 1994* and as Domestic Violence Project Coordinator under the *Domestic Violence Agencies Act*.

The Review of the Victims Services Scheme (VSS) conducted by the Department of Justice & Community Safety with the assistance of an Expert Reference Group recommended that the VSS be brought into the Department as a direct service, and that it and the VoCC Office be brought together. The Attorney General accepted these recommendations. The reforms accept that victims of crime are part of the core business of the Department and aim to provide a more seamless service for victims of crime.

Submissions to the Review by the VoCC emphasised a number of key points. Firstly, that while there were efficiencies to be gained through the integration – primarily for clients themselves – it was not a cost neutral exercise. The additional resources provided in the 2007-08 Budget are very welcome. The focus of the new funds will be on improving access to counselling and support.

The long-term problem, reported over previous years, remains of lack of resources for the statutory functions of the VoCC as an independent advocate for victims of crime in the administration of justice.

Secondly, the investigative and compliance functions of the VoCC related to allegations of a breach of the Governing Principles for the Treatment of Victims of Crime in the administration of justice and not complaints regarding counselling and support services. Any concern about actual or perceived conflict of interest should therefore be unwarranted. Nonetheless, the integration will present a challenge to properly maintain accountabilities to the Chief Executive for administrative and financial delegations while at the same time maintaining the integrity of an independent statutory office.

A law reform review of the *Victims of Crime Act 1994*, called for over previous years, should provide a process through which some of these significant issues can be commented upon by victims of crime, the community and by stakeholders. As stated in the Annual Report for 2006-07, a review should "examine how effectively those engaged in the administration of justice are responding to the obligations imposed upon them pursuant to the Act's General Principles, of the 'rights' of victims generally, and a review to consider the role, functions and powers of the Victims of Crime Coordinator."¹

¹ Victims of Crime Coordinator (2006), *Annual Report 2006-2007*, Canberra.

Independent Statutory Advocacy

The Coordinator's previous two Annual Reports commented upon issues affecting the independence and integrity of the Office. I am very pleased to report that clarification of the administrative and financial responsibilities of and boundaries to the VoCC position has been received from the Department of Justice & Community Safety. The Chief Executive and Statutory Office Holders within the portfolio have established a Forum through which issues of mutual interest and governance matters can be discussed. Arising from the Forum is the creation of a core template Memorandum between Statutory Officers and the Department. A Memorandum specific to the Victims of Crime Coordinator has been finalised. It is hoped that the Forum will become an ever more effective vehicle for addressing of a wide range of governance issues.

Statutory advocacy is established "when a degree of operating independence is seen to provide either objectivity or to promote efficiency".² The Uhrig Review (2003:31) noted that, through such establishment, "Government can allocate dedicated resources to achieving specific functions. This provides confidence for the Parliament, the Government and the community that sufficient commitment and resources are being provided to areas of specialisation."

The Uhrig Review further stated (2003:7) that the case for independence for a statutory authority could be made out "when [the] functions require a level of separation from government to ensure objectivity". The review notes that such objectivity is commonly a key criterion where the function performed is a regulatory one.

The VoCC position is both specifically and generally regulatory. In general terms, the position is required to promote the governing principles of the *Victims of Crime Act* (s7a) to agencies engaged in the administration of justice (the 'regulated community'). In specific terms, the position has the power to institute an investigation into conduct in the administration of justice where there is reasonable grounds to believe that the conduct involves a breach of the governing principles (s9). A statutory advocate for victims within this system must be able and free to act, consistent with the enabling legislation, to ensure individuals' interests and rights are upheld and to enable their effective engagement.

Independence from Government and the bureaucracy are one means of the VoCC undertaking statutory duties with due diligence, objectivity, efficiency, competence, specialisation and equity.

The nature of an independent statutory appointment is designed to reflect and nurture these requirements. The *Victims of Crime Act* provides for a person to be appointed by the Minister by way of disallowable instrument for a period up to three years on conditions set out in the Act. The Act also allows for a person to be reappointed. The

² Uhrig Review (June 2003), *Review of Corporate Governance of Statutory Authorities and Office Holders*, Commonwealth of Australia, 0.31.

current incumbent has been reappointed on three further occasions since the original appointment in 1996. However, over the reporting period, the VoCC has remained on a one year appointment. The instrument of appointment expired in May 2007. This state of affairs does not reflect proper support for an independent statutory position.

It may be that, through the Statutory Office Holders Forum and in concert with the ACT Public Service Commissioner, the framework for the appointment, reappointment, contracting and performance of independent statutory officers can be made more consistent, robust and transparent.

Advocacy for Victims of Crime

Systems Advocacy

Systems advocacy comprises activities focussed on policy, procedural, service and legislative reform with agencies engaged in the administration of justice. Since the inception of the VoCC position, systems advocacy has been a key reform method. Over 2006-07, however, the capacity of the Office to perform this work has been drained by the demands and complexity of client case work and by the additional management activities arising from the review of the VSS.

Systemic issues refers to areas of practice, procedure, service or law that affect the ability and capacity of agencies engaged in the administration of justice to meet their obligations to victims of crime in a manner that is consistent, reliable, transparent and that lend themselves to proper performance management and accountability. Systemic reform therefore suggests measures that make significant change in specific areas. Systemic issues may be highlighted by one or a number of problems or complaints by victims of crime brought to the attention of the VoCC. But systemic reform benefits victims of crime as a whole.

Over successive reporting periods these have been highlighted as:

- (a) *Victim Contact Information* – there is no robust means within the criminal justice system to collect and store victim contact information (being name, date of birth, address, phone and other relevant personal data). This absence undermines the capacity of every justice agency – including the statutory advocate for victims - to inform victims in a routine and reliable manner of relevant case information, to assist their engagement in justice processes and to ensure that everyone receives information and assistance to access their lawful rights and entitlements.

Section 136 of the *Crimes (Sentencing) Act 2005* provides authority to exchange information. What remains is the absence of a means to do so both in law and in practice.

- (b) *Reparations* provisions (s19 of the *Crimes (Sentencing) Act 2005*) enable a sentencing Court to consider imposing an order on a defendant as redress for loss suffered by an injured person. This is an appropriate sentencing sanction. It also informs the accused that, contrary to popular opinion, property offences are not all insurable and, even where they are, can carry a significant excess. However, there are a number of persisting problems with this area of procedure. Most importantly, compliance with a reparation order is not part of sentence administration. Therefore, should an accused default (which is often the case), then the victim must initiate civil proceedings to have the order enforced. In very many situations this is not practically or financially possible for the victim. The situation creates an absurd anomaly and deeply undermines confidence in the fair and effective administration of justice.
- (c) *Mental health issues* in the criminal jurisdiction continue to be troubling for some victims of crime. The review of the *Mental Health (Treatment and Care) Act 1994* has provided an opportunity for the VoCC to make a detailed submission about aspects of the legislation, and to outline innovations in other jurisdictions that acknowledge the interests of victims of crime. The VoCC has also been a member of the Review Reference Group. The Departmental review of the tribunal system presents an additional opportunity for a submission into the administrative and service aspects of the Mental Health Tribunal that affect victims of crime.
- (d) *Serious and Major Crimes* and the impact on victims of crime continues to be an area requiring the development of policy and procedure especially with regard to case coordination. Some matters also involve significant crime scene clean-up, and some victims are required to clean up by themselves. Over the reporting period the Australian Federal Police (AFP) has created an additional Victim Liaison Officer position within the Territory Investigations Group. This initiative should provide a better means to enable a different approach to victim/witness coordination and pathways to support services. A strategic and coordinated approach (that is sustainable) between all key justice agencies would be helpful to achieve this objective.
- (e) *Homicide* matters consume a considerable proportion of time, often over a number of years, for the VoCC. Each sudden death generates incredible pressure on bereaved families and involves them in a complex range of processes. Both police and prosecution necessarily invest considerable resources in homicide matters. Families commonly speak highly of the care and concern shown to them. In addition, the VoCC Office performs a support, liaison and advocacy role that spans across all these processes, creates pathways for people to access counselling and other entitlements, and ensures that at least one agency 'walks with' families through what can be years of engagement with the justice system.
- (f) *Sexual assault* and the response of the criminal justice system has been of concern to the VoCC since an own motion report was concluded in 2002 and presented to

the then Attorney General. Over the reporting period the current Attorney General, the Hon Simon Corbell, directed that a strategy to respond to the recommendations of the AFP/DPP report (2005) be commenced. The VoCC co-chaired the Reference Group with the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), and assisted with consultations on future directions with Canberra Rape Crisis Centre, the Forensic & Medical Sexual Assault Centre and the Child at Risk Unit. The VoCC has additionally implemented small scale initiatives that seek feedback from adult victims of sexual assault who have participated in the ACT criminal justice system. The VoCC and the Public Advocate had earlier written to the Attorney to express disquiet about the ability of the system to adequately acknowledge the vulnerability of intellectually impaired victims of sexual assault.

The VoCC has consistently argued for the potential of engaging crime victims in initiatives to prevent crime. Research, particularly in relation to residential burglary, has consistently shown that victims of crime will act on crime prevention advice. The VoCC has participated in the Property Crime Reduction Strategy. However, lack of resources has prevented the Office from developing initiatives designed to improve the capacity of victim services to deliver crime prevention advice to victims.

The VoCC has remained as Chair of Victim Support Australasia (VSA), the national peak body for crime victim services. VSA works to improve the quality and consistency of responses to crime victims across the jurisdictions. The VoCC Office was instrumental in the development and launch of a national website for VSA. The website, www.victimsupport.org.au, was launched in Darwin in September 2006 by the Northern Territory Attorney General, the Hon Syd Stirling.

The Offices of the VoCC and the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) have participated in a field trial of a survey with the Department of Criminology at the University of Melbourne. The survey is part of a national research project funded by the Australian Research Council that is a collaboration between the University and VSA. The study will examine whether the experience of victims of crime with procedural fairness in their interaction with justice agencies was successful.

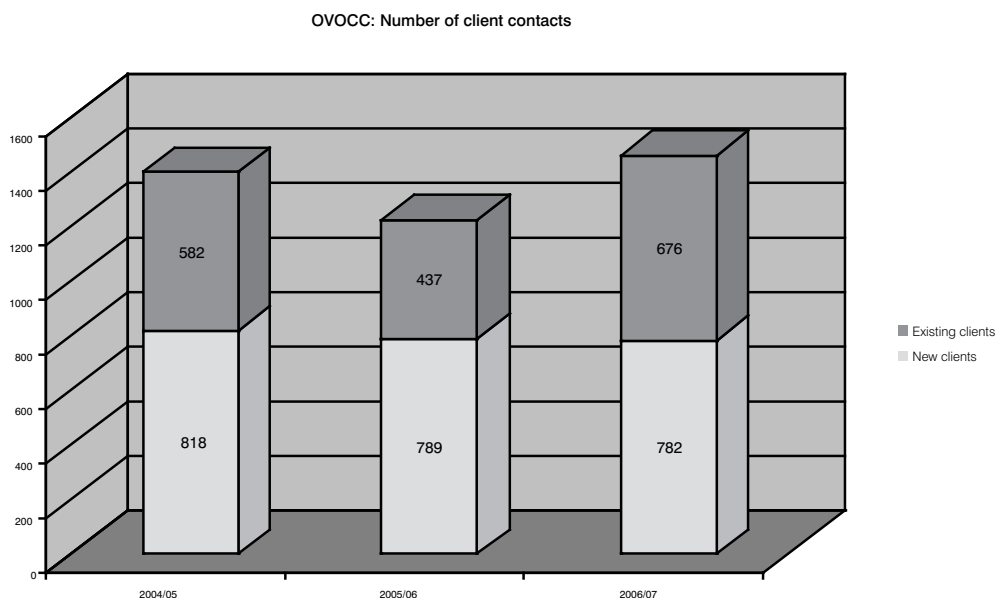
Advocacy for Individuals

In 2006/07 there were over 1458 contacts made to the Office from crime victims with approximately 53% of these contacts being from new clients (n=191), and 47% being from existing clients (n=50) bringing the total number of clients to 241 for the year.

