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**Application for Crime Victim Compensation**

You were victim of an offence in France? And you suffered a serious physical or psychological injury because of this offence? In this case, you may be eligible for compensation from the Commission for compensation of victims of crimes (CIVI). Indeed, the French law gives you the possibility to benefit from compensation paid by a guarantee fund created for this purpose (articles 706-3 to 706-15 of the Code of Criminal Procedure).

Apply using this form: [**https://www.formulaires.service-public.fr/gf/cerfa\_12825.do**](https://www.formulaires.service-public.fr/gf/cerfa_12825.do)

1. Complete the form **in French**.
2. Enclose copies of your identity document and the supporting documents.
3. Send everything to the relevant CIVI by registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt.

**Information about the CIVIs**

The Commission for compensation of victims of crimes (CIVI) was created by the law of July 6, 1990. It allows a victim of a criminal offence to obtain compensation for his damage before a criminal judgment or returned, or when the author is insolvent.

There is a CIVI in each Court. Its role is to examine the claim for compensation.

The damage suffered must result from acts, whether intentional or not, which constitutes an offence.

This autonomous compensation scheme is governed by specific rules. This is a separate procedure, completely detached from the criminal procedure against the author of the crime/offence.

**Conditions relating to the offence**

1. Offences against persons

With regard to offences causing physical injury, article 706-3 of the Code of Criminal procedure provides that the CIVI will compensate “*acts, whether intentional or not which have the material nature of an offense*”.

***The regime of attacks against the most serious persons***

The most serious offenses are determined by the severity of their consequences:

* Offence resulting in death,
* Offence resulting in permanent incapacity,
* Offence resulting in total incapacity for personal work equal to or greater than one month.

The victim of a serious physical injury or his relatives can apply to the commission without condition of resources. The damage will be fully repaired, there is no compensation ceiling.

***The regime of other attacks against persons***

Article 706-14 of the Code of Criminal procedure provides that victims of offences resulting in total incapacity for work for less than one month may apply to the CIVI on condition that they prove that the offence caused serious disturbances in their life and that they cannot be compensated by another organization.

However, referral to the committee is then subject to means test and the amount of compensation is capped.

1. Offences against property

Article 706-14 of the Code of Civil procedure provides that “*Anyone who, victim of theft, fraud, extortion or destruction, deterioration of property belonging to him, can not obtain in any way effective and sufficient repair or compensation for his damage, and is therefore in a serious material or psychological situation, can obtain an indemnity*”.

Referral to the CIVI is once again subject to means test and the maximum amount of compensation is capped.

**Cases which are not within the jurisdiction of the CIVI**

In the event that the dispute is not within the jurisdiction of the CIVI, it is always possible for the claimer to seek damages before the court of judgment.

Moreover, the Victims' Compensation Assistance Service (SARVI) of the Victims' Guarantee Fund complements the system of compensation for victims of crime who cannot be compensated by the CIVIs.

It can help to recover the damages awarded by the court that the convicted perpetrator did not pay. It is aimed at victims who:

- received compensation by criminal decision.

- suffered minor personal injury or damage to property not taken into account before the CIVI.

**What are the documents to provide?**

Any request addressed to the CIVI registry must be accompanied by the following documents:

* Copy of the complaint and any other criminal document (investigation report, order for referral to the criminal court, judgment),
* Copy of medical certificates, work stoppages, medical expert’s report,
* Copy of supporting documents for daily allowances, payments from the author,
* bank details of the applicant.

If you have been the victim of physical injury resulting in total incapacity for work for less than a month, or material damage resulting from theft, fraud, breach of trust, extortion or destruction, degradation or deterioration of property belonging to you, you must also provide the following documents:

* Copy of the tax notice for the year preceding that of the filling of the request,
* Copy of the elements establishing the impossibility of obtaining full or sufficient compensation from the author, your insurer, etc.,
* The description of the serious material or psychological situation resulting from the offence.

If you were the victim of the total destruction of your vehicle by fire on national territory after October 1, 2008, you must send:

* Copy of the tax notice for the year preceding the offence and the year preceding that of the filing of the request
* Copy of the elements establishing the impossibility of obtaining full or sufficient compensation from the author, your insurer, etc.
* Copy of the last technical inspection
* Copy of the special conditions of your automobile insurance contract.

**Relevant Commission:**

The relevant CIVI is:

* The CIVI of your place of residence,
* The CIVI of the place of the criminal jurisdiction seized of the infraction,
* The CIVI which has already been referred to the same infraction by another victim.

Find the CIVIs and France Victims associations in your department <http://www.annuaires.justice.gouv.fr/annuaires-12162/annuaire-des-tribunaux-judiciaires-21768.html#cmq_path=annuaire&cmq_territory=95400%20ARNOUVILLE&cmq_submit=Submit>

### Delays:

### To obtain your compensation, you must enter the CIVI within a certain deadline:

### 3 years from the date of the offence if there has not been a trial

### If there has already been a trial, 1 year from the final decision rendered by a criminal court.

### However, the CIVI may exceptionally accept a request submitted after the deadline for legitimate reason. This is the case if you have not been able to assert your right in time or if you have suffered an aggravation of your damage.

**Do you have any questions ?**

Please contact the relevant CIVI or the Victim support of the Ministry of Justice. It can be reached by telephone [01 70 22 74 12](mailto:01%2070%2022%2074%2012) or through bavpa.sadjav.sg@justice.gouv.fr.