

Crime Victims Reparations Board
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



JIM GRAFT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LOUISIANA CRIME VICTIMS REPARATIONS PROGRAM

MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, April 11, 2023

9:00 A.M.

602 NORTH 5TH STREET- Oliver Pollock ROOM

BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment
4. Review and Approval of March 14, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
5. New Business
 - a. New Applications
 - I. Emergency
 - II. FME
 - III. Standard
6. Other Business
 - a. Update on Proposed Notice of Intent
 - I. Public Hearing Comments
 - II. Concerns with Conflict of Interest
7. Date and place of next meeting – May 09, 2023 at 9:00 A.M., Louisiana Crime Victims Reparations Program, 602 North 5th Street, Oliver Pollock Room, Baton Rouge, LA
8. Adjourn

Please note: The Crime Victims Reparations Board Meeting is conducted in accordance with the Board Rules of Decorum, adopted on October 11, 2022.

Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement

www.lcle.la.gov/cvr

P.O. Box 3133 ♦ Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-3133 ♦ (225) 342-1749 ♦ 1-888-6-VICTIM (NATIONWIDE) ♦ Fax (225) 342-1672
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Crime Victims Reparations Board
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



JIM CRAFT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AGENDA FOR BOARD MEETING
for Publication

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement

Oliver Pollock Room

602 N. 5th Street
Baton Rouge, LA

09:00 AM

www.lcle.la.gov/cvr

CRIME VICTIMS REPARATIONS BOARD

Board Agenda - Claim Number Order

Board Date: 04/11/2023

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EMERGENCY

Item	Parish	CVR #	Claim #
1	CALCASIEU	CALC22-005	222388
2	CALCASIEU	CALC22-029	231321
3	CALCASIEU	CALC23-009	231395
4	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0111	222357
5	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0131	222698
6	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0150	222863
7	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0152	222877
8	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0022	231166
9	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0023	231167
10	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0024	231231
11	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0025	231277
12	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0026	231283
13	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0027	231285
14	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0028	231297
15	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0029	231351
16	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0030	231348
17	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0031	231350
18	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0032	231349
19	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0033	231382
20	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0034	231383
21	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0035	231384
22	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0036	231385
23	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0037	231386
24	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0038	231387
25	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0039	231389
26	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0040	231388
27	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0041	231390
28	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0042	231405
29	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0601	231244

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EMERGENCY			
Item	Parish	CVR #	Claim #
30	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-002	231403
31	NATCHITOCHE	NATC23-001	231228
32	ORLEANS	ORLE22-206	230020
33	ORLEANS	ORLE22-885	231287
34	ORLEANS	ORLE23-032	231203
35	ORLEANS	ORLE23-035	231222
36	ORLEANS	ORLE23-036	231229
37	ORLEANS	ORLE23-038	231275
38	ORLEANS	ORLE23-040	231279
39	ORLEANS	ORLE23-041	231286
40	ORLEANS	ORLE23-042	231299
41	ORLEANS	ORLE23-043	231314
42	ORLEANS	ORLE23-044	231315
43	ORLEANS	ORLE23-045	231337
44	ORLEANS	ORLE23-047	231338
45	ORLEANS	ORLE23-048	231345
46	ORLEANS	ORLE23-051	231396
47	ORLEANS	ORLE23-058	231421
48	ORLEANS	ORLE23-059	231422
49	RAPIDES	RAPI23-001	231221
50	ST. MARTIN	MART23-006	231376

EMERGENCY Claims: 50

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FME			
Item	Parish	CVR #	Claim #
51	ACADIA	ACAD23-301	231454
52	ALLEN	ALLE23-300	231289
53	ALLEN	ALLE23-301	231290
54	ALLEN	ALLE23-302	231455
55	BEAUREGARD	BEAU23-300	231235
56	BOSSIER	BOSS23-300	231406
57	BOSSIER	BOSS23-3004	231223
58	BOSSIER	BOSS23-3005	231268
59	CADDO	CADD23-3020	231266
60	CADDO	CADD23-3021	231267
61	CALCASIEU	CALC23-004	231407
62	CALCASIEU	CALC23-304	231233
63	CALCASIEU	CALC23-305	231236
64	CALCASIEU	CALC23-306	231288
65	CAMERON	CAME23-300	231237
66	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-3021	231123
67	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-3021	231295
68	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-342	231256
69	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-343	231281
70	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-344	231262
71	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-345	231303
72	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-346	231304
73	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-347	231305
74	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-348	231372
75	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-349	231373
76	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-350	231391
77	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-351	231416
78	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-352	231417
79	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-353	231419

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FME			
Item	Parish	CVR #	Claim #
80	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-354	231429
81	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-355	231430
82	EAST CARROLL	ECAR23-300	231133
83	FRANKLIN	FRAN23-3000	231134
84	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3019	231132
85	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3019	231181
86	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3020	231128
87	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3020	231135
88	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3021	231162
89	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3024	231209
90	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3025	231210
91	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3026	231211
92	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3027	231217
93	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3028	231219
94	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3029	231220
95	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3030	231226
96	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3031	231227
97	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3032	231241
98	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3033	231253
99	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3033	231409
100	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3034	231296
101	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3035	231343
102	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3036	231358
103	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3037	231363
104	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3038	231364
105	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-3039	231401
106	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-307	231224
107	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-308	231225
108	JEFFERSON	JEFF23-309	231353

