

PR: NR

Second Constitutional Convention  
Saipan, Northern Marianas

Delegate Proposal No. 122-85

A Proposal

To establish the rights of Crime Victims.

BE IT PROPOSED that Article I of the Constitution is hereby amended as follows:

Section 4. (Criminal Protection) is repealed in its entirety and is replaced by a new Section 4 providing for the following:

(a) The victim of a crime has the right to financial compensation and other types of restitution under law or decreed by a judge for sufferings and damage resulting from a crime. Such compensation shall be made available without undue delay.

(b) All fines shall be deposited in a special fund to administered by the Director of Finance for the purpose of paying out monetary compensation to the victims of crime. The governor is authorized and empowered to maintain the Special Fund at the level of \$500,000 every quarter with funds from the general revenues.

(c) The victim of a crime has the right to seek and obtain further compensation from the perpetrator of a crime at any time.

(d) In enacting criminal statutes, the Legislature shall give priority to the rights and needs of crime victims over those of criminals.

(e) All officers of the Court are directed to be mindful of the rights and needs of the victims of crime in carrying out their duties and responsibilities.

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