Table 1 – Clients & client contacts 2006-2007

	Number	Number of contacts	Female	Male	Children
New clients	191	782	105 (55%)	86 (45%)	21 (11%)
Existing clients	50	676	34 (68%)	16 (32%)	9 (18%)
Total	241	1458	139 (58%)	102 (42%)	30 (12%)

Source: VOCC Office



The number of contacts per client has continued to challenge the Office. This is attributed to:

- clients with issues or problems of more complexity,
- engagement with clients across their journey through the whole criminal justice system from investigation to parole,
- provision of extensive assistance to victims of crime engaged in making submissions to reviews conducted of particular patients by the Mental Health Tribunal,
- more extensive involvement with clients in new justice processes, and
- those requiring assistance in financial assistance applications.

The majority of enquiries to the Office from new clients were in relation to enquiries about financial assistance, case status queries in relation to police investigation and charges and in relation to prosecution proceedings, and more general requests for information and referral.

An increased proportion of calls related to incidents of assault (60%). Over the reporting period more male victims had contact with the Office than in the previous year. Forty five percent (45%) of new clients were male (86) and 55% of new clients were female (105). Eleven percent (n=21) of enquiries from new clients were in relation to child victims. Two percent of new clients identified as being from an Indigenous background with 5% identifying as being from an ethnic background.

Table 2 - Offences affecting clients

Offence	New clients	Existing clients	Overall
Assault	121	22	143
Sexual assault	28	14	42
Harassment/threats	10	3	13
Breach order	1	4	5
Stalking	3	2	5
Murder/manslaughter/negligent driving causing death	4	5	9
Arson	3	1	4
Criminal damage	9	1	10
Armed robbery	1	0	1
Burglary	4	0	4
Other	17	2	19
Total	201	54	255

Source: VOCC Office

ACT Policing Responses to Victims of Crime

The VoCC Annual Report for 2005-2006 remarked on the absence of any consideration of police victim contact and liaison work in the final *Joint Study into ACT Policing (June 2005)* and in the subsequent 2006-07 Purchase Agreement.

The VoCC has continued to make representations to the AFP Executive regarding the need for new corporate approach to victims of (especially) major operations and serious cases. The AFP has taken significant steps over the past few years to improve its responses to victims. It has created Practical Guides for General Duties officers and to define the role of Victim Liaison Officers. However, in the absence of a service framework and a strategic vision, inconsistency continues to undermine effective and uniform interaction between police and their most important source of intelligence in community policing.

In December 2006, the VoCC delivered a speech to the ACT Early Intervention Awards presentation on the topic of *Policing by Consent*. The paper acknowledged the origins of modern policing in Victorian England. In particular it noted the principle of grounding “the willing co-operation of the public in the task of securing observance of laws”³ as opposed to coercion. This is a defining characteristic of policing in democratic societies. The legitimacy of police across the jurisdictions derives from a belief widely held by the general public that they are an essential service that maintains order in our communities and that deals with misdemeanour without fear or favour. The practical way in which members of the community give effect to the notion of *policing by consent* is to volunteer information to police. People who are victims and witnesses are the main informants to police about crime and disorder, and the mainstay of most prosecutions at court. However, national and international surveys consistently show that it is **after** the (generally positive) first response and in the absence of follow-up where public satisfaction slides significantly. In the VoCC role as a statutory advocate for victims the Office hears about when police service to the public breaks down. It remains a puzzle why any technologically advanced 21st Century public service such as the police cannot implement structures, processes and mechanisms to enable public expectations of service to be delivered on a routine and robust basis.

Over the reporting period, the AFP initiated a review of the relevant Practical Guides and instituted a new procedure for stakeholder case enquiries. In addition, discussion commenced between the AFP, VoCC and the Department of Justice & Community Safety on an annual survey of victims of crime that is budgeted in the Purchase Agreement.

Over the reporting period, the VoCC Office contributed regularly to the AFP/DPP Family Violence Intervention Program training. As in 2005-06, the VoCC was not involved in any specific training on victim issues for new recruits and refresher training for laterals and others. It is unclear whether in fact any has taken place.

³ The Nine Principles of Policing contained in police General Instructions (Mayne 1829)

Director of Public Prosecutions Responses to Victims of Crime

Over 2006-07, the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Richard Refshauge SC, received and considered a report, the *Delaney Report*, that arose from a review of his Office. The review expressly sought to enquire into the impact of initiatives that have served to heighten prosecution interaction with victims of crime. The VoCC provided a detailed submission to the review.

The VoCC submission acknowledged the central role of the prosecution in supporting community confidence in the administration of justice through its interaction with victims, witnesses and their families. The submission further expressed strong support for the leadership the Director and Office have shown in a number of areas. Following the *Delaney Report* the VoCC has been made aware of measures taken within the Office of the DPP in relation to its interaction with victims and witnesses, notably by expanding the number of Witness Assistants to two. However, it would be useful for more information about the proposed changes and directions for victim/witness support to be made public.

Over the reporting period, the VoCC alerted the Director to correspondence involving queries about different cases where a response has not been forthcoming despite a number of requests. The VoCC corresponds with the relevant Heads of Agency under s9 of the *Victims of Crime Act 1994* where a victim has raised a problem that may constitute an allegation of a breach of the Governing Principles. The correspondence seeks to engage the Head of Agency in an internal review of a matter. The results of an internal review may satisfy the complaint and the complainant thereby obviating the need for a full investigation and report to the Attorney General. In one case, the correspondence with the Director was initiated in November 2004.

Central to a couple of these matters is the issue about prosecution decision-making on charges – sometimes called “charge negotiations” – and decisions on whether or not to proceed to prosecution. The *Victims of Crime Act 1994* requires that victims be informed. The problem of course is that the information may or may not be provided *after* the substantive decision is taken. A number of jurisdictions, notably NSW, Queensland and South Australia, have witnessed public controversy about cases involving the absence of consultation. The *Victims of Crime Act 1994* requires reform on this issue.

Over the reporting period, the VoCC was pleased to have been invited by the Chief Executive to co-chair with the Director a Reference Group convened to consider an implementation strategy for the AFP/DPP Report on sexual assault. The reform process may improve the response to and support of both child and adult victims of sexual assault within the administration of justice.

Courts Administration and Victims of Crime

Over the reporting period, the VoCC worked with the Registrar and staff of the Magistrates Court in implementing new forms following commencement of new Court Rules. Many of the forms necessary for applications for Victims of Crime Financial Assistance changed with the new Rules. While the application process may be simpler in the ACT than in many other jurisdictions, it remains challenging for most lay people. The courtesy and care evidenced by staff in the civil jurisdiction of the Court towards unrepresented applicants and to the VoCC Office is greatly appreciated.

It has been noticeable, over the reporting period, that the time taken by the ACT Government Solicitor to respond to applications and to finalise assessments has lengthened. The VoCC has suggested to the Registrar that the jurisdiction may benefit from a Practice Direction.

In February 2007 at the national conference, *Confidence in the Courts*, the VoCC presented a paper about victims and courts. The paper proposed that judicial officers and administrators consider the victim of crime first and primarily as a citizen who has views about and responds to the authority and legitimacy of the criminal justice system as a cornerstone of the democratic order. The citizen becomes disconnected from this position through their interaction with the system as a *victim*. At that point, the person's expectations about what constitutes an appropriate response to victims becomes actual knowledge and experience. Courts propose a notion of "reciprocal responsibility" between themselves and the public.⁴ Certainly the citizen who becomes a crime victim is a prerequisite to and critical element of a functional justice system. In no other area of government or public administration would citizens be expected to perform such a function that is so critical to the maintenance of our society but without support and assistance given as normal and routine.

In October 2005 Commonwealth Law Ministers approved a Statement of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime (Oct 2005) that may provide a framework for ACT Courts and Tribunals to better respond to the interests of citizens who have become victims of crime. The Statement proposed "for the consideration of the Chief Justices and other members of the Judiciary of their respective jurisdictions, the following suggestions that they believe will assist in the achievement of national adherence to the [UN] Basic Principles:-

- encouraging participation in a training programme sensitising judges to the needs and interests of victims of crime in relation to the judicial process;
- allowing victims and witnesses to be on-call for court proceedings where practicable;

⁴ Parker, S. (1998), *Courts and the Public*, Australian Institute of Judicial Administration, Melbourne, p.15.

- in so far as possible, ensuring that their court officials establish separate waiting rooms for prosecution and defence witnesses;
- means by which members of the judiciary can bear their share of responsibility for reducing court congestion by ensuring that all participants fully and responsibly utilise court time;
- to allow, to the extent possible and appropriate taking into account all of the relevant fair trial interests, the views, if any, of victims to be made known to the court at bail hearings, postponements, sentencing and restitution or any compensation hearings;
- sensitising judges, where applicable, to consider ordering restitution to the victim in appropriate cases where such orders are possible;
- ensuring that, after having given any evidence, the victim's attendance at the trial is facilitated if he or she so wishes and, as requested, a member of the victim's family as well; and
- giving substantial weight to the victim's interest in the speedy return of property before trial in ruling on the admissibility of photographs of that property as being sufficient evidence.

Initiatives in other Australian and overseas jurisdictions suggest that there is a real and concrete role for Courts in improving justice responses to victims of crime. For example, the multi-million pound initiative in the UK *No Witness No Justice* program implemented since 2004.⁵ The program recognised the extent to which the absence of victim/witness support led to 'cracked' trials, and is restructuring and refocusing basic aspects of pretrial procedure. The program gives practical effect to provisions for supporting vulnerable witnesses.

A further example in New Zealand followed the *Victims Rights Act 2002*. The NZ Department for Courts implemented a network of court-based Victim Advisors whose central role is:

- "to ensure that victims are informed of the progress of the case against the accused and have more input into that process." and
- "to act as central sources of information about programmes, remedies or services available and to ensure that certain protections for victims be put in place". (Dec 2002 Department for Courts Circular)

Finally when some of the great legal minds of the 20th Century convened to devise the structure and rules for the world's first International Criminal Court⁶ they made it the responsibility of the Court's Registry to establish a Victims and Witnesses Unit (Article 43 and Chapter 2). The establishing charter set out the Court's responsibilities to ensure the protection of victims and witnesses and their participation in proceedings (Article 68 and

⁵ Home Office (2004), *No Witness No Justice: the national victims' and witness care program*, Cabinet Office, Office of Public Service Reform.

⁶ Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court (1998) and its Rules of Procedure and Evidence (2002).

Chapter 4), provided for the Court to seek reparations and invite victim submissions on these (Article 75), and even established a Trust Fund for the benefits of victims of crime within the jurisdiction of the Court.

This and the other initiatives show that court leadership and indeed court delivery of assistance to crime victims is not intrinsically incompatible with court independence and impartiality. The new Court Stakeholder Forum commenced in the reporting period may provide a vehicle through which some of these reforms can be explored.

Family Violence Intervention Program (FVIP)

The FVIP is implemented through a committee representing ACT Policing, the ODP, Courts Administration, the Department of Justice & Community Safety, Corrective Services, Domestic Violence Crisis Service (DVCS), the Office of Children, Youth & Family Support, and the VoCC. The Legal Aid Office, the Law Society and the Victims Services Scheme regularly participate.