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FME			
Item	Parish	CVR #	Claim #
109	JEFFERSON DA	Jefd23-300	231232
110	JEFFERSON DA	Jefd23-301	231392
111	LAFAYETTE	Lafa23-3011	231240
112	LAFAYETTE	Lafa23-3015	231415
113	LAFAYETTE	Lafa23-3016	231424
114	LAFOURCHE	LAFO21-331	230752
115	LAFOURCHE	LAFO23-3007	231453
116	LAFOURCHE	LAFO23-3008	231456
117	LINCOLN	LINC23-304	231375
118	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-3002	231113
119	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-3005	231242
120	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-3006	231243
121	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-3007	231263
122	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-3007	231411
123	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-3008	231264
124	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-3009	231265
125	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-3010	231361
126	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-310	231257
127	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-310	231393
128	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-311	231258
129	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-312	231273
130	MOREHOUSE	MORE23-302	231426
131	ORLEANS	ORLE22-3032	231365
132	ORLEANS	ORLE22-3055	231255
133	ORLEANS	ORLE22-375	231247
134	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3058	230795
135	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3105	231124
136	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3106	231125
137	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3107	231126

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FME			
Item	Parish	CVR #	Claim #
138	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3113	231182
139	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3114	231183
140	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3115	231188
141	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3116	231214
142	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3117	231213
143	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3118	231216
144	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3119	231207
145	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3119	231294
146	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3122	231230
147	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3123	231238
148	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3125	231248
149	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3126	231249
150	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3128	231252
151	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3131	231260
152	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3132	231261
153	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3134	231270
154	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3136	231278
155	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3137	231284
156	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3142	231354
157	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3143	231355
158	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3144	231356
159	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3145	231357
160	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3146	231359
161	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3148	231366
162	ORLEANS	ORLE23-3149	231412
163	OTHER	OTHR23-3005	231367
164	OTHER	OTHR23-303	231254
165	OTHER	OTHR23-304	231418
166	OUACHITA	OUAC22-339	230757

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Item	Parish	CVR #	Claim #
167	OUACHITA	OUAC23-314	231328
168	POINTE COUPE	POIN23-300	231306
169	POINTE COUPE	POIN23-301	231335
170	RAPIDES	RAPI22-346	230384
171	RAPIDES	RAPI23-3000	231344
172	RAPIDES	RAPI23-303	231447
173	ST. BERNARD	BERN23-3004	231339
174	ST. BERNARD	BERN23-3005	231352
175	ST. BERNARD	BERN23-3006	231413
176	ST. BERNARD	BERN23-3007	231414
177	ST. CHARLES	CHAR23-3007	231218
178	ST. CHARLES	CHAR23-3007	231370
179	ST. CHARLES	CHAR23-3008	231282
180	ST. CHARLES	CHAR23-3009	231340
181	ST. CHARLES	CHAR23-3011	231400
182	ST. JOHN THE B	JOHN23-3002	231208
183	ST. JOHN THE B	JOHN23-3003	231212
184	ST. TAMMANY	TAMM23-3010	231251
185	ST. TAMMANY	TAMM23-3037	231130
186	ST. TAMMANY	TAMM23-3040	231131
187	ST. TAMMANY	TAMM23-3042	231269
188	ST. TAMMANY	TAMM23-3046	231360
189	ST. TAMMANY	TAMM23-3046	231369
190	ST. TAMMANY	TAMM23-3047	231362
191	ST. TAMMANY	TAMM23-3047	231368
192	ST. TAMMANY	TAMM23-305	231129
193	TANGIPAHOA	TANG22-336	231325
194	TANGIPAHOA	TANG23-3014	231215
195	TANGIPAHOA	TANG23-3014	231410

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FME			
Item	Parish	CVR #	Claim #
196	TANGIPAHOA	TANG23-3015	231239
197	TANGIPAHOA	TANG23-3016	231245
198	TANGIPAHOA	TANG23-3017	231246
199	TANGIPAHOA	TANG23-3018	231301
200	TANGIPAHOA	TANG23-3018	231341
201	TERREBONNE	TERR23-3008	231450
202	TERREBONNE	TERR23-3009	231451
203	TERREBONNE	TERR23-3010	231452
204	UNION	UNIO23-301	231234
205	VERMILION	VERM23-3003	231298
206	VERMILION	VERM23-3004	231425
207	VERNON	VERN21-311	222796
208	VERNON	VERN23-302	231446
209	WASHINGTON	WASH23-3003	231114
210	WASHINGTON	WASH23-3003	231127
211	WASHINGTON	WASH23-301	231307
212	WASHINGTON	WASH23-302	231300
213	WASHINGTON	WASH23-302	231342

FME Claims: 163

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STANDARD			
Item	Parish	CVR #	Claim #
214	ACADIA	ACAD23-001	231034
215	ASCENSION	ASCE22-001	221222
216	ASCENSION	ASCE22-006	230609
217	CADDO	CADD19-828	231206
218	CADDO	CADD22-0001	221073
219	CADDO	CADD22-0001	231308
220	CADDO	CADD22-0001	231309
221	CADDO	CADD22-0001	231310
222	CADDO	CADD22-0001	231311
223	CADDO	CADD22-0001	231312
224	CADDO	CADD22-0001	231313
225	CADDO	CADD23-0003	231105
226	CALCASIEU	CALC21-602	220864
227	CALCASIEU	CALC22-004	230061
228	CALCASIEU	CALC22-016	222492
229	CALCASIEU	CALC22-020	230438
230	CALCASIEU	CALC22-370	231095
231	CALCASIEU	CALC23-005	231291
232	CALCASIEU	CALC23-601	230894
233	EAST BATON R	EBAT21-088	211951
234	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0170	230090
235	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0170	230939
236	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0172	230097
237	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0174	231374
238	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0182	230209
239	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0194	230334
240	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0204	230477
241	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0210	230538
242	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-0219	231371

