

CRIME VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION
Meeting – August 19, 2013
MINUTES

Catherine Garcia-Lindstrom, Chairperson, called the Crime Victim Services Commission meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. on August 19, 2013 in the Third Floor Conference Room, Lewis Cass Building, 320 South Walnut Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Present:

Commission Members:

Victor A. Fitz
Catherine Garcia-Lindstrom
Emily McIntyre
Brian A. Pepler

Staff Members:

Beth Adcock, Program Specialist
Jeanie Cox, Secretary
Christine Lau, Senior Analyst
Jacqueline Manns, Medical Claims Reviewer
James McCurtis, Director
Janine Washburn, Program Specialist

Katherine Bennett, Assistant Attorney General
John Lazet, Victim Advocate, Attorney General's Office

Mr. Pepler moved, supported by Ms. McIntyre, to waive the reading of the minutes of the June 17, 2013 meeting. The motion carried.

Staff Report – Ms. Bennett reported that a claimant had filed in the Court of Appeals two months late. They have responded and are awaiting a decision.

Mr. McCurtis stated it appeared there was some confusion as far as the Commissioners role with Victim Rights Funding. Mr. McCurtis passed out copies of Act 196 and Act 223 to each Commissioner. In lieu of additional emails between himself and the Commissioners, he chose to address the issues at the meeting. Mr. McCurtis reported that a survey was sent to all prosecutor offices so that a formula may be adopted for victim rights funding. First of all, Mr. McCurtis stated that training cannot be removed from victim rights. Ms. McIntyre stated she never indicated that she wished training to be affected. Also, in the survey was a question regarding case numbers. Mr. McCurtis stated that all case numbers are reported directly to the Prosecuting Attorneys Association. Mr. Pepler stated that they in the prosecutor's offices wanted to know if the survey told them what they needed. Ms. McIntyre inquired if there is a uniform method of counting cases from the prosecutor's offices. Also at issue does the Crime Victim Services Commission have the authority to set the education requirement levels for the victim advocates in prosecutor offices. Mr. McCurtis stated that as a Commission we cannot determine victim advocates salaries as they are county employees. Mr. McCurtis also stated a sub-committee has been established to determine funding. The members of the sub-committee are Beth Adcock Prosecutor Stuart Dunnings, Victim Advocate Karen Hall, Victim Advocate Cindy Howell, Roberta Haney-Jones from the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, and himself. Mr. Fitz stated that in the statute, 78903, Section 903A it mentions the role of the Commission as far as victim rights revenue and funding. Much discussion followed.

Report of the Members - None.

Unfinished Business – None.

New Business

- A. Public Comment – None.
- B. Appeals - None

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2013. The Commission moved into the appeals portion of the meeting.

Mr. Pepler made a motion, supported by Mr. Fitz, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Garcia-Lindstrom, Chairperson

Witnessed: _____

Date: _____