



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
EDMUND G BROWN JR., Governor

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## CalVCP Board Reconsiders Rape Claims

Statement from Marybel Batjer, Chair of the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board, following closed session review of Victim Compensation Program cases:

“In December, the Board eliminated California Code of Regulations Rule 649.56, *Involvement in the Qualifying Crime of Prostitution*, to allow victims of sexual assault who were engaged in an act of prostitution at the time of the attack to potentially be eligible for state assistance.

“The Board then asked staff to review previous applications for reconsideration under the new rule.

“As a result, the Board today reconsidered and approved 14 cases that were earlier denied because of the victim’s involvement in prostitution.

“While the applications discussed in today’s closed session are, and will remain, confidential, I can note that the victims in these 14 cases were victims of rape. Those 14 are now approved. Staff continues to review applications and will bring more cases forward at future board meetings.”

For more information about CalVCP visit: [calvcp.ca.gov](http://calvcp.ca.gov)

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*The California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP), a division of the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board (VCGCB), provides compensation for victims of violent crime who are injured or threatened with injury. Among the crimes covered are domestic violence, child abuse, sexual and physical assault, homicide, robbery, and vehicular manslaughter.*

*If a person meets eligibility criteria, CalVCP will compensate many types of services when the costs are not covered by other sources. Eligible services include medical and dental care, mental health services, income loss, funeral expenses, rehabilitation and relocation. Funding for CalVCP comes from restitution fines and orders, penalty assessments levied on persons convicted of crimes and traffic offenses, and matching federal funds. The program is not taxpayer funded.*