STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

September 22, 1988

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-94-88

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENTS

SUBJECT: VICTIMS OF CRIMES PROGRAM CLAIMS

On July 18, 1988, the State Board of Control adopted the enclosed Policy regarding Victims of Crime Program (VCP) claims for children who are dependents or wards of the Juvenile Court. The new policy permits the filing of claims under VCP and describes the procedural requirements.

Prior to adoption of the Policy, the State Department of Social Services (SDSS) provided information to staff of the Board of Control to assist in the development and adoption of this Policy.

If you have any questions regarding the attached Policy, please contact Michelle Marks, State Board of Control, at (916) 445-8091 or ATSS 485-8091. Questions regarding Child Welfare Services programs should be addressed to your Adult and Family Services Operations Consultant at (916) 322-6671 or ATSS 492-6671.

LOREN D. SUTER
Deputy Director
Adult and Family Services

Enclosure

cc: County Welfare Directors Association
State Board of Control

STATE OF CALIFORNIA GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN, Governor

STATE BOARD OF CONTROL
VICTIMS OF CRIME PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 3036
SACRAMENTO, CA 95812-3036

August 4, 1988 VOC POLICY: 88 - 1

**TO ALL VICTIMS OF CRIME PROGRAM STAFF,
VICTIM WITNESS ASSISTANCE CENTERS AND
INTERESTED PARTIES**

DEPENDENTS AND WARDS OF THE COURTS

At its meeting on July 18, 1988, the State Board of Control (Board) adopted policy guidelines regarding Victims of Crime Program (Program) claims filed on behalf of child victims that are dependents and wards of the court, as follows:

1. Child victims of crime that are dependents and wards of the court will be considered eligible for Program benefits, where all other Program eligibility requirements are met.

2. Applications filed on behalf of dependents and wards of the court <u>must</u> be signed by the probation officer or social worker who is responsible for the supervision, custody and control of the child, except under the following two circumstances:

   a. Applications may be signed by a third party (i.e., foster parent, group home operator, private attorney) who is formally <u>appointed by the court</u> to represent the child.

   b. Where a dependent or ward of the court resides with his or her natural parent(s) or a family member, the application may be signed by a parent or family member.

3. When an application is filed by a probation officer or social worker, such person may designate a third party, such as an attorney, Victim Witness Center, or foster parent, to represent a victim who is a dependent or ward. In such a case, all Program notices regarding the application will be sent to the designated representative. However, the application must be signed by the probation officer or social worker.

4. If a probation officer or social worker designates a private attorney to represent a dependent or ward, attorney's fees that are allowable pursuant to Program provisions will be payable.

These policy guidelines will become effective on October 1, 1988. All applications received by either the Board or a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) Victim Witness Assistance Center on or after that date will be subject to these guidelines. Applications that are currently pending at the Board or at a JPA that were received prior to October 1, 1988, will be processed according to the Board's previously established informal guidelines to approve those claims that otherwise meet the Board's requirements.

These policy guidelines will be applied to claims received by the Board after October 1, 1988, from local Victim Witness Assistance Centers that are not JPA's, regardless of the date the Center received the applications.

A detailed procedure memorandum will be issued to Board staff and JPA's regarding implementation of these guidelines.

Any local Victim Witness Assistance Centers or Interested Parties having questions or needing additional information may wish to contact Michelle Marks of my staff at (916) 445-8091. JPA's needing assistance in this matter should contact Al Schaden, Manager, JPA Unit, at (916) 445-3545. All program staff should direct any questions to your immediate supervisors.

Austin Eaton

AUSTIN EATON
Executive Officer

AE:MDM:4133V

cc: Board Members
Ted Boughton
Allan Schaden