As in previous years, the experiences of agencies implementing the FVIP have been influential in other jurisdictions. Agencies were visited by a delegation from the Illawarra in NSW. Chief Executives of Justice Departments in other jurisdictions met in Canberra in April and received a presentation about the program. A small team from the ACT was contracted by the Northern Territory Legal Aid Office to deliver workshops in Darwin and Alice Springs about aspects of the philosophy and operation of the program.

Over the reporting period the Magistrates Court's unique role in the FVIP has been further developed in a twinning initiative with a sister Family Violence Court in Manitoba, Canada.

At the end of 2006, the Chief Magistrate hosted an event to launch a report into the operation of the FVIP from 1998-2006. The Attorney General, Simon Corbell, and Magistrate Karen Fryar spoke to the importance of the FVIP and of the Court's role within it.

Following a Research Roundtable with academics from the Australian National University (ANU) and hosted by the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) in June 2006, FVIP agencies developed a proposal with the ANU that is to be submitted to the Australian Research Council for consideration for research funding. The proposal recognises that the ACT remains unique in Australia for the generation of data specific to family violence offences. In anticipation of the ANU work, FVIP agencies initiated further small scale research seeking feedback from victims who had participated in the prosecution process, and a statistical analysis of offenders prosecuted in one year for a family violence offence who reappeared before the Court within a two year period for a further family violence offence. A statistical analysis of three years of spouse/ex-spouse incidents reported to police conducted for the Australian Domestic & Family Violence Clearinghouse was completed and will be published in 2007-08.

ACT Corrective Services continued to implement a new approach to its group program, Cognitive Self-Change. Late in the reporting period, Corrective Services advised that it was to issue a tender for the partner contact. This work has been done by the Domestic Violence Crisis Service (DVCS) since the offender program commenced in 2000.

Over the year, the FVIP Coordinating Committee received reports in relation to responsiveness of police to the AFP Practice Guide, development of a children's pathway from time of police intervention, application of *Crimes (Restorative Justice) Act* to family violence, changes to the Magistrates Court case management system, resource levels within FVIP, and responses to Indigenous family violence. In response to concerns about the response of general duties police to family violence, the AFP managed an internal action group to more precisely identify problem areas and ways forward. The CEO of the Department of Justice and Community Safety confirmed that income generated by FVIP activities should be reserved for the overall benefit of the program.

Domestic Violence Project Coordinator

Since 2000, the VoCC has been appointed by the Attorney General, under section 11 of the *Domestic Violence Agencies Act 2001*, as Domestic Violence (DV) Project Coordinator. The statutory functions of this position focus primarily on measures to promote the coordination and reform of government responses to domestic violence. The VoCC discharges these responsibilities in a number of ways. In particular through the coordination of the FVIP, and as an ex-officio member of the Domestic Violence Prevention Council (DVPC).

The appointment of the DV Project Coordinator expired in May 2007.

The DV Coordinator worked closely with the Council to implement activities for White Ribbon Day in November 2006. White Ribbon Day commemorates the International Day of Action Against Violence Against Women. The activities of the Council are the subject of a separate annual report.

Indigenous Victims of Crime

As reported in the Annual Report 2005-06, the VoCC received funds from the Chief Ministers Department to conduct research into Indigenous victims of crime and their access to justice and services.

The Australian Institute of Criminology was commissioned to conduct the research. A Reference Group of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people was convened by the VoCC to provide advice and guidance on the research.

The VoCC statutory role relates to the administration of justice. As such the research was designed to focus on those Indigenous people who had reported incidents to police and who had had a matter prosecuted as well as those who had accessed the support of the Domestic Violence Crisis Service. However, due to problems with the identification of

Indigenous victims it was not possible to examine matters other than those involving family violence. The first stage of the research was conducted over the reporting period. A second stage, involving interviews with selected key interviewees, is being financially supported by the ACT Human Rights Commission. A report on the project will be finalised in 2007-08.

Restorative Justice Initiatives

The VoCC is a member of the Restorative Justice Reference Group that assists the implementation of the *Crimes (Restorative Justice) Act 2004*. Over the reporting period, the VoCC has referred victims in a number of matters to the Restorative Justice Unit in order that they may be assessed for eligibility and suitability for a restorative justice intervention.

Pursuant to the Practice Direction for the Ngambra Circle Sentencing Court (NCSC) the VoCC provides information and assistance to Indigenous and non-Indigenous victims in preparation for their participation. The ODPP, NCSC Coordinator and VoCC have developed a detailed referral procedure to ensure this is done smoothly. However, the procedure remains to be endorsed by the Director of Public Prosecutions. Over the reporting period, the referral process has broken down in a number of instances.

The VoCC, with the Chief Executive of the Victim Support Service in South Australia, presented a paper to the first national conference on *Indigenous People as Victims of Crime* (Darwin, September 2006). The paper described Indigenous Court initiatives across Australia and the extent to which they acknowledged and responded to the interests of Indigenous and non-Indigenous victims of crime.

Improving Services for Victims of Crime

Under the *Victims of Crime Act* the VoCC has an obligation to promote efficient delivery of services to victims of crime. The VoCC is also an ex-officio member of the Victim Assistance Board.

The Review of the Victims Services Scheme (VSS) recommended that the VSS be brought into the Department as a direct service, and that it and the VoCC Office be brought together. The Attorney General accepted these recommendations. The reforms accept that victims of crime are part of the core business of the Department and aim to provide a more seamless service for victims of crime.

Over the reporting period, the VoCC received a complaint with regard to the conduct of an employee in a community-based victim service. The VoCC has received a number of similar complaints over the years but does not have jurisdiction with regard to non-government services nor to services outside the administration of justice. The complainant was assisted to engage with the Health Services Complaints Commissioner.

The VoCC continues to conduct professional education for the ANU Law School by providing a module for the ANU Legal Workshop on the Rights and Responsibilities of

Victims of Crime. The Office has also met with visitors from prosecuting and probation authorities in Japan.

Victims of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme

The operation of the Victims of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme continues to generate a steady number of requests to the Office from victims of crime for assistance. Over the reporting period, the VoCC commenced a referral relationship with the Women's Legal Centre following problems experienced with the private provider of minor legal assistance for victims of crime.

The operation of the scheme does require a different type of approach to legal work than would ordinarily be the case. Individuals often become frustrated with what they perceive to be unhelpful barriers and processes. Changes to some processes following the commencement of new Court Rules combined with changes of approach from the ACT Government Solicitor have combined to noticeably slow the process down. The VoCC has a high degree of concern about the protection of individuals, their interest and their privacy with the extent and type of documentation that is being sought by the ACT Government Solicitor in some circumstances.

PART B AGENCY PERFORMANCE

The pressure of combining statutory and individual advocacy, and the added expectations of managing the VSS is very high.

The extent of policy and law reform, project and research work undertaken by the VoCC Office continues to absorb approximately 50% of time and resources. The number of existing and new clients approaching the Office for assistance or continued assistance in 2006-07 has increased by 24% on the previous year.

Performance of Statutory Functions

Pursuant to section 9 of the *Victims of Crime Act 1994*, the VoCC initiated 79 preliminary investigation enquiries of an agency engaged in the administration of justice over the reporting period. Preliminary enquiries respond to an initial complaint from a victim of crime and seek clarifying and further information from the relevant agency. A preliminary enquiry does not necessarily result in a full investigation and report to the Attorney General as per s9(3) of the Act.

Section 7 of the *Victims of Crime Act 1994* sets out the functions of the VoCC as follows:

7 Functions

The coordinator has the following functions in connection with the administration of justice:

- (a) to promote the governing principles mentioned in section 4;
- (b) to encourage the provision of efficient and effective services for victims;
- (c) to promote reforms to meet the needs of victims;
- (d) to develop educational and other programs to promote awareness of the needs of victims;
- (e) to disseminate information concerning the operation of this Act and the functions of the coordinator;
- (f) to maintain a register of services available to victims;
- (g) to ensure, as far as practicable, that victims receive the information and assistance they need in connection with their involvement in the administration of justice;
- (h) to advise the Minister on matters relating to victims;
- (i) any other function assigned to the coordinator by or under any Territory law.

The general function at s7(a) to promote the Act is conducted as a normal and integral feature of the day to day business of the Office. That is, in both statutory and individual advocacy. The requirement at s7(b) to encourage the provision of efficient and effective services to victims is discharged principally through the VoCC ex-officio role on the Victim Assistance Board and secondarily through bilateral discussions with victim agencies. The VoCC promotes reform to meet the needs of victims of crime through providing

direct advice to the Attorney General and through participation in departmental, whole-of-government and agency-specific reform initiatives. The VoCC provides information concerning the operation of the Act and the functions of the Coordinator in police training, at the ANU Legal Workshop, in conference presentations and at other appropriate fora.

The capacity of the VoCC to further disseminate information in community or professional education (s7(d)) is severely limited. Similarly the VoCC has been unable over the reporting period to meet s7(e) of the Act requiring educational and other programs to promote awareness of the needs of victims. The register of services (s7(f)) available to victims is provided in information booklets that are made available to clients and practitioners alike. In addition, the VoCC Office developed the national victims of crime website to enable easy access from across the country to relevant and appropriate services.

The function required at s7(g) is the most challenging upon the VoCC Office to meet. Victims who make contact are those who are directly assisted as appropriate to receive the information and assistance they need in connection with their involvement in the administration of justice.

The ACT Human Rights Act 2004

The VoCC took steps, over the reporting period, to contribute to building a human rights culture in the ACT. The VoCC attended community for a organised by the Human Rights Office and also participates in the Human Rights Network.

The VoCC has briefed the Human Rights Office on areas of human rights that impact on victims of crime. In addition, the VoCC conducted initial discussions on whether a victim's right to privacy was being breached in a matter where there were significant and lengthy delays at court.

Finally, the Human Rights Office has contributed financially to the second stage of the research project into Indigenous victims of family violence and access to justice and services.

Access to Government Strategy

The VoCC Office is maintained within the Magistrates Court. Clients' access to the Office was significantly disrupted over the reporting period following the hail damage to the roof of the Court. This required the VoCC Office to be relocated to an area of the building that does not provide for public access.

Community Engagement

No specific community consultations were implemented by the VoCC over the reporting period. Over the reporting period, the VoCC has engaged in or initiated stakeholder consultations in relation to the criminal justice response to sexual assault and on Indigenous victims of family violence access to justice and services.

PART C MANAGEMENT OF THE OFFICE

Staffing

The VoCC Office comprises two personnel. One person is appointed by the Attorney General under a disallowable instrument to perform the statutory duties of the Victims of Crime Coordinator and, separately, the statutory duties of the Domestic Violence Project Coordinator. This position is at a SOG B grade. The second officer is appointed as Victim Assistance and Project Officer. This position is at an ASO6 grade.

As reported in previous Annual Reports, training and development opportunities over 2006-2007 were extremely limited until the end of the financial year. At that time each officer was able to participate in courses provided by the Department of Justice & Community Safety. The VoCC is enrolled in a doctoral program at the ANU. Study leave of 5 hours per week has been granted.

Conference attendance over the reporting period included: attendance at the National Judicial College of Australia (NJCA) and ANU College of Law Conference on *Confidence in the Courts*, and the national conference on Indigenous Victims of Crime.

Records Management

Over 2006-2007, action to ensure compliance with the record-keeping requirements of the *Territory Records Act 2002* (the Act) was not advanced due to lack of resources and other more pressing work priorities. Due to the impending integration with the VSS it was decided to delay further work and to prepare for a shared records management approach.

