

FORMS OF ASSISTANCE

- Medical care
- Free psychological counselling and support
- Legal aid provided free of charge
- Practical help

Where the victim has died as a result of the offence, the right to assistance devolves on the victim's children, parents, spouse or *de facto* cohabitee.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

National Council for Assistance and Compensation to Crime Victims

Address: 1 Slavyanska St.
1040 Sofia

www.compensation.bg

FREE PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELLING AND SUPPORT

Provided by specialist psychologists of the crime victim support organizations. These organizations also provide practical help to crime victims. For further information and assistance, you can contact:

Association of Crime Victim Support Organizations:

CALL:

 +359 2 980 02 62

 +359 2 981 93 00

FREE LEGAL AID

Provided according to the procedure and under the terms established by the **Legal Aid Act**. Further information is available on the Internet site:
www.nbpp.government.bg



REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ASSISTANCE AND COMPENSATION TO CRIME VICTIMS

IF YOU ARE A CRIME VICTIM

**YOU ARE ENTITLED TO ASSISTANCE AND FINANCIAL
COMPENSATION FROM THE STATE UNDER
THE CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND FINANCIAL
COMPENSATION ACT**

- Terrorism
- Premeditated murder
- Premeditated grievous bodily injury
- Molestation and rape resulting in grievous damage to health
- Trafficking in human beings
- Offences committed by a party contracted by, or in furtherance of a decision of, an organized crime group
- Other serious premeditated offences from which death or grievous bodily injury has ensued as consequences satisfying the elements of a statutory offence

**IF YOU ARE A CRIME VICTIM
CALL  112**

or immediately report the offence to the nearest
Police Precinct Department

The authorities of the Ministry of Interior and the crime victim support organizations must inform you about:

- The organizations to which you can turn for free psychological counselling and support;
- Your right to legal aid and the authorities to which you can turn in order to exercise your rights;
- The authorities to which you can report the offence committed and the procedures following such a report;
- Your rights in the criminal procedure and the possibilities for your participation in it;
- The authorities to which you can turn in order to obtain protection for yourself and for your relatives;
- The authorities to which you can turn in order to obtain financial compensation from the State;
- The arrangements available to you in order to protect your rights and interests if you are a foreign national who is the victim of an offence within the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria;
- The arrangements available to you in order to protect your rights and interests if you are the victim of an offence within the territory of another State, and the authorities to which you can turn in such cases.

FINANCIAL COMPENSATION

The State may grant to the victim a sum of money covering **economic loss** suffered as a direct consequence of the offence committed:

- **Medical treatment expenses, with the exception of the expenses covered by the budget of the National Health Insurance Fund**
- **Loss of revenue**
- **Legal costs and litigation costs**
- **Loss of maintenance**
- **Funeral expenses**
- **Other economic losses**

Where the victim has died as a result of the offence, the right to financial compensation devolves on the victim's children, parents, spouse or *de facto* cohabitee.

The sum of money amounts to BGN 250 to BGN 5,000, and in the event of the victim's death, the total amount of the compensation to all entitlees may not exceed BGN 10,000.

The sum of money is provided after the completion of the criminal proceedings by an enforceable act of a judicial authority.

The victims are required to produce expense-supporting documents for all economic losses.

The financial compensation is not granted where the victim has received compensation by other means.

The application for financial compensation must be submitted to the regional governor exercising jurisdiction over the victim's present address or to the National Council for Assistance and Compensation to Crime Victims **within two months after an act of a judicial authority becomes enforceable!**

The sample of an application for financial compensation and a list of the documents required for consideration of the application are available from:

- The National Council for Assistance and Compensation to Crime Victims, including in electronic form at: www.compensation.bg;
- The regional governor exercising jurisdiction over the victim's present address;
- The authorities of the Ministry of Interior;
- The National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, including in electronic form at: www.antitrafficking.government.bg;
- The crime victim support organizations.

In the cases where a Bulgarian national has become the victim of an offence outside the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, the application for financial compensation may be submitted to the National Council for Assistance and Compensation to Crime Victims, which will forward it to the competent authority of the State within whose territory the offence has occurred.