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STANDARD

Item	Parish	CVR #	Claim #
243	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-040	221543
244	EAST BATON R	EBAT22-041	221542
245	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0004	230760
246	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0006	230847
247	EAST BATON R	EBAT23-0016	231445
248	IBERIA	IBER22-011	230625
249	IBERVILLE	IBEV22-015	230854
250	JEFFERSON	JEFF21-010	220471
251	JEFFERSON DA	JEFD22-004	230497
252	LAFAYETTE	Lafa22-0014	231163
253	LAFOURCHE	LAFO22-001	231276
254	LIVINGSTON	LIVI22-002	222072
255	LIVINGSTON	LIVI23-001	231420
256	NATCHITOCHE	NATC22-001	222465
257	NATCHITOCHE	NATC22-004	230809
258	NATCHITOCHE	NATC22-005	230804
259	ORLEANS	ORLE19-320	231449
260	ORLEANS	ORLE21-095	211775
261	ORLEANS	ORLE21-292	231381
262	ORLEANS	ORLE22-066	221768
263	ORLEANS	ORLE22-116	230355
264	ORLEANS	ORLE22-157	222604
265	ORLEANS	ORLE22-224	230154
266	ORLEANS	ORLE22-241	230210
267	ORLEANS	ORLE22-270	231316
268	ORLEANS	ORLE22-292	231428
269	ORLEANS	ORLE22-352	231408
270	ORLEANS	ORLE22-819	231317
271	ORLEANS	ORLE22-860	231431

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STANDARD			
Item	Parish	CVR #	Claim #
272	ORLEANS	ORLE22-865	231435
273	ORLEANS	ORLE22-868	231444
274	ORLEANS	ORLE22-885	231292
275	ORLEANS	ORLE23-026	231423
276	OUACHITA	OUAC22-004	221985
277	OUACHITA	OUAC22-014	230495
278	OUACHITA	OUAC23-006	231334
279	OUACHITA	OUAC23-304	231274
280	ST. CHARLES	CHAR22-0024	222704
281	ST. CHARLES	CHAR22-0028	230007
282	ST. CHARLES	CHAR22-0029	230012
283	ST. CHARLES	CHAR22-0034	222947
284	ST. CHARLES	CHAR22-0034	222963
285	ST. CHARLES	CHAR22-0039	230293
286	ST. CHARLES	CHAR22-0045	230489
287	ST. CHARLES	CHAR22-0046	230488
288	ST. LANDRY	LAND23-001	231326
289	ST. LANDRY	LAND23-003	231327
290	ST. MARTIN	MART22-007	230734
291	ST. MARTIN	MART22-007	231346
292	TANGIPAHOA	TANG19-049	201260

STANDARD Claims: 79

Total Claims: 292

MEMORANDUM

TO: All CVR Board Members

**FROM: Danielle Lax
CVR Program Manager**

DATE: March 31, 2023

RE: Comments Regarding Proposed Notice of Intent

In accordance with the provisions of Title 49, Chapter 13, Part II, § 961, (B)(3), please review and consider all of the written and oral comments submitted regarding the proposed rule. A summary of all oral comments made at the hearing on March 3, 2023 is attached.

The written comments are divided into sections: Section 1 for the Public Hearing; Section 2 and Section 3 are written comments received by mail; Section 4 are comments sent via email (E1, E2, and so on).

Thank you

Crime Victims Reparations Public Hearing
March 03, 2023

Guest Sign-In
Please Print and Sign

1. Katie Hunter-Lawry
2. Natalie Sharp
3. Kathleen Hester
4. Amanda Tantrovich
5. Greg Warble
6. May Chan Long
7. Trishanda Graves
8. Sean Cassidy Sean P. G. J
9. Morgan & Amandre
10. Julia O'Donnell
11. Alexis Connor
12. Mary-Patricia Wang
13. Amanda
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____

Summary of Concerns Presented in Oral Testimony at the CVR Public Hearing on March 3, 2023

1. The NOI is “in direct conflict with the legislation” because of the \$1,000 cap for sexual assault.
 - Not in the law
 - An inconsistent application of the rules
 - A major error
 - A glaring mistake
 - Comes out of nowhere
 - Creates barriers
 - Causes harm
 - Treats survivors of sexual assault as a separate class

If CVR doesn't remove “our” error on this,

- It “would render any challenge to this rule to be highly successful”
 - They “will pursue litigation if that’s what’s in the best interests of the survivors...”
2. “A list of what qualifies as reasonable documentation should be included in the Rules.”
 - Information is not readily available
 - We do not know what the eligibility requirements are
 - The process is confusing
 - Not to have a list is extremely unfair, completely unreasonable.
 - “..for the sake of clarity so that victims and their loved ones ...are clear”
 3. Immediately implement the non-restrictive provider verification (1 comment)
 4. Work to pass legislation to process domestic violence forensic exams in the same manner as sexual assault, going directly to CVR and bypassing claim investigators. (1 comment)
 5. The process has taken too long.
Variations on “it has been 8 months” – a “delay in the rule-making process”
 6. Criticism of Records – agenda, minutes, etc.
 - Rarely specific agenda items
 - Minutes fail to properly reflect Board action
 7. Criticism of Forms
 - Admin Procedures Act violations in changes to CVR forms w/out Board approval
 - Unclear and confusing
 8. Criticism of Board
 - So confused all the time
 - Don't know what the eligibility requirements are
 9. Criticism of staff
 - Acted unilaterally, without Board approval
 - Substituted staff judgment and decisions for the Board's

- “Told the public falsely” details about Board decisions
- Didn’t allow the Board to control their own meetings
- Willful avoidance of public disclosure
- Prevented access to public materials
- Purposely stifled, delayed and interrupted public comments
- Delayed provision of public records requests responses
- Situated meeting content after public comment period
- Unprofessional and disrespectful to shut off public comment period
- Advocates faced opposition, aggression and intimidation at every single turn in the rule-making process.
- CVR is disrespectful not to notify the Board to attend the Public Meeting

1.

I want to put on the record a few errors procedurally in the rule-making process with regard to this rule promulgation.

