



News Release

County Commission:
Steve Sisolak, Chairman
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James B. Gibson
Marilyn Kirkpatrick
Lawrence Weekly

Yolanda King, County Manager

Office of Public Communications • (702) 455-3546 • FAX (702) 455-3558 • www.ClarkCountyNV.gov

Contact: Stacey Welling
Sr. Public Information Officer

Phone: (702) 455-3201
Cell: (702) 249-3823
E-mail: stac@ClarkCountyNV.gov

For Immediate Release

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Clark County Commission to Recognize Nevada Victims of Crime Program for 1 October Help 'Crime Victims' Rights Week' April 8-14

Clark County Commissioners **Tuesday, April 3 at 9:05 a.m.** will recognize the Nevada Victims of Crime Program for assistance it has provided to victims of 1 October and its ongoing partnership with County staff working at the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center. Commissioner Jim Gibson will present representatives of the program with a proclamation honoring their work and declaring April 8 through April 14 as "Crime Victims' Right Week" throughout Greater Las Vegas and Clark County.

"The Nevada Victims of Crime Program has provided millions of dollars of assistance to victims of violent crimes in our state since 1969, and has been an integral partner in Clark County's efforts to help victims of the 1 October shooting," said Commissioner Gibson, whose District G includes the festival grounds. "I want to thank the Victims of Crime Program staff for the work they do, and also remind survivors of 1 October that they only have six more months, or until October first of this year, to get an application on file with the program."

Every state has a Victims of Crime program affiliated with the U.S. Department of Justice. Funding from the Victims of Crime Program, which comes from court-ordered fines and fees, helps victims pay for out-of-pocket expenses related to a crime including medical bills, funeral costs and counseling co-pays. To date the Nevada Victims of Crime Program has processed more than 4,400 applications for assistance from victims of 1 October and paid more than \$1.36 million in benefits and copays. Anyone who was present during the shooting at the Route 91 festival or the family members of deceased victims is eligible to apply for assistance from the Nevada Victims of Crime Program.

"Even if you live outside of Nevada, you should get an application on file with our program in case you incur expenses that are eligible for coverage under the program in the future," said Michelle Morgando, Program Coordinator of the Nevada Victims of Crime Program.

Mental health experts say it's not uncommon for survivors of mass violence and trauma to seek counseling months or years after an incident has occurred. "It can take a long time for someone who has gone through a violent incident to see the ways he or she has been impacted," said Dr. Stephanie Woodard, a licensed psychologist with the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services. "People cope with trauma in different ways and the timing varies for every individual."

Clark County Television created a TV and radio Public Service Announcement with local survivors of 1 October to publicize the upcoming application deadline for the Nevada Victims of Crime Program. The PSA is available for broadcast locally and nationally. It's also posted on Clark County's social media sites including Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Survivors of 1 October are encouraged to go to www.VegasStrongRC.org to fill out the Victims of Crime application or to call the center at (702) 455-AIDE (2433) or outside Nevada toll free at 1-(833) 229-2433. ###

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You may also follow the County on more than 40 social media sites, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Pinterest, YouTube and NextDoor.

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Clark County is a dynamic and innovative organization dedicated to providing top-quality service with integrity, respect and accountability. With jurisdiction over the world-famous Las Vegas Strip and covering an area the size of New Jersey, Clark is the nation's 14th-largest county and provides extensive regional services to more than 2.25 million citizens and 45.5 million visitors a year. Included are the nation's 8th-busiest airport, air quality compliance, social services and the state's largest public hospital, University Medical Center. The County also provides municipal services that are traditionally provided by cities to 1 million residents in the unincorporated area. Those include fire protection, roads and other public works, parks and recreation, and planning and development.

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