Financial Management

Over 2006-2007, the VoCC was allocated a budget of \$224,000 of which \$198,000 was for employee expenses and \$26,000 for non-employee expenses. The budget is managed as a cost centre within the Magistrates Court. Funds accumulated by the FVIP in the order of \$19,000 are held in trust under the VoCC cost code.

Government contracting

The VoCC managed \$45,000 from the Chief Minister's Department for research and development into Indigenous Victims of Crime. The Australian Institute of Criminology was commissioned to conduct the research component. The AIC was contracted to do the research for the sum of \$35,000.

The VoCC received and managed a grant of \$15,400 from the 2005-06 ACT Women's Grants Program. A survey instrument was field tested by the University of Melbourne and permission was granted to vire an amount allocated for statistical analysis to qualitative interviewing. The interviewing and preliminary thematic analysis was conducted by a consultant for \$5,000. A separate sum of \$5,000 was made payable to the consultant to produce a written report on interviews and findings.

2.

ACT VICTIMS SERVICES SCHEME

The Victims Services Scheme was established in Part 4 of the *Victims of Crime Act 1994* and operates under the *Victims of Crime Regulations 2000*.

The Victims Services Scheme provides assistance to victims of crime, where the crime was committed in the ACT. The services provided promote peoples' recovery from the harm suffered, and seeks to help them to continue to take part in the social, economic and cultural life of the community. The assistance is provided using a multi-disciplinary approach, and aims to be timely, accessible, solution-focused, professional, individualised and appropriate to victims' needs.

"I was a client of the victim services a couple of years ago. I just wanted to express my heart-felt thanks for the assistance that you and your team gave me. You started me on the long journey to recovery, with understanding, gentleness and encouragement. I am so glad that your service exists to help people work things through. Thank you!"

For the first time referral rates fell for the year with 539 new referrals for 2006-07 compared to 688 in the previous year. This drop can be accounted for by:

- i) the introduction of a waiting list to manage the flow of referrals to the VSS due to budgetary constraints;
- ii) the stricter application of eligibility criteria for the acceptance of clients presenting with subsequent episodes of victimisation; and
- iii) the reduction in availability of staff due to unplanned leave, not backfilling recreation and long service leave and an unfilled vacancy.

Reporting Period

Information in this document relates to the 2006-2007 Financial Year. For the period 1 July 2006 to 31 December 2006 ACT Health, Community Health was the responsible service provider for the Victims Services Scheme. From 1 January 2007 the Victims Services Scheme became part of a business unit within the Department of Justice and Community Safety.

Key Achievements 2006-2007

- Review of the Victims Services Scheme finalised
- New initiatives for group programs piloted
- Integration with Office of the Victims of Crime Coordinator commenced

Outlook for 2007-2008

Develop and implement new case intake and improved coordination with Office of the Victims of Crime Coordinator

- Scope new client database
- Implement measures to involve Approved Providers in the service
- Develop and circulate new service information to clients and stakeholders

Overview of the Year

Over 2005-06 a review of the Victims Services Scheme was conducted by the Department of Justice and Community Safety. The overall finding of the review was that clients and providers were overwhelmingly supportive of the therapeutic services of the Victims Services Scheme and valued its work with victims of crime. However the consultations indicated a range of communication, coordination and governance issues that needed addressing.

Consequently, the Review made a number of recommendations in relation to these issues. The recommendations were accepted by the ACT Government. In particular, the Victims Services Scheme became a service entity within the Department of Justice and Community Safety.

The transition from ACT Health to the Department of Justice and Community Safety proceeded smoothly with all staff involved in the consultation. Service delivery remained unchanged in this time with clients and service providers making contact with the Victims Services Scheme in the usual way. A Newsletter was sent to service providers advising of these changes.

A copy of the Review Report may be found at www.jcs.act.gov.au/eLibrary/OtherReports/Victims_Services_Scheme_report.pdf

From 1 July 2007, the Victims of Crime Coordinator assumed primary responsibility for managing the Victims Services Scheme. During the second half of the financial year the staff of the Victims Services Scheme and the Victims of Crime Coordinator have worked towards developing a model of service delivery that is consistent with the recommendations of the review.

Client Service Developments

Staff within the Victims Services Scheme initiated a pilot group program in May 2007. The 'Mindfulness Group' was a short-term (4 sessions) group based on Dialectical Behaviour Therapy and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy principles. Of the 9 response forms received, all participants rated *strongly agree* to the statements (5 pt scale from strongly agree to strongly disagree):

- *I was pleased that I attended today*
- *I would recommend the group to others*
- *I felt listened to and understood by group leaders*
- *I feel that mindfulness practices are useful for me*

Feedback on specific benefits of the group included -

"having the courage to attend and seeing others, I was scared and apprehensive at first and then realised I am not alone"; "understanding what mindfulness means for me and how I can apply it to my life now and a good tool to keep in mind for life",

Overall assessment of the group by clients -

"It is the best thing that has happened to me in a long time"; "great course"; "great to learn that feelings and emotions are expressed in your body and accepting them"; "I told my friend at work about the course and she thinks it would be a useful tool for the workplace as it could help others who are feeling some form of stress"; "great course, I would be interested in other courses, especially on self esteem"; "I would like to be invited back, what can I do to help others?"

Staff are also researching the benefits of exercise on mental health. A pilot program has been developed that proposes to offer group/ individual sessions to clients. The initiative may commence in the 2007-08 reporting period.

Victim Services Review

The Review found that clients, external agencies, and providers expressed strong support for the work of the VSS. Areas in which the Review suggested there could be improvements included follow-up with clients, improved access and publicity, and stronger inter-action with clients around their access to justice.

Overall, the Review recommended a framework for "consistent, coordinated, seamless and personalised service delivery". The Review additionally found that the Scheme could work more with the capacity of a victim's personal networks in building sustainable and restorative support. The Review put forward three options to achieve the preferred outcomes.

Client Survey as part of the Review

The Review of the VSS conducted by the Department of Justice & Community Safety included a survey of recent users of the service. Of 226 questionnaires circulated, 31% were returned. The majority of respondents were female and the majority had been victim of physical or sexual violence committed by a family member, partner or ex-partner. About half of the respondents had experienced a physical injury and the majority were “affected a great deal” by the incident.

Most clients contact the VSS within 1-6 months after the incident and sought help, counselling and information on “how to cope”. Of the range of services offered by VSS, the overwhelming majority reported that the VSS was “helpful or very helpful”. In particular, clients found the case coordination to be “done very well” and access to external providers to be very helpful.

Client Profile 2006-2007

- 4% of clients identify as coming from an indigenous background
- 29% clients are male
- 15% of clients are under 10 years of age
- 15% are aged between 10 and 17
- 15% are in the 18-25 years age group
- 19% of clients have a country of origin other than Australia
- 41% of clients referred themselves, or were referred by a relative
- 54% of clients presented with psychological and emotional injuries
- 9% of clients suffered a sexual offence
- assault related offences remain the most common type of crime at 39%

Client Profile Data

The Victims Services Scheme continues to liaise with a number of community-based agencies in working with victims of crime and their families.

i) How clients found out about the Victims Services Scheme

While a number of clients are counted as self-referrals, a recommendation to contact the Victims Services Scheme may have come from a third party and this information is reported as ‘how the client learnt about the service.’ See Table 1 below for a report on how clients found out about the Victims Services Scheme:

Table 1 - How client found out about Victims Service Scheme

How client found out	%
Child, youth & women's health program	1
Children & Youth Services - Govt	1
Children & Youth Services - Non-Govt	1
Community / Welfare agencies - Govt	2
Community / Welfare agencies - Non-Govt	2
Courts	1
Domestic violence crisis services	2
Hospitals -Public	1
Legal agencies - Govt	1
Legal agencies - Non govt	1
Other/not specified	3
Other Govt Department	1
Police	15
Provider - Approved	10
Refuge	2
Relative / Friend / Neighbour	13
Solicitors	1
Unknown*	38
Victims assistance program - interstate	1
Victims of crime coordinator	2
Vocal-ACT	1

** NB Unknown reflects clients on waiting list at time of each month's report before intake completed – ACTPAS does not provide a 12 month snapshot reporting facility to VSS, just monthly reports, and this information is based on cumulative information*

The diversity of referral sources in addition those listed in the table above includes Aboriginal Services; Disability Program; Doctor; Mental Health Program; Pamphlet / Poster; Residential/Housing Facility.

ii) *Who referred clients*

As the philosophy of the Victims Services Scheme is focussed on client empowerment clients are encouraged to initiate contact with the Victims Services Scheme. Referrals which may have been prompted by a source, but it is the client that makes initial contact, are recorded as self-referrals. This is also the case for children and young people where contact is made on their behalf by a relative. Table 2 provides data on the referral source.

Table 2 - Referral Source

Source	%
Community / Welfare agencies - Govt	1
Community / Welfare agencies - Non-govt	1
Domestic violence crisis services	2
DPP/DPP Witness Assistant	1
Other	1
Police	7
Provider - Approved	4
Refuge	1
Relative / Friend / Neighbour	12
Self	29
Solicitor	1
Unknown*	39

** NB Unknown reflects clients on waiting list at time of each month's report before intake completed – ACTPAS does not provide a 12 month snapshot reporting facility to VSS, just monthly reports, and this information is based on cumulative information*

Referrals came from the following sources but insufficient to register as a percentage - Children & Youth Services - Government; Courts; Doctor; Mental Health Program; Other Govt department; Provider – Private ACT; Provider - Private Interstate; Rape crisis centre; Residential/Housing facility; Social worker – Community; Victims assistance program- Interstate; Victims of Crime Coordinator.

iii) *Age distribution of clients*

Table 3 - Age Group

Age Group	%
< 10	15
10 to 17	15
18 to 25	15
26 to 30	9
31 to 35	13
36 to 40	10
41 to 45	8
46 to 50	9
51 to 55	3
56 to 60	2
60 >	1

iv) *Gender*

71% of Victims Services Scheme clients are female and 29% male

v) *Country of Origin of clients*

Of those who disclosed the information, 19% of clients were born in places other than Australia.

Clients' Experience of Crime

i) *Types of crime as reported by clients:*

The crime listings in Table 4 are based on the description by clients to Victims Services Scheme intake officer/case managers of their perception of the crime. Victims Services Scheme staff are not legally trained nor do they focus in minute detail on defining the crime, rather they work on the impact it has had on an individual or their family/significant others and strategies to help them recover from the event.

Table 4 - Type of Crime

Crime	%
Assault	39
Attempted Murder	1
Demands with threat	3
Endangering Health	1
Murder	1
Property offences	1
Robbery offences	2
Sexual assault	7
Sexual intercourse with a young person	1
Sexual intercourse without consent	1
Stalking	1
Threat to kill	2
Unknown*	38
Unlawfully taking a child	1

** NB Unknown reflects clients on waiting list at time of each month's report before intake completed – ACTPAS does not provide a 12 month snapshot reporting facility to VSS, just monthly reports, and this information is based on cumulative information*

Other crimes identified by clients were - Abduction; Actual Bodily Harm; Any offence under another law; Endangering Life; Incest; Indecency offences; Kidnapping.

ii) *Clients present with a range of injuries:*

The injury distribution noted here is what clients have identified to Victims Services Scheme staff as their chief concerns/issues -

Psychological-Emotional	-54%
Physical	- 3%
Economic	- 8%
Not specified	- 2%
Unknown*	-40%

** NB Unknown reflects clients on waiting list at time of each month's report before intake completed – ACTPAS does not provide 12 month snapshot reporting facility to VSS, just monthly reports, and this information is based on cumulative information*

Services

i) Levels of Service:

Table 5 - Levels of Service status of all active clients

Level	Total
Exceptional circumstances	77
Level 1 Continued	1122
Level 1 New	241
Level 2 Continued	2450
Level 2 New	205
Level 3 Continued	2143
Level 3 New	102
Unknown	265
Total	6605

Please note that this data is a 'snapshot' of services/clients identified at each level as at 30/06/07 – the low number of new Level 1 reflects the former practice of entering all clients eligible for Level 2 service on the database prior to their actually commencing Level 2 service. Unknown reflects those clients on the waiting list

The Victims Services Scheme provides service at various levels to meet victim's differing needs: -

LEVEL 1 – all eligible victims⁷ are entitled to receive up to 2 contact hours of service

LEVEL 2 – an eligible victim can receive up to 6 contact hours, in addition to Level 1, where the victim is a primary victim,⁸ a related victim,⁹ or a witness to a violent crime where they are likely to have suffered harm.