Recently the CVR Board took up discussions about APA rulemaking to come into compliance with Act 487 of the 2022 Legislative Session. Over several months, the Board and its staff engaged in a process that, if left uncured, will result in an invalid and unenforceable regulation pertaining to the Board's decisions both in terms of applicants for financial aid and interactions with and payments to healthcare providers.

Procedural issues that have occurred to date – I've just got a list that I'll run through.

The Notice of Intent substantially evades procedural safeguards and requirements that ensure the public notice and comment in the rule-making process is carried out.

First, Board staff moved forward with this Notice of Intent without proper approval from the CVR Board, regularly substituting their judgment and decisions for members of the Board, and acting unilaterally without approval from the Board that they work for.

Some examples that are not inclusive of everything that's occurred under this issue are that

The Board staff sought an AG opinion regarding the Notice of Intent without notice to or approval from the Board.

They also sought written input in opposition to the rule – so in other words, soliciting another body to take a position on the Board's actions from other executive branch boards and commissions, including professional licensing boards. That presents a substantial conflict of interest, something that's not supposed to occur under this APA rule-making process. And it also substitutes again, substitutes the role of the Board for the staff that serves the Board.

Public comments and participation in the Notice of Intent approval process were purposely stifled, delayed and interrupted, and the CVR staff took steps to prevent the public from having access to otherwise public materials that would influence testimony about this Notice of Intent at CVR Board meetings.

Some examples of that issue, procedural issue

Staff delayed the provisions of Public Records Requests responses until after Board meeting dates so that advocates and the public could not use those materials to inform their own public comment.

Another example: Staff purposely situated staff comments, information and public records to be released during the meetings after the public comment period on the meeting agenda was over so that the public was not informed prior to their participation or provision of comments.

Another example: Staff repeatedly misinformed the public and the Board about Open Meeting laws and unilaterally moved to shut off public comment at meetings rather than allowing the Board and its Chair to control the meetings themselves. This action removes the authority of the Board and abdicates (sic) it to public employees. Not only was the behavior unprofessional and disrespectful to the Board and the public, it resulted in a deficient, substantially flawed rule-making process which renders the resulting rule subject to challenge and can further delay the implementation of state statutes surrounding awards to survivors of crime which have been law since August of 2022.

Public agenda for CVR B meetings typically lists quote Old Business and quote (sic) Old Business, but rarely specific agenda items under these categories, preventing the public from knowing agenda topics and being able to comment and participate in a meaningful way as required by and set out in the Administrative Procedures Act.

The Board staff (I'm still on procedural issues, by the way) Board staff failed to properly reflect Board action in the meeting minutes and misinformed members of the public about actions the Board did or did not take to accomplish the rule-making in compliance with statute. Board staff has repeatedly told the public falsely that the Board quote approved materials which it never approved or even entertained a motion or other action item to approve.

One such example is that Board staff told the public the Board approved a new application form for financial awards, which the Board never examined nor approved at any public meeting, nor did they even entertain a motion to do so.

Another example is that after the Board approved the quote Provider Certification Form at its December meeting, the staff made changes to that form without notice or approval by the Board, including adding an additional checkbox to the form that states quote I am not compensated by any grant funds to provide services to crime victims. Changes made to the form after the December, after December, appear in the online version of the form made available for use by the public, but the changes that staff made after the December meeting were never part of an agenda with an action item and they didn't receive public comment in compliance with the Administrative Procedures Act or other public meetings laws. This example further demonstrates willful avoidance of public disclosure and proper approval of the agency's procedures – again substituting the staff's judgment for that which legally belongs to the Board itself.

And now I move on to the substantive issues with the rule-making process to date.

The Notice of Intent includes provisions that are in direct conflict with statutory mandates on the CVR Board and make the implementation of the Board's programming even more challenging. Without changes to the Notice of Intent before the Rule becomes final, the implementation by the Board will be out of compliance and in direct conflict with statutory requirements for the Board.

First, it creates an application form outside of the Notice of Intent that is not consistent in notifying applicants of the materials they may submit with their applications, and differs from the list of materials that make them eligible in the Notice of Intent and the statute, which requires the Board to promulgate

the Notice of Intent. The reason that's problematic is because it's very confusing to the people who are supposed to be benefitted by the funds. If they read a statute it has one list. If they read a rule, it has another and if they read a form, it has another. These are survivors of mostly violent crime who deserve clear directions about when they're eligible to receive state tax dollars that you and I pay.

Moreover, the Notice of Intent limits eligibility based on applicants' provision of materials to a list that is more narrow than the one provided for in statute by the legislature, which has delegated its law-making authority to this body. Without delegation of that power, the authority to do any of this doesn't even exist. The rules and regulations that this Board makes have the force and effect of law, and the only reason they do is that the power to make them has been delegated by the Louisiana Legislature. When a Board makes a rule that is in conflict with statute, the statute is what governs. This particular issue will cause otherwise eligible applicants to believe that they are not eligible, re-victimizing survivors of crime.

I'm gonna leave the issues with payment to medical providers for someone else to speak on, but as you've heard from my testimony, there are substantial procedural and substantive issues that have occurred since the rule-making process began that would render any challenge to this rule to be highly successful. Challenging the rule doesn't help victims either. The remedy for this problem is for the Board to take control of its own authority and to promulgate a rule both procedurally and substantively that is one hundred percent in compliance with every statute, law and mandate of the Louisiana Constitution. That process takes a minimum of ninety days from start to finish if you do it exactly right. This has been law since August. It is time to honor the victims and survivors who will benefit from the appropriate promulgation of these rules and do it correctly. Thank you.

