Governor Corbett’s Budget Supports Victims of Juvenile Crimes

Harrisburg – Governor Tom Corbett’s 2012-13 budget restores funding to the Victims of Juvenile Offenders grant program that provides free assistance to victims of crimes committed by juvenile offenders.

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency administers and oversees the Victims of Juvenile Offenders grant program, which had been reduced in past budgets.

"Governor Corbett has said all along that restoring a dedicated funding stream to this program was a priority for him,” said PCCD Chairman Mark Zimmer. "He has made good on that promise. On behalf of the advocates who provide the services and the victims who will benefit, I thank him for keeping his word.”

Under the program, all Pennsylvania counties are awarded grants based on a formula using the county’s population, juvenile dispositions and penalty assessment collections.

While counties have the discretion to choose how services are delivered, the grants are primarily used to support the salaries and benefits of individuals providing procedural services to victims of juvenile offenders, PCCD Executive Director Linda Rosenberg explained.

Such procedural services include providing information regarding court proceedings, explaining victims’ rights and restitution, and accompanying victims to court.

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency’s mission is to enhance the quality and coordination of the criminal and juvenile justice systems, to facilitate the delivery of services to victims of crime, and to increase the safety of our communities.

For more information, visit www.pccd.state.pa.us or call 717-705-0888.

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