LEVEL 3 – an eligible victim, who has completed Level 2 service, who would gain therapeutic benefit from receiving further service, is entitled to not more than 12 contact hours, in addition to the Level 1 and Level 2 service.

⁷ Eligible Victim – a victim of crime, other than one who suffers harm caused by, or arising out of the use of, a motor vehicle; or one who suffers harm (directly or indirectly) as a result of committing an offence. The crime must have been committed in ACT. The determination of eligibility is a function of the Victims Services Scheme. Victims of crime who have been injured in other states and territories are referred to their local assistance schemes.

⁸ Primary Victim – a person who is injured as a direct result of a violent crime committed against him or her; or assisting a police officer in the course of their duty.

⁹ Related Victim - in relation to a deceased primary victim is a person who, at the time of the primary victim's death was a close family member, dependant of the primary victim, or had an intimate personal relationship with the primary victim.

EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES – if the case coordinator for an eligible victim makes a written recommendation to the manager of the responsible service agency that—

- (a) on information available to the case coordinator, further contact hours in addition to level 3 service contact hours would give substantial therapeutic benefit to the victim; and
- (b) the further contact hours cannot be provided under a scheme or program other than the victims services scheme.

ii) Total Number of Clients:

In the reporting period, the total number of new eligible victims who registered with the Victims Services Scheme was 539. During 2006-07 Victims Services Scheme had contact with 1320 registered clients.

As at 30/6/07, the

Total number of active clients ¹⁰ was	539
Total number of inactive clients ¹¹ was	2972
Total number of clients discharged ¹² was	781

iii) Hours of service provided, numbers of approved service providers:

Clients using the Victims Services Scheme, in consultation with the intake officer/case managers, choose the type of services they require based on individual needs. Services may be provided either by in-house staff or from Approved Service Providers. The Victims Assistance Board is responsible for the approval of external service providers. However since the Review, the Victims Services Scheme Manager is responsible for coordinating and processing applications for approval as a provider. There are currently 57 approved service providers covering a variety of disciplines and locations throughout Canberra.

Victims Services Scheme clients completed 2619 contact hours with external providers, with 2533 actual contacts/visits.

The Service's clients consulted 91 external providers – this includes 'authorised exception' providers interstate. Interstate providers are required to submit evidence of qualifications, indemnity insurance cover and to undergo a police check before clients are referred.

¹⁰ Active Client – a client who has received a service from the Victims Services Scheme during the specified time period.

¹¹ Inactive Client – refers to all clients who have registered with the Victims Services Scheme, but have not necessarily received a service during the specified time period. These clients may have received their service hours, or have chosen not to continue receiving services.

¹² Discharged from Victims Services Scheme during the reporting period – the victim has reached the goals specified in the care plan following provision of service, or has chosen to discontinue service at this time. A client who was discharged before this would be classified as an inactive client.

Volunteer Services

The Victims of Crime Assistance League (VOCAL) ACT Inc, through a Service Level Agreement between ACT Health and VOCAL, provided the volunteer component of the Victims Services Scheme until 31 December 2006. From 1 January 2007 funding to VOCAL is managed by the Department of Justice and Community Safety; a new contract between the Department and VOCAL is being negotiated.

Under the Agreement, funding was provided for VOCAL to recruit, train, supervise and implement and evaluate volunteer services provided as part of the Victims Services Scheme for eligible victims whose crime occurred in the ACT, separate from VOCAL's other services provided to victims of crime who are residents of the ACT and region whose crime occurred outside the ACT.

Services provided by VOCAL for the volunteer component of Victims Services Scheme included:

- Court support
- emotional support
- practical assistance
- on-going services to victims
- advocacy
- outreach/home visiting

Evaluation

The most significant evaluation of the Victims Services Scheme in the reporting period has been the review undertaken by the Department of Justice and Community Safety of services for victims of crime covering both the Victims Services Scheme and the Financial Assistance Scheme and the recommendations arising from the review. As stated earlier in this report, the review found that clients and providers were overwhelmingly supportive of the therapeutic services of the Victims Services Scheme and valued its work with victims of crime. The integration of the Service with the Office of the Victims of Crime Coordinator will address the communication, coordination and governance issues identified.

A staff member commenced research for her Master of Psychology thesis focussing on the role of therapist and client attachment styles on alliance and outcomes of therapy. Clients are invited to participate and two sets of questionnaires are distributed for completion once therapy has started and 6 months later. Some VSS counsellors and external providers have been asked to participate.

At case closure clients are asked to comment on services received – the following are a sample of comments on the Feedback forms – *“the assumption that I was a victim of domestic violence took me by surprise, apart from that the service was terrific”; “I would*

just like to say thank you for all that you provided for me. The number of hours offered were appreciated which allowed me to work through this deeply entrenched problem that I had. I feel I can now set that problem aside as I have a strategy in place”; “I felt the whole process was excellent. The initial consultation and assessment was supportive and timely and the counsellor who worked with me was excellent”; “Provide more time and support to traumatised victims of crime”; “Allow additional time for those needing”; “I wish I’d known about VSS sooner and not 3 years after my initial difficulties. I think this would have saved me a lot of medical bills and lost work hours. Having the service free to all comers was tremendous relief, I didn’t have to prove I was poor when I was already traumatised. VSS has put me back on track when I thought I never would be”; “Thank you very much for the support of this program. I have had great support from VSS and also refer my clients to this program when appropriate. I hope you continue to provide such great service to the community as long as it is needed”; “I will now continue to work with the psychologist privately. The cost will be assisted by the new Medicare rebate – when my doctor gets the relevant forms! Thank you for your help. I have valued it greatly”; “I feel cared for and this is a change from 20 years ago when no help was there. So I am very grateful so much has changed over the years for the better”; “Present services are only a band-aid effect.”

Staffing

Staffing current at 30/06/2007 was 6.2FTE comprising one manager with 50% clinical load, 4 full-time intake officer/case managers, 1 part-time intake officer/case manager and 1 casual administrative officer. The intake officer/case managers all have tertiary health professional qualifications in counselling, psychology or social work and undertake direct clinical work with some Victims Services Scheme clients in addition to case management duties. There has been some movement of staff during the year and vacancies have been filled by temporary staff until permanent recruitment action is completed in July.

Training Attended by Staff

One member of staff resumed Masters of Psychology studies at the Charles Sturt University in Bathurst and was awarded an Allied Health Postgraduate Scholarship through ACT Health to assist with her studies in 2007. This scholarship was honoured despite the subsequent move of the Victims Services Scheme from ACT Health to the Department of Justice and Community Safety. The worker has commenced a neuropsychological practical placement for three months at the Aged Care and Rehabilitation Service which entails a reduction in hours at the Victims Services Scheme through a combination of study, recreation and flex leave.

Mandatory skills training for staff of the service has included Child Protection Training Level 3 and 2 day workshop on ‘Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)’. While with ACT Health all staff undertook Performance Management training. Other organisational

level training attended were sessions on budget management, management essentials, risk assessment and freedom of information.

Other training attended during the year that built upon staff clinical skills included - Mental Health Issues and Behaviours of Young People 'at Risk'; Interpersonal Trauma, Suicidality and Cultural Diversity; 5 day Attachment Theory and Clinical Practice Series run by the NSW Institute of Psychiatry; Bereavement: Exploring Cultural and Personal Responses; Understanding Self Harming Behaviours; 2 day training course on 'Acceptance and Commitment Therapy'; Transforming Shame and Self-Loathing'; Dealing with Resistance in Therapy'; 4 day training course in Cognitive Behaviour Therapy;;2 day introductory workshop on 'Hakomi Experiential Psychotherapy'; and a half day course on 'Telephone counselling and communicating with people in crisis'; a course designed for non-clinical staff. In addition a staff member attended the ACT Health Allied Health Symposium 'Looking to the Future Through Early Intervention' – hosted by Community Health and Aged Care and Rehabilitation Service, ½ day held at the AIS on 26 October 2006

3.

VICTIMS OF CRIME

(FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1983)

Introduction

Section 71 of the *Victims of Crime (Financial Assistance) Act 1983* ("the Act") requires this report to include the following:

- The number of applications made during the financial year;
- Particulars of awards of financial assistance made in respect of those applications;
- Brief descriptions of the facts and circumstances of each award made during the financial year; and
- Any other particulars relating to the operation of the Act considered appropriate.

Explanation as to the operation of the Act for the financial year 2006 – 2007

Establishment of the Scheme

The scheme was established by the Act, which commenced on 24 December 1999. The Act vests jurisdiction in the ACT Magistrates Court for all matters commenced after that date. Prior to this Act, the ACT Supreme Court and the ACT Magistrates Court exercised jurisdiction of criminal injury matters under the *Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 1983* ("CIC Act"). There are a number of applications currently unfinalised under the CIC Act in both Courts. In the reporting year, three of those applications were finalised via the making of awards, (see table 2).

Eligibility for Financial Assistance

The persons entitled to seek an award of financial assistance under the Act are described in sections 9, 10, 16, and 21:

- Primary Victim – a person who is injured as a direct result of a violent crime committed against him or her, or incurs injuries while assisting a police officer attempting to prevent a crime, arrest a criminal or aid or rescue another victim (section 9 of the Act);
- Responsible person – a person who is responsible for the maintenance of a primary victim (subsection 10(3) of the Act);
- Related victim – a 'close family member' or a dependant of, or a person with an intimate personal relationship with a deceased primary victim (section 16 of the Act);
- Eligible property owners – a person whose property is damaged while assisting a police officer attempting to prevent a crime, arrest a criminal or aid or rescue another victim (section 21 of the Act).

The applicant seeking financial assistance will only be eligible for that assistance if the crime is a 'violent crime' (as defined in section 3 of the Act).

Determination of Applications

A person seeking to apply for financial assistance for a criminal injury must lodge an application with the Registrar of the ACT Magistrates Court. The application must be filed with the Court within a period of 12 months of the relevant injury or property damage being sustained (subsection 27(2) of the Act). This period may be extended if the Court considers it just to do so (subsection 27(3) of the Act).

An application for financial assistance must be in writing, in accordance with the form in the schedule to the Act. The application must be supported by a statutory declaration (subsection 27(1)(a) of the Act); relevant medical reports (paragraph 27(1)(b)(i) of the Act); statements made to police officers (paragraph 27(1)(b)(ii) of the Act); any document/s showing receipt of compensation under any other law for the relevant injury or property damage and any other relevant document/s (subsection 27(1)(b)(iv) of the Act).