I like don't usually get emotional when I testify at these meetings, but this process has been so deeply frustrating and harmful to survivors. We worked so hard at the Louisiana Legislative session to pass a bill to make this fund more accessible in a state that has the highest murder rate in the country and the fifth-highest violent crime rate. LCLE was not only well aware of what the bill said, but they helped us make changes and pass the bill, and since then, we have faced opposition, aggression, intimidation at every single turn in the rule-making process. This process, the rule-making process should have started in June, when the bill passed. It has now been eight months and survivors are still unable to apply with other reasonable documentation. They're still unable to access higher cap amounts, and there are real reasons that those changes were made because people in Louisiana are dying and in danger from violence and this money is a lifeline to be able to heal and in many cases survive.

The specific issues that I want to point out with the language of the proposed rules is page 3 Section 3 203 d. (Title 22 §303. 2. d.) The rationale that we were given by CVR staff for why the reasonable documentation that survivors submit with an application why that can't be put into the rules is because there shouldn't be lists in the Administrative Rules, but if you flip through Title 22, there's many lists, many many enumerated lists of items and it is extremely unfair to expect a grieving mother or a traumatized rape survivor to go to legis.com and look up a bill from the 2022 legislative session to know how they can apply to the Crime Victims fund. That is completely unreasonable and there's no reason why a list cannot be put in these rules to make it clear, not just for survivors because I've been attending these Board meetings since 2021 and the Board members are so confused all the time, and they don't know what the eligibility requirements are, the claims investigators don't know what the eligibility requirements are, and we suffer from it. The victims of Louisiana are suffering from it. It is an easy change and it's ridiculous that it hasn't been made so far.

The other substantive language change is page 94 section 503 n 4. This is, it, it's a major error to limit sexual assault survivors to only receiving a one thousand dollar reimbursement. It, I mean, this truly comes out of nowhere. It's not in the law. It doesn't make sense. Our law raised the cap to fifteen thousand, and now there's a new sentence in this rule that limits sexual assault survivor medical bills to a thousand dollars. It... medical bills are significantly more than a thousand dollars if you are a survivor of violent crime. So, there's a lot more to be said. We really wish that more than a single Board member was here today. CVR staff has refused to notice the public and notice the Board members about this meeting. We requested that Board members be told at the last CVR Board meeting. Our organization is the one that even told the Board that this meeting was happening, and we feel like if this was a transparent and fair rule-making process, then there would be nothing to be ashamed of, and Board members should be here, listening to what the most impacted people by this body have to say.

3.

I've worked with victims and survivors in New Orleans, and in accessing and navigating systems following incidents of interpersonal violence. I have firsthand knowledge of the application process and the barriers to accessing CVR funds.

Less than ten percent of victims of violent crimes apply for CVR funds, and I have rarely encountered individuals that were aware of the program prior to themselves seeking out services for the incident.

The information on the fund is not readily available, and referrals are not made on-scene by law enforcement. Eligibility requirements including confusing forms, reporting to law enforcement in general, limitations to medical, funeral and relocation funding create barriers to accessing financial aid, and can cause harm. Not only does this create issues for victims seeking out services and seeking out the application process. It also...they're not gonna seek medical services in general. They're not going to relocate. They're going to end up back with their abusive harmful partners because they know that they can't access the funds to get out.

Involving law enforcement can often increase the risk of severe and fatal violence. Unclear rules and regulations make the process largely inaccessible to many survivors, and funding for all medical expenses is necessary to support the wellbeing of the community.

Louisiana has the fifth-highest violent crime rate, is the...has the number one homicide rate, is number two in maternal mortality. Pregnant women are more likely to be killed than to die from any pregnancy-associated reason. New Orleans is number two for food insecurity.

The victims and survivors of Louisiana deserve the support that the law has allowed them.

4.

I'm here on behalf of STAR which stands for Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response. I have comments from a survivor who wishes to remain confidential in these settings because her ACE is actually coming forward so I'm gonna read her statement first.

It says, Hi, I am both a physical assault and sexual assault survivor. I want to start by thanking the CVR Board for approving my application years ago which was truly a lifeline for me. After a stranger sexually assaulted me in my neighborhood, I was left with multiple broken bones requiring multiple surgeries. In the immediate aftermath of the attack, I received countless medical bills, struggled with multiple insurance company disputes, and was faced with large out-of-pocket expenses.

Today I want to specifically address the proposed rule changes to limit the amount of CVR reimbursement for sexual assault survivors to one thousand. According to the proposed rule, under section N, Medical Examination of Sexual Assault Victims, healthcare services or expenses ancillary to a forensic medical examination and directly related to the crime may be reimbursed in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00.

In my particular situation, while I was sexually assaulted and had a forensic medical exam completed, I also incurred significant medical bills related to injuries sustained during the assault. While my insurance reimbursed part of the ambulance bill, I was still forced to pay over a thousand dollars out of pocket. Within two months of my attack, I received a bill from a local hospital showing an outstanding balance of twenty thousand dollars. When all was said and done, and after many insurance fights, the majority of these bills were reduced, but I was still left with thousands of dollars of out-of-pocket payments within just a few short months. I still feel extremely lucky that I was able to get CVR reimbursement for these initial out-of-pocket expenses, but I also stopped keeping track after the first year. Since that time, I've spent additional thousands out of pocket for additional physical therapy while (sic) I am still receiving on this day, and other medical bills related to my injuries sustained during the assault. While my case may not be the norm for survivors of sexual assault, it does exist.

Further, even without serious injury, survivors face far more bills than just what might be expected for a forensic medical exam or mental health. Post-exposure medications are required to avoid sexually transmitted infections, along with additional STI testing multiple times over months. Survivors may suffer long-term gynecological problems requiring multiple medical visits beyond the date of the initial assault. I would imagine that costs exceeding that of the...costs exceeding that of the forensic medical exam and certainly exceeding a thousand are the rule for survivors of sexual assault rather than the exception.

Why should survivors of sexual assault be treated as a separate class from other crime survivors? If I applied to CVR today, simply because my physical assault included a sexual assault, would I be subject to a cap of a thousand, when a survivor of a similar brutal physical assault would --?-- out to the maximum medical cap of fifteen thousand? Regardless of whether this was the Board's intent in drafting the rule change, it promises to be devastating to survivors of sexual assault. Sexual assault, too, is a violent crime.

In conclusion, I'd ask you to reconsider this proposed rule and include language to remove the one thousand cap on medical expenses for sexual assault survivors and allow them to apply for the maximum medical caps like any other victim of violent crime.

Further, I wanted to point out what the actual law says in this regard. In this regard, an amendment was added to make things a little bit easier for forensic medical examiners as well as hospitals to get reimbursement for payment related to the forensic medical exam. In that provision, it's under Section 18:22, The Board shall reimburse the healthcare provider who performs a forensic medical exam in the amount of six hundred dollars. The Board shall reimburse the healthcare facility at which a forensic medical exam was conducted for the cost of performing the exam in the amount of one thousand dollars. In order to be reimbursed for the cost of performing the forensic medical exam, the healthcare provider or the healthcare facility seeking reimbursement shall submit to the Board an attestation that a forensic medical exam was conducted. The attestation shall contain only sufficient information to identify the victim, the date the exam was performed, and the address to which payment can be made for the healthcare provider or healthcare facility. The Board shall not require any billing documentation or medical records from the healthcare provider or the healthcare facility as a condition of payment under the provisions of this Section...facility.

There was nothing in the law that said a survivor of sexual assault could not be reimbursed for medical expenses outside of that forensic medical exam. The Rules clearly state that anything ancillary is at a cap of a thousand. That's a clear violation of the law, and if needed, we will do... we will pursue litigation if that's what's in the best interests of the survivors that we serve. Thank you.

5.

I am a lifelong Louisiana resident, a Tulane alumna, an epidemiologist, and a victim of crime. I'm also a formerly incarcerated woman. This duality I exist in is not unique to me. As a majority female state and a state where violent crime is higher than the national average, all women are at risk of becoming me in the state of Louisiana, either by fighting back from their attacker, or being too afraid to for fear that the scarlet letter of criminal record will render them unworthy of aid or their own humanity.

The reason I took the drive all the way from New Orleans today is because I wanted to fight for the implementation of this policy immediately, particularly the non-restrictive provider verification. The hardest thing you will ever do as a survivor of crime is to tell your story, and to do that while also knowing that you will be seen as an enemy by people you have come to for protection is ten times as hard. With this provision, doctors, counselors, attorneys, and those with firsthand unique knowledge of the situation can verify that someone is the victim of a crime and thus eligible for assistance by the CVR Board.

I am no longer an impoverished woman, but so many women who have endured both sides of the criminal justice system, both victim and perpetrator, are. I speak for them, and I hope I'm heard, as there really is nothing stopping anyone in this room from becoming both victim and perpetrator.

6.

I would say generally...

My question is really procedural. I do agree as the Director of the New Orleans Family Justice Center, we have worked very very hard over many of these years to really enhance the fund for crime victims reparation. We were responsible for the... the legislation that increased the money that the state gets reimbursed from gambling institutions and this has helped to match the matching fund from the federal government so we really do believe that the process should be as easy for victims, and work every day to make sure they get reimbursed.

My comment specifically has to do with the legislation as it currently exists, which really speaks only to sexually oriented crimes or sexually oriented criminal offenses. And I'm speaking on behalf of the work that we have done across the country and with the forensic medical association to establish a protocol for domestic violence victims, specifically addressing strangulation and many of the forensics. And so I don't know if we need to include domestic violence victims in the legislation. What I would like to see is the same process for a medical provider who is doing domestic violence-related forensic exams to be able to submit it directly to the CVR Board, rather than going through the parish representative, because this creates an additional burden for us because we do forensic exams in many of the local parishes in the metropolitan area and oftentimes it is very difficult to identify who the representative is in that parish and having them understand what the process is and why they have to submit it.

So I don't know if we need to change the legislation this year to kind of make those tweaks to make it easier so that we can submit domestic violence, especially strangulation, forensic exams directly to CVR for reimbursement rather than going through the parish representative so I will work with LCLE and the CVR Board to see if we really need to change the legislation because forensic exams for domestic violence, especially strangulation, is a very established protocol now and many CVRs across the country recognize it equally, especially since we have an established protocol by the National Forensic Nurse Association. That's something that I would like to see, and certainly whatever we can do to make it easier for victims to be able to access the funds, we would be greatly in support.

7.

Louisiana Hospital Association would like to express its significant concern with the proposed Notice of Intent. We believe the Notice of Intent is in conflict with the legislation enacted during the last legislative session and if adopted will further only serve to increase the confusion in the community that's been created by the Crime Victims Reparations Board as a direct result of inconsistent application of the Rules, both for payment of forensic medical exams and for victims seeking reparations for their medical expenses. We strongly encourage the Crime Victims Reparations Board to withdraw this Notice of Intent and continue to work in the interests of stakeholders to create a transparent and efficient process for victims seeking reparations related to their medical expenses and for healthcare providers who are providing forensic medical exams in communities across Louisiana. Thank you.

8.

Just to start with some of the substantive concerns, just a few of them that I have with the current proposed rules

So as we know with the passage of HB 648 and Act 487, victims applying for CVR no longer are required to report to police or file a police report in order to get assistance. However, in the proposed Rules, under (Title 22) §303 A, 2. d. It is stated that in lieu of a police report, the claimant must submit reasonable documentation to show the commission of a crime. However it does not state what that reasonable documentation can be. And so a list of what qualifies as reasonable documentation should be included in the Rules for the sake of clarity so that victims and their loved ones applying for CVR are clear on that when they submit an application, they have all of the documentation that they need.