If special assistance is applied for by the primary victim for an extremely serious injury, then a brief statement of any assistance obtained from the Victims Services Scheme, certified as accurate by the person in charge of the responsible service agency prescribed by regulation under the *Victims of Crime Act 1994* should be provided or, if the victim is physically incapable of benefiting from the scheme, a statement explaining why the victim is so incapable, should be provided (subsection 27(1)(b)(v) of the Act).

Within 14 days after an application is received by the Registrar of the Court, the Court is required to forward a copy of the application, statutory declaration and each accompanying document to the Government Solicitor (paragraph 27(4)(a) of the Act). When an application is ready to proceed the Registrar shall by notice in writing, to the applicant and the Government Solicitor, fix a date, time and place for the determination of the application (subsection 27(4)(b) of the Act).

The procedure for the determination of applications requires that each matter be listed before a Deputy Registrar for a conference prior to a hearing. The purpose of the conference is to assess whether the matter is ready to proceed to determination.

The Government Solicitor plays an active role in consultation with the applicant (and his/her legal representative when they have retained a solicitor) at the conference and/or prior to the date fixed for the hearing of the application. In effect, this process has allowed for the limiting of the disputed issues of the application, and a greater flow of information between the applicant and the Government Solicitor. Most applications are resolved by the Territory providing an assessment to the applicant and the Court making an award in accordance with an agreement reached between the parties.

The Court may make an interim award of financial assistance pending the making of a final award to the applicant where it is satisfied that an award should be made to an applicant, and it does not have sufficient information before it to determine the final amount of financial assistance to be awarded (section 43 of the Act). Of the 106 awards made in the reporting year, 28 were interim awards.

An award of financial assistance may be made subject to certain conditions as the Court determines (subsection 44(1) of the Act). Awards made in favour of infant applicants are ordinarily paid to the Public Trustee and dealt with in accordance with the *Public Trustee Act 1925*.

Basis of Financial Assistance

The maximum amount of financial assistance that may be awarded in respect of an injury sustained by a primary victim, related victim, responsible person or eligible property owner is an amount that in the aggregate does not exceed \$50,000.00 (sections 14, 19 and 23 of the Act).

Applicants may be entitled to special assistance if he/she is a primary victim who has sustained a criminal injury that is extremely serious and he/she has obtained assistance from the Victims Services Scheme (subsection 10(2) of the Act) in an amount of \$30,000.00 (paragraph 10(1)(d) of the Act). For related victims an amount of special assistance can be awarded of \$30,000.00 (subsection 19(2) of the Act).

A primary victim is defined as a person who is injured as a direct result of a violent crime committed against him or her, or if they have been assisting a police officer in the course of certain action by a police officer (section 9 of the Act). A primary victim (which includes responsible persons) may be awarded financial assistance for reasonable expenses (including the costs, other than legal costs, of making an application) incurred as a result of the injury, and any pecuniary loss suffered as a result of total or partial incapacity for work because of the injury sustained (section 10 of the Act).

A primary victim of a sexual assault (consisting of offences against sections 51 to 62 of the *Crimes Act 1900*), or an applicant who is a police officer, ambulance officer, or fire-fighter injured in the course of their employment, is entitled to special assistance for pain and suffering of no more than \$50,000.00 (paragraphs 10(1)(e) and (f) of the Act).

A related victim, who is defined as a close family member, a dependant or a person with an intimate personal relationship with a deceased primary victim (section 16 of the Act), can be awarded financial assistance for reasonable expenses (including the costs, other than legal, of making the application) incurred as a result of the injury and death, and the pecuniary loss suffered as a consequence of total or partial incapacity for work as a consequence of the injury and death (sections 17 and 19 of the Act). Special assistance in the amount of \$30,000.00 may also be awarded by the Court (section 19(2)(a) and (b) of the Act). An eligible property owner is defined as a person whose property is damaged while the person is assisting a police officer in the course of certain action by the police officer (section 21 of the Act). An eligible property owner may be awarded financial assistance for reasonable costs incurred as a result of damage to property up to a maximum of \$50,000.00 (section 23 of the Act).

What constitutes “an expense reasonably incurred” (section 10(1)(a) of the Act) is of interest to victim support providers and to the profession. Apart from the usual expenses such as medical and dental costs, some further examples include:

- Costs associated with house sale, relocation and purchase of new home, e.g. commission, solicitor’s fees on conveyancing, and removalist’s fees.
- Security and other home alarm systems.
- Remedial massage, hydrotherapy and counselling.

Limits of Financial Assistance

The Court shall not award financial assistance to a primary victim or a person responsible for the maintenance of a primary victim where the criminal injury arose out of the use of a motor vehicle; or where the amount of assistance that would be awarded is less than \$100.00; or if the crime is not reported to a police officer; or if the primary victim was engaged in the commission of a serious crime at the time (section 12 of the Act).

If a criminal injury arises out of the primary victim’s employment, the victim may not apply for financial assistance until an application for worker’s compensation has been made; and either worker’s compensation has been awarded or refused (section 13 of the Act).

The Court shall not award financial assistance to any related victim where the criminal injury arose out of the use of a motor vehicle; or where the amount awarded would be less than \$100.00; or where the crime is not reported to a police officer; or if the primary victim was engaged in the commission of a serious crime at the time; or where the related victim contributed substantially to the criminal injury (section 18 of the Act).

Finally, the Court shall not award financial assistance for eligible property owners if at the time the eligible property damage occurred, the eligible property owner was in the commission of a serious crime (section 24 of the Act).

Recovery of Financial Assistance

Part 4 of the Act provides for the recovery of financial assistance from defendants who have been convicted of offences where the victim has received a final award of financial assistance. The Registrar may make a provisional order for the restitution of the amount of the award to the Territory by the person who is convicted (section 54 of the Act). Once served with the provisional order, the offender has a right to lodge an objection to the confirmation of the order. If such an objection is raised, the Court will decide whether the provisional order is confirmed in its entirety, reduced or discharged. If no objection is raised, the Court can confirm the order in the full amount.

Provisional orders for restitution can only be made by the Court upon application by the Territory. The Registrar received only 7 such applications in the reporting year all resulting in provisional orders being made. No applications were received after 31 October 2006.

Compensation Levy under the Act

A person who is convicted of a certain offence is liable to pay to the Territory a levy of \$50.00 (section 68 of the Act). The levy is in addition to, and does not form part of, any pecuniary penalty imposed in respect of the offence (subsection 68(1) and (2) of the Act). Any money that is paid to the Territory in respect of an offence, under this Act, is to be applied towards the discharge of liability for the levy before it is applied towards the discharge of liability for any pecuniary penalty imposed in relation to the offence (subsection 68(3) of the Act).

For the reporting year there were 1,939 compensation levies imposed by the ACT Magistrates Court.

The total amount for compensation levies imposed in the reporting year was \$96,950.00. An amount of \$94,193.57 was paid for compensation levies in the reporting year.

Tables

Table 1 - Total number of applications lodged

Reporting Year	Total number of applications lodged
2002 – 2003	129
2003 – 2004	115
2004 – 2005	105
2005 – 2006	111
2006 – 2007	84

Table 2 – Awards made, tabulated by application date 1 July 2006 – 30 June 2007

Period in which application lodged	Total amount awarded	Number of awards
Before 24 June 1998	\$2,554.00	1
Between 24 June 1998 and 23 December 1999	\$5,696.25	2
From 24 December 1999	\$1,405,585.27	103
Total	\$1,413,835.52	106

Table 3 – Awards by type of crime

Crime	No. of awards 2006- 2007	Pain and suffering	Total award	Pain and suffering as a % of the whole	Average award
Armed Robbery	1	0	\$1,603.70	0	\$1,603
Assault	40	0	\$431,419.15	0	\$10,785
Attempting to effect an arrest	17	\$105,500.00	\$108,881.68	97	\$6,404
Attempting to restrain	2	\$4,000.00	\$36,620.30	11	\$18,310
Death of a Related Victim	2	0	\$30,000	0	\$15,000
Domestic Violence	4	0	\$16,668.13	0	\$4,167
Home Invasion	3	0	\$30,696.25	0	\$10,232
Nightclub/ Pub/ Tavern etc Assault	1	\$12,000.00	\$12,468.00	96	12,468
Other	1	0	\$848.59	0	\$848
Sexual Assault	32	\$592,783.10	\$768,454.64	80	23,076
Stalking	1	0	\$1,454.48	0	\$1,454
Street Assault	1	0	\$2,554.00	0	\$2,554
Threaten to cause injury	1	0	\$2,166.60	0	\$2,166
Total	106	\$714,283.10	\$1,413,835.52	50	\$13,465

Table 4 – Pain and Suffering

Victim type	Number of Awards
Police Officers	19
Sexual Assaults	18
Special Assistance	9
Old pain and suffering	1
Total	47

SUMMARY OF CIRCUMSTANCES OF EACH INDIVIDUAL AWARD MADE DURING 2006-2007

98/158 A female (child) victim witnessed her father being physically assaulted by an unknown male who hit the victims father over the head with a metal bar. The victim subsequently suffered distress, nightmares, and sleep disturbance.

Interim award \$2554,00

Awarded on 20/2/07

Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)

99/455 A female victim was physically assaulted by a known female who punched the victim in the mouth and cheek. forcing her to fall to the ground. The victim subsequently suffered loss of a front tooth, bruising, stress and anxiety. The female was charged with the assault.

Interim award \$346.25

Awarded on 19/4/07

Pursuant to section 5(4) of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 1983

00/107 A female victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male who struck her with his elbow as a result of a fight that occurred next to the victim. The victim subsequently suffered dislocation of the jaw, severe headaches, dysfunction of the mouth, difficulty eating, difficulty speaking, ear pain, permanent facial disfigurement, depression, suicidal thoughts and an inability to undertake employment.

Total award \$51,615.00

Awarded on 27/2/07

Pursuant to section 6(1)(a), (b),(c) and section 5(4) of the CIC ACT 1983

00/37 A female victim was physically assaulted by a known male who struck her in the head and face with his fist, forcing her to fall to the ground onto her knee. The victim sustained cuts to her head and face, headaches, blurred vision, and a sore knee.

Total award \$12,219.80

Awarded on 15/9/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a), (b), (c)

01/34	<p>A female was victim threatened, kicked in the legs, burnt with cigarette and punched in the head by known male. The victim suffered lacerations to the forehead, bruising, pain, post traumatic stress and emotional shock.</p> <p>Total award \$2,846.15 Awarded on 20/7/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (c)</p>
02/122	<p>A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted by a known male over a period of time. The victim subsequently suffered depression, anxiety, and became self harming. The male was convicted and sentenced to four and half years imprisonment.</p> <p>Total award \$36,361.00 Awarded on 13/9/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a), (c) and (f)</p>
02/100	<p>A female victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male who pushed past the victim, causing her to fall heavily to the ground. The victim subsequently suffered a shattered femur requiring medical intervention which was unsuccessful. The victim further suffered deterioration in her knee, pain, swelling, limitation in movement, an inability to sleep and a left leg 2.5cm longer than it was previously.</p> <p>Interim award of \$2,626.00 Awarded on 5/3/07 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
02/103	<p>A male (child) victim was physically assaulted by being punched and kicked by another male at a party. The victim suffered a fracture to the skull, epilepsy, depression and memory loss.</p> <p>Total award \$32,418.30 Awarded on 31/5/07 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a),(c) and (d)</p>
02/104	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by being punched and kicked by another male at a party. The victim suffered a fracture to the skull, scarring to the head, headaches, depression and memory loss.</p> <p>Total award \$32,503.35 Awarded on 31/5/07 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a),(c) and (d)</p>

02/107	<p>A male (child) victim was physically assaulted and subsequently stabbed by another male at home. The victim suffered injury to neck, arm and hand.</p> <p>Interim award \$1,392.00 Awarded on 9/1/07 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
03/15	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male. The victim was struck in the head and face and subsequently suffered contusion to the left temporal lobe, a moderate oedema of both frontal lobes, depression, anxiety, headaches, lost sense of smell and taste.</p> <p>Total award \$32,985.60 Awarded on 2/2/07 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a), (b),(c) and (d)</p>
03/66	<p>A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted by a known male. The victim subsequently suffered post traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, intrusive thoughts, difficulty sleeping and nightmares.</p> <p>Total award \$30,000.00 Awarded on 29/1/07 Pursuant to section 10(1)(f)</p>
03/45	<p>A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted by a known male. The victim subsequently suffered depression, substance dependence and chronic post traumatic stress disorder.</p> <p>Total award \$5,430.00 Awarded on 8/9/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (f)</p>
03/47	<p>A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted by a known male over a period of time. The victim subsequently suffered depression, panic attacks, an eating disorder, suicidal behaviour, sleep disturbances and inability to successfully complete her studies.</p> <p>Total award \$31,334.25 Awarded on 8/11/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a), (c) and (f)</p>
03/52	<p>A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted by a known male over a period of time. The victim suffered post traumatic stress disorder.</p> <p>Total award \$23,423.00 Awarded on 12/12/06 Pursuant to 10(1)(a), (c) and (f)</p>

03/56 A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted by a known male. The victim subsequently suffered post traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts, difficulty concentrating, and cognitive distortions. The male was charged and found guilty of sexual assault.

Total award \$50,000.00

Awarded on 28/8/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (f)

03/64 A male victim was physically assaulted by a known male who struck him across the face, punched him in the right side of the head, forehead and mouth. The victim subsequently had his first three teeth knocked out and suffered serious dental trauma.

Interim award \$28,670.00

Awarded on 18/12/06

Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)

03/113 A female victim was physically assaulted and threatened by a known male who punched her in the face. The victim subsequently suffered severe bruising, swelling to her left eye, left side of head, face, jaw and chin, chronic post traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and an inability to maintain employment consequently moving interstate.

Total award \$39,607.90

Awarded on 19/1/07

Pursuant to section 10(1)(a),(b),(c) and (d)

04/13 A male victim was robbed at his workplace by two unknown males and subsequently suffered from depression, anxiety and memory problems. As a consequence the victim was unable to complete his studies and was only able to work reduced hours during the day eventually resigning from his position.

Total award \$1603.70

Awarded on 7/8/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (b)

04/14 A male victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male who pushed the victim resulting in the victim falling onto the ground. The victim subsequently suffered a fracture of the right elbow, radial head, dislocation of elbow, disruption of ligament structures, swelling, bruising, anxiety, depression, and avoidant behaviour.

Interim award of \$14,761.30

Awarded on 28/7/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (c)

04/36	<p>A female victim was sexually assaulted by a known male. The victim suffered depression and stress.</p> <p>Interim award of \$400.00 Awarded on 29/1/07 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
04/52	<p>A female victim was physically assaulted and struck with a fire poker over the head and face by an unknown female. The victim subsequently suffered concussion, lacerations to the head and face, a nose fracture, scratches, shock, post traumatic stress disorder, a panic disorder and major depression.</p> <p>Total award \$50,000.00 Awarded on 24/11/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a),(b), (c) and (d)</p>
04/78	<p>A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted by a known male over a period of time. The victim subsequently suffered depression, anxiety, difficulty concentrating, sleep disturbances, memory problems, avoidance behaviours, and loss of interest in activities.</p> <p>Total award \$50,000.00 Awarded on 7/6/07 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (f)</p>
04/94	<p>A female victim was granted a Protection Order which the respondent breached on many occasions. The victim suffered fear, anxiety, sleeplessness, sores exacerbated by stress, nervousness, hyper-vigilance, shock, lack of trust and stress from the impact on daughters' schooling and family relationships.</p> <p>Total award \$4,418.00 Awarded on 18/5/07 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
05/5	<p>A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment whilst arresting another male for burglary. The victim subsequently sustained a broken finger, depression, anxiety and inability to sleep.</p> <p>Total award \$3,966.00 Awarded on 17/4/07 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (e)</p>

05/06	<p>A female victim was sexually assaulted by a male intruder. The victim subsequently suffered severe depression, anxiety and trauma.</p> <p>Total award \$20,537.00 Awarded on 10/8/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (f)</p>
05/12	<p>A female victim was sexually assaulted by a known male. The victim subsequently suffered a major depressive disorder, post traumatic stress disorder, a panic disorder, an eating disorder and thoughts of self harm.</p> <p>Total award \$40,632.58 Awarded on 29/1/07 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a),(c) and (f)</p>
05/18	<p>A female victim was sexually assaulted and threatened by a known male. The victim subsequently suffered post traumatic stress disorder, a depressive disorder, stress, shock, anxiety and a nervous reaction, sleep disturbance, and emotional instability.</p> <p>Total award \$20,603.50 Awarded on 4/10/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (f)</p>
05/19	<p>A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment. The victim was attempting to run after a male who was alleged to have been intoxicated and disorderly. During the chase the victim slipped and fell on his left side. The victim subsequently suffered pain and discomfort in his left knee, pain and discomfort in his left hip, swelling to his left knee, difficulty walking, increased pain when kneeling and difficulty sleeping.</p> <p>Total award \$5,402.00 Awarded on 25/9/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)</p>
05/20	<p>A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted by a known male. The victim subsequently suffered significant depression, post traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, phobias, nightmares, difficulty sleeping and difficulty engaging and relating to others. Charges were laid against the male offender.</p> <p>Total award \$37,967.30 Awarded on 21/11/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a),(c) and (f)</p>

05/21	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by another male at a hotel. The victim suffered an injury to his face and arm.</p> <p>Interim award of \$6162.70 Awarded on 8/12/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (b)</p>
05/44	<p>A female victim was physically assaulted by a known male who threw her to the ground. The victim subsequently suffered post traumatic stress disorder, depression, dislocation of her right ankle and was absent from work as a result.</p> <p>Interim award of \$2,458.47 Awarded on 5/6/07 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
05/45	<p>A female victim was physically assaulted by a known male who struck her and used a knife in the assault. The victim suffered bruising to her face, upper and lower body parts, deep lacerations to both arms inflicted by the knife, facial cuts, scarring, headaches, blurred vision, nerve damage to her facial area, fear and paranoia, anxiety, depression and sleep disturbances.</p> <p>Interim award \$2,157.59 Awarded on 6/10/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
05/47	<p>A female victim was threatened with rape and assault by two unknown males who subsequently followed her to her residence on a number of occasions. The victim consequently resigned from her position and moved interstate.</p> <p>Total award \$2166.60 Awarded on 3/7/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (b)</p>
05/53	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by two unknown males who kicked and punched the victim in the head. The victim subsequently suffered serious head injuries requiring plastic surgery, headaches, neck pain, loss of feeling in his chin, anxiety, panic attacks and absenteeism from work.</p> <p>Total award \$4,751.20 Awarded on 3/7/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a) and (b)</p>

05/54 A female victim suffered an injury during the course of her employment, whilst attempting to disarm a male holding a knife who was threatening to stab and kill her. The male was charged with assault. The victim subsequently suffered anxiety, flashbacks and post traumatic stress.

Total award \$4,182.00

Awarded on 5/9/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)

05/60 A male victim was sexually assaulted whilst unconscious by a known male. The victim subsequently suffered from suicidal tendencies, drug and alcohol abuse, and anxiety attacks.

Total award \$10,200.00

Awarded on 25/8/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (f)

05/62 A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment whilst arresting another male who had been taken into custody for intoxication and disorderly conduct. The victim was punched in the right side of the jaw by the other male and subsequently sustained swelling, discomfort, cuts on the side of his jaw and a chipped tooth.

Total award \$7,204.00

Awarded on 25/7/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)

05/63 A female victim had her mobile phone and car keys stolen by a known male. The victim subsequently suffered chronic depression, and anxiety.

Total award \$848.59

Awarded on 22/12/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (c)

05/84 A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted by a known male. The victim subsequently suffered post traumatic stress disorder, depression and social avoidance.

Total award \$25,000.00

Awarded on 24/8/06

Pursuant to section 10(1)(f)

05/86 A female applicant's daughter was sexually assaulted by a known male and subsequently suffered fear and anxiety. The applicant sought assistance as a 'responsible person'.

Total award \$2,065.03

Awarded on 24/8/06

Pursuant to sections 10(3)(a) and (b)

05/88 A male victim was physically assaulted by a known male. The victim was struck in the head, limbs and trunk with a baseball bat and subsequently suffered serious a head injury, depression, vomiting, bruising, swelling, lacerations, and cuts to his face and head.

Interim award \$17,592.60

Awarded on 22/8/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a),(b) and (c)

05/92 A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted by a known male. The victim subsequently suffered post traumatic stress disorder, suicidal behaviour, depression, anxiety, self-harming behaviour, sleep disturbances, and nightmares.

Total award \$35,850.00

Awarded on 8/11/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (f)

05/93 A female victim was sexually assaulted by a known male over a period of time. The victim subsequently suffered post traumatic stress disorder, a personality disorder, self-mutilation, suicidal behaviour, panic attacks, obtrusive thoughts, nightmares, flashbacks, difficulty concentrating and substance abuse.

Total award \$50,000.00

Awarded on 15/1/07

Pursuant to section 10(1)(f)

05/95 A female victim was sexually assaulted by a known male. The victim subsequently suffered from anxiety, sleep disturbances, nightmares and emotional instability.

Total interim award \$484.03

Awarded on 21/9/06

Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)

05/99	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male by being punched in the face. The victim subsequently sustained a broken jaw, swelling, bruising, weight loss and had difficulty communicating. As a consequence the victim was unable to fulfil his duties in the course of his employment.</p> <p>Total award \$2,854.70 Awarded on 27/11/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a),(b) and (c)</p>
05/100	<p>A male victim suffered an injury during his course of employment. The victim was attempting to run after another male who had punched a third person. During the pursuit the victim fell over. He subsequently suffered damage to his right shoulder, hip and forearm, as well as anxiety and distress.</p> <p>Total award \$10,512.00 Awarded on 13/9/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)</p>
05/101.	<p>A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment whilst pursuing a male he was attempting to arrest. The victim had fallen during the pursuit and subsequently suffered ligament damage to his right knee requiring reconstructive surgery.</p> <p>Total award \$25,000.00 Awarded on 13/11/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(e)</p>
05/103	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by a known male, who struck the victim in the head, face and leg with a metal pole. The victim subsequently suffered a fractured nose, damage to the back of his head, poor vision and headaches.</p> <p>Total award \$5,272.66 Awarded on 22/12/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
05/104	<p>A male (child) victim was physically assaulted by a known male who punched the victim in the face. The victim subsequently sustained bruising and swelling to the right side of his face.</p> <p>Total award \$2,185.00 Awarded on 21/8/06 Pursuant to section 10(3)(a)</p>

05/105	<p>A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment, whilst assisting with an altercation. The victim was struck in the face by a male and subsequently suffered a fracture to his right eye socket, lacerations, a broken tooth, injury to his tongue, headaches, and anxiety.</p> <p>Total award \$12,468.00 Awarded on 13/6/07 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)</p>
06/02	<p>A female victim was physically and sexually assaulted by a known male. The victim subsequently sustained bruising, swelling, post traumatic stress disorder, and a major depressive disorder.</p> <p>Interim award \$1,860.00 Awarded on 20/2/07 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
06/09	<p>A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment, whilst taking a female into custody for intoxication and disorderly behaviour. The victim was spat on by the female and subsequently suffered anxiety and distress associated with the need to undergo testing for infectious disease.</p> <p>Total award \$3,211.70 Awarded on 25/7/07 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)</p>
06/10	<p>A female related victim's daughter was physically assaulted by a known male and subsequently died from her injuries. The male was charged with murder.</p> <p>Total award \$15,000.00 Awarded on 12/2/07 Pursuant to section 17</p>
06/13	<p>A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment as a result of a female slamming a window shut that the victim was holding open. The victim subsequently suffered cuts to his arms.</p> <p>Total award \$2,702.00 Awarded on 6/7/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)</p>

06/15 A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment whilst another male was being taken into custody for intoxication and being disorderly. The victim was spat on by the other male and consequently fell. The victim subsequently suffered bruising and abrasions, anxiety and distress associated with the need to undergo testing for infectious disease.