In addition, in Section §503 and §504 of the proposed rules, as others have stated, it sets the maximum reimbursement for victims of sexual assault who seek medical care other than an FME at one thousand dollars. Again, others have stated this just seems to be a glaring mistake. Many survivors of sexual assault also suffer physical harm outside of that sexual harm and other injuries for which they may seek medical care. It doesn't make sense that sexual assault survivors would be singled out in the proposed Rules in this way. Medical bills for physical injury from violent crime are a reimbursable cost under CVR and those victims who experience sexual harm and other physical injury should be able to seek assistance for both.

For the record, I also just want to state that only one Board member is present today to hear from survivors and victims, and I sent an email specifically requesting that Board members be reminded of this hearing. I don't believe a reminder was ever sent to them. So it's really too bad that Board members are not here to hear from the many advocates and survivors and victims who showed up today. I find it really disrespectful. LCLE and the CVR Board have taken... could have taken action long ago to ensure that victims and survivors get life-saving support, yet here we are eight months after the passage of the bill, and they're still standing in opposition to fair, simple and absolutely essential improvements to the fund which will quite literally save lives.

Katie Hunter - Lowrey
 Organizer, Louisiana Survivors for Reform Coalition

As a survivor of violence I am deeply disturbed by this administrative process & the conduct of various staff & board members. Mr. Bob Brentz should have initiated the rule process in June 2022, as he was present for the HB 698 bill hearings & supported the passage of that bill. Instead, repeat attempts to circumvent Act 485 delayed this administrative process. These changes to the CVR fund have been late since Aug. 1, 2022, and yet victims still cannot benefit from this 8 months later in a country.

LA is a state with the highest murder rate in the country, there for are desperately needed for victims of violence & their families. Now that there are a set of proposed rules available to the public for comment, CVR staff & the CVR Board Chair have refused to allow the public of policy meeting or provide board members with information to attend. This process has routinely attempted to silence, intimidate, and lie to crime survivors as we attempt to be involved in the process.

These rules unfortunately must be voted against. It saddens us to take this position as crime victim advocates as it will further lengthen an already unacceptably long process. In addition to the need for higher caps on rewards within the administrative rules (for funeral, mental health, etc.), there are several places where the rules are harmful to victims.

- pg 93 section 303.2d. must list the reasonable documentation that survivors may submit with an application. Many other lists exist in CVR rules - Title 22, Part XIII. Board members & claims investigators are often confused about eligibility of applications. Clarity is needed in the rules to benefit both CVR board members & victims. Expecting victims to check Louisiana law in their time of trauma is an unnecessary & cruel barrier.
- pg 94. Section 503.N4. It is ~~an~~ major error to limit sexual assault survivors to a maximum reimbursement of \$1,000 when Act 485 raised caps to \$15K. Why won't LA CVR program support victims of crime fairly?

I have worked with victims/survivors in New Orleans in accessing resources & navigating various systems following incidents of IPV. I have first hand knowledge of the application process & the barriers to accessing CVR funds

- LESS than 10% of victims of violent crime apply for CVR and I rarely encountered individuals that were aware of the program prior to seeking victim services. The information is not readily available & referrals are not made on scene by law enforcement
- Eligibility requirements including confusing forms, reports to law enforcement, limits to medical, funeral, & relocation funding create barriers to accessing financial aid and can cause harm; involving law-enforcement can increase risk of severe and fatal violence, unclear rules & regulations make the process largely inaccessible to survivors, funding for all medical expenses is necessary to support the wellbeing of the community.

LA has the #5 violent crime rate, is #1 homicide rate, #2 in maternal mortality, pregnant women are more likely to be killed than die from any preg-associated reason, NO is #2 for food insecurity → the victims/survivors in LA deserve the support under the laws we've outlined.

With the passage of HB 448/Act 487, victims applying for CUR ^{are} no longer ~~that~~ required to report to police or file a ~~police~~ police report in order to get assistance through CUR. In the ~~current~~ proposed rules under 303 A.2.d, it is stated that in lieu of a police report the claimant must submit "reasonable documentation to show the commission of a crime," but does not list what qualifies as reasonable documentation. A list of what qualifies as "reasonable documentation" should be included in the rules for the sake of clarity and victims can ensure they submit all necessary documentation.

~~Section 503.N.4~~ Section 503.N.4 of the proposed rules ~~states~~ sets the maximum reimbursement for victims of sexual assault who seek medical care other than an FME at \$1000. Many survivors of sexual assault also suffer physical harm and other injuries, for which they may seek medical care. ~~It~~ It does not make sense that sexual assault survivors are singled out in the proposed rules. Medical bills for physical injury are a reimbursable cost under CUR, and those victims who experience sexual harm and ~~other~~

physical injury should be able to seek assistance thru CUR for both.

For the record, I also want to note that only one board member is present today to hear from survivors and victims

LCLF and the CUR Board could have taken action long ago to ensure victims + survivors get life saving support, yet here we are ~~at least~~ ^{at least} months after the passage of this bill, and they are ~~still~~ ^{still} standing in opposition to fair, simple, and absolutely essential ~~changes~~ ^{improvements} to the fund which will quite literally save lives.

Many thanks to you

Can the statute be adapted to include the
method of for domestic violence victims,
including the police, the court allow the
victim to be protected with the help of
the police, the court, the prosecutor.

Morgan Lamandre, Sexual Trauma Awareness & Response. 6

Act 487 requires payment to healthcare providers and healthcare facilities at a rate of \$600 and \$1000, respectively. The Act did not limit the amount of medical expense sexual assault survivors are eligible to get reimbursed ancillary to the FME. Please see attached statement for

a survivor for comments in the record.