Total award \$2,072.00

Awarded on 5/9/06

Pursuants to section 10(1)(c) and (e)

06/16 A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment whilst running after a male offender who fled during an attempted arrest. The victim fell in his pursuit of the male and subsequently suffered a fractured left wrist, abrasions to his right knee and left elbow and psychological damage.

Total award \$13,392.98

Awarded on 13/3/07

Pursuant to section 10(1)(c) and (e)

06/20 A male victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male who punched the applicant in the face subsequently breaking two of the victim's teeth.

Total award \$768.85

Awarded on 23/1/07

Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)

06/22 A male victim was physically assaulted in his home by an unknown intruder with an iron bar during a burglary. The victim subsequently suffered several fractures in both arms, most fingers and lacerations to his scalp and ear, requiring surgery (which was only partially successful).

Total award \$25,000.00

Awarded on 31/10/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a)

06/23 A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment. The victim assisted an injured male with first aid and as a result was exposed to that persons blood and later discovered that the injured person was suffering a blood disorder. As a result the victim suffered stress and anxiety related to the need to undergo testing for infectious disease.

Total award \$4,202.00

Awarded on 23/8/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)

06/24	<p>A female victim suffered an injury during the course of her employment. The victim was spat on by another female whilst handcuffing the other female for alleged theft. The victim suffered anxiety and distress and the need to undergo testing for infectious diseases.</p> <p>Total award \$2,072.00 Awarded on 25/9/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)</p>
06/29	<p>A female victim suffered an injury during the course of her employment whilst attempting to disarm a male holding a knife who was threatening to kill and stab her. The male was charged with assault. The victim subsequently suffered muscular and ligamentous strain of the right shoulder and an anxiety disorder.</p> <p>Total award \$9,000.00 Awarded on 12/10/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(e)</p>
06/30	<p>A female victim was physically assaulted by three unknown females who kicked the victim in the head. The victim subsequently sustained serious bruising and swelling to her face and torso, concussion, headaches, back and neck pain, soft tissue damage, difficulty sleeping and absenteeism from work.</p> <p>Total award \$1,344.30 Awarded on 28/7/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a),(b), and (c)</p>
06/31	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by a known male who had struck the victim in the head and face with his fists and a metal pole. The victim subsequently suffered a fractured skull, broken teeth, a broken nose, four fractures in his right foot and absenteeism from work.</p> <p>Total award \$11,485.00 Awarded on 1/9/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (b)</p>
06/32	<p>A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted by two unknown males. The victim subsequently suffered avoidance, anxiety and panic attacks, negative thoughts and was consequently unable to continue her studies.</p> <p>Total award \$30,365.20 Awarded on 15/1/07 Pursuant to section 10(1)(f)</p>

06/33 A female victim was sexually assaulted by an unknown male intruder who used a knife during the assault. The victim subsequently suffered cuts and scars to her arms and hands, inability to sleep, fear, depression, paranoia, nervousness, inability to concentrate, emotional distress, anxiety and absenteeism from work.

Total award \$50,000.00

Awarded on 5/12/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a), (b) and (f)

06/34 A male victim was physically assaulted during the course of his employment by an unknown male who attempted to steal his wallet whilst stabbing the victim. The victim subsequently suffered five stab wounds to his right arm, nine stab wounds to his left arm, a screwdriver stab wound to his left leg and post traumatic stress disorder.

Total award \$2,076.00

Awarded on 22/12/06

Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)

06/36 A female victim had her property damaged as a result of a fire started by a known male. The victim was also threatened and stalked by the male. The victim subsequently suffered from anxiety and fear.

Total award \$1,454.48

Awarded on 8/8/06

Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)

06/37 A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment, whilst attempting to apprehend another male. The other male then struck the victim with a wrench to the right side of his head, ear, and shoulder. The victim subsequently suffered cuts to the head and ear, headaches, scarring, left shoulder pain and anxiety.

Total award \$7,211.00

Awarded on 8/8/06

Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)

06/39 A male victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male who he punched in the chin. The victim subsequently suffered post traumatic stress disorder, a depressive disorder, headache, swelling, and blurred vision of the left eye.

Total award \$650.10

Awarded on 13/12/06

Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)

06/38	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by a known male and subsequently suffered a dislocated shoulder.</p> <p>Total award \$16,482.40 Awarded on 22/12/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (b)</p>
06/40	<p>A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment. This resulted in the victim being sprayed with blood. As a result of this the victim suffered psychological stress, anxiety and the need to undergo testing for infectious disease.</p> <p>Total award \$3,072.00 Awarded on 9/9/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)</p>
06/41	<p>A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment by being spat on whilst assisting to move a disorderly and intoxicated female. The victim suffered anxiety, stress and the need to undergo testing for infectious disease.</p> <p>Total award \$2,081.00 Awarded on \$8/11/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)</p>
06/42	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by two unknown males who had struck the victim in the head resulting in a fractured skull, short-term memory loss, damage to the inner ear bone, headaches, neck pain and vertigo.</p> <p>Total award \$15,661.97 Awarded on 11/7/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (b)</p>
06/45	<p>A female victim was physically assaulted and threatened by a known male. The victim subsequently suffered severe bruising to the face, head and body, deep lacerations on both arms, facial cuts, scarring, headaches, blurred vision, nerve damage to her facial area, paranoia, anxiety, sleep disturbances, and depression.</p> <p>Total award \$5,402.00 Awarded on 25/9/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>

06/46	<p>A female victim was physically assaulted over many years and on at least three occasions by her male partner/ex-partner. The victim suffered cuts and bruises to her face, arms and hands as well as psychological injury.</p> <p>Interim award \$8,444.00 Awarded on 11/9/06 Pursuant to section (10)(1)(a)</p>
06/47	<p>A female victim was physically assaulted by a known male who stabbed her in the back of the lower abdomen. The victim suffered emotional trauma and anguish.</p> <p>Total award \$6,526.00 Awarded on 25/10/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a) and (b)</p>
06/48	<p>A female victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male who struck the victim in the right hand side of her face. The victim subsequently sustained a broken tooth, bruising to her arm and jaw.</p> <p>Interim award \$2,605.00 Awarded on the 12/12/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
06/50	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by three unknown males, who punched the victim in the forehead, right eye, both sides of the head and around the ears, as well as badly cutting his cheeks. The victim subsequently suffered head injuries, facial injuries, concussion and severe neck pain.</p> <p>Total award \$4,335.00 Awarded on 7/9/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
06/52	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted and struck in the jaw by a known male. The victim suffered a broken jaw requiring surgery, broken teeth, a black eye and anxiety.</p> <p>Total award \$5,171.68 Awarded on 24/8/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a),(b) and (c)</p>

06/53	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male who kicked a milk crate into the victim's knees causing the victim to fall to the ground and onto the concrete causing damage to the victim's teeth.</p> <p>Total award \$9,950.00 Awarded on 19/12/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
06/54	<p>A female victim was physically assaulted by a known male who stabbed the victim in the abdomen. The victim subsequently suffered a partial bowel removal and physiological trauma.</p> <p>Interim award \$1,910.40 Awarded on 12/10/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(b)</p>
06/57	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by a known male who struck the victim in the arm with a metal bar. The victim subsequently suffered a broken left arm, depression, anxiety and was absent from work.</p> <p>Total award \$13,741.99 Awarded on 31/11/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a),(b) and (c)</p>
06/58	<p>A female victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male who pushed the victim in the chest subsequently causing her to fall to the ground. The victim suffered bruising to her chest and both knees, post trauma symptoms, and adjustment disorder.</p> <p>Total award \$6,793.00 Awarded on 20/10/06 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(a),(b) and (c)</p>
06/61	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male who punched the victim in the head and then struck him with a pool cue. The victim subsequently suffered cuts and bruising to his ear and head, stiffness to his neck, shoulders and upper back and was unable to fulfil his duties in the course of his employment.</p> <p>Total award \$1,500.00 Awarded on 28/8/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(b)</p>

06/63	<p>A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted by a known male, over a period of time. The victim subsequently suffered chronic depression, social phobia, shock, anxiety, chronic sleep disorder, nightmares, emotional instability, avoidance behaviour and irrational thinking.</p> <p>Interim award \$4,293.00 Awarded on 25/9/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
06/65	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male, who struck the victim in the back of the head causing him to fall and hit his head on the concrete. The victim subsequently sustained a gash to his head, a black eye, a broken nose and a dead front tooth.</p> <p>Total award \$2,225.00 Awarded on 8/11/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
06/66	<p>A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment whilst arresting a male who was being disorderly. Subsequently the victim suffered a fracture to a finger on his left hand and bruising on his legs and chest.</p> <p>Total award \$4,500.00 Awarded on 21/6/07 Pursuant to section 10(1)(e)</p>
06/70	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted and robbed by four unknown males. The victim subsequently suffered a cut to his forehead, bruising to his face and legs and a chipped tooth.</p> <p>Total award \$194.38 Awarded on 11/9/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a) and (c)</p>
06/71	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by a known male, who struck him with a metal pole. The victim subsequently suffered bruising to both arms, his left leg, facial injuries and psychological injury.</p> <p>Total award \$4,017.00 Awarded on 23/5/07 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>

06/73	<p>A male victim suffered an injury during the course of his employment whilst another male was being taken into custody. The victim was struck in the face and subsequently suffered facial swelling to the right side of his face, stress and low confidence.</p> <p>Total award \$3,301.00 Awarded on 19/4/07 Pursuant to sections 10(1)(c) and (e)</p>
06/74	<p>A female victim was physically assaulted, threatened and intimidated by a known male. The male pushed, restrained and threatened the victim. The victim subsequently suffered bruising, anxiety, depression and financial hardship as a result of moving to another residence and changing employment.</p> <p>Interim award \$6,307.03 Awarded on 8/12/06 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a)</p>
06/87	<p>A male related victim's daughter was physically assaulted by another male and subsequently died from the injuries she had received in the assault. The male was charged with murder.</p> <p>Total award \$15,000.00 Awarded on 12/2/07 Pursuant to section 17</p>
06/94	<p>A male victim was physically assaulted by an unknown male, who struck the victim in the right side of the face. The victim subsequently suffered impacted teeth, bruising, swelling and cuts to his face.</p> <p>Total award \$5,006.80 Awarded on 13/6/07 Pursuant to section 10(1)(a) and (c)</p>
07/08	<p>A female (child) victim was sexually assaulted over a 5 year period by her uncle. The victim suffered emotional and psychological problems, including flashbacks and depression.</p> <p>Total award \$20,260.00 Awarded on 5/6/07 Pursuant to Sections 10(1)(c) and (f)</p>