Hi, I am both physical assault and sexual assault survivor. I want to start by thanking the CVR board for approving my application years ago, which was truly a lifeline for me.

After a stranger sexually assaulted me in my neighborhood, I was left with multiple broken bones requiring multiple surgeries. In the immediate aftermath of the attack, I received countless medical bills, struggled with multiple insurance company disputes, and was faced with large out of pocket expenses.

Today, I specifically want to address the proposed rule change to limit the amount of CVR reimbursement for sexual assault survivors to \$1000. According to the proposed rule, under section N. Medical Examination of Sexual Assault Victims, "Healthcare services or expenses ancillary to a forensic medical examination and directly related to the crime may be reimbursed in an amount not to exceed \$1000."

In my particular situation, while I was sexually assaulted and had a forensic medical exam completed, I also incurred significant medical bills related to injuries sustained during the assault. While my insurance reimbursed part of the ambulance bill, I was still forced to pay over a thousand dollars out of pocket. Within two months of my attack, I received a bill from a local hospital showing an outstanding balance of \$20,000.

When all was said and done, and after many months of insurance fights, the majority of these bills were reduced, but I was still left with thousands of dollars of out of pocket payments within just a few short months. I still feel extremely lucky that I was able to get CVR reimbursement for these initial out of pocket expenses, but I also stopped keeping track after the first year. Since that time, I've spent additional thousands out of pocket for additional physical therapy (which I am still receiving to this day) and other medical bills related to my injuries sustained during the assault.

While my case may not be the norm for survivors of sexual assault, know that it DOES exist. Further, even without serious injuries, survivors face far more bills than just what might be expected for a forensic medical exam or mental health. Post-exposure medications are required to avoid sexual transmitted infections, along with additional STI testing multiple times over months. Survivors may suffer long-term gynecological problems requiring multiple medical visits beyond the date of the initial assault. I would imagine that costs exceeding that of the forensic medical exam—and certainly exceeding \$1000—are the rule for survivors of sexual assault rather than the exception. Why should survivors of sexual assault be treated as a separate class from other crime survivors? If I applied to CVR today, simply because my physical assault included a sexual assault, would I be subject to a cap of \$1000, when the survivor of a similar brutal physical assault would be allowed the maximum medical cap of \$15,000?

Regardless of whether this was not the board's intent in drafting this rule change, it promises to be devastating to survivors of sexual assault. Sexual assault, too, is a violent crime. In conclusion, I'd ask you to reconsider this proposed rule and include language to remove the \$1000 cap on medical expenses for sexual assault survivors and allow them to apply for the maximum medical caps like any other victim of violent crime.

Thank you.

Bob Wertz

From: Morgan Lamandre <morgan.lamandre@star.ngo>
Sent: Saturday, March 4, 2023 8:42 AM
To: Bob Wertz
Cc: Danielle Lax; Greg Waddell
Subject: Written Comments and follow-up from new CVR Rules
Attachments: Document_960016.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good morning Bob,

Happy Saturday if you are reading this on the day I am sending it. I wanted to follow-up with you about how you said the CVR board's hands are tied because the original bill limited the amount the CVR could pay for ancillary services outside the FME. You said the original bill limited the amount to \$1,000 and encouraged me to go look up the bill. I looked up the original bill and the law as it is today, but I am still not understanding your interpretation of the law. In fact, I think the law is clearly on the side we are advocating for--that survivors can still seek reimbursement for medical expenses . The law as it stands now, can of course be viewed [here](#).

I am attaching the original bill with relevant pieces highlighted. I will be mailing you all of this, but wanted to submit them electronically as well.

The relevant pieces to back what Greg Waddell and I have been saying are as follow:

No hospital or healthcare provider shall directly bill a victim of a sexually-oriented criminal offense for any healthcare services rendered in conducting a forensic medical examination as provided for in R.S. 15:622.

...

*Except for those services specifically set forth in the provision of this Section, no other services shall be subject to the reimbursement or billing provisions of **this Section** and shall continue to be reimbursable **under the ordinary billing procedures of the hospital or healthcare provider**. In addition, a victim of a sexually-oriented offense **may seek reimbursement for these services through the Crime Victims Reparations Board.***

So this provision always meant that the expenses directly related to the FME could not be directly billed to the victim. Those expenses ancillary to the FME that were not included in the list of items (things such as X-rays, surgeries, etc.) could always be billed to a victim directly (i.e. "under the ordinary billing procedures of the hospital or healthcare provider"), but a victim could always seek reimbursement for these services through the CVR board (hence the last line I bolded above).

Still, in an effort to try to understand where your interpretation that the board could only pay up to \$1,000 for items outside the FME, I read this law line by line (as well as some of the CVR statutes). When I read this part below of 46:1807, I wondered if your interpretation came from the following:

§1807. Powers and duties of board; staff

(7) Develop, adopt, and promulgate rules in the manner provided in the Administrative Procedure Act and in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 46:1806(B). The rules shall contain specific guidelines which shall establish the reasonable costs to be charged for all healthcare services or expenses ancillary to a forensic medical examination which shall not exceed one thousand dollars for each case.

When someone reads this at an initial glance, I could see how it would be interpreted to mean CVR could not pay out more than \$1,000. However, upon a closer inspection of the words used here you will see: "the rules shall contain specific guidelines which shall establish the reasonable costs to be **charged** for all healthcare services or expenses ancillary to a forensic medical examination which shall not exceed one thousand dollars for each case."

This means the board must promulgate rules for what the reasonable costs to be charged. It does *not* say the board must promulgate rules of what costs to be **awarded or paid** ancillary to a forensic medical examination which shall not exceed one thousand dollars for each case.

The term charged is particularly relevant here. An ordinary definition of charged in the context above would mean "to place the price of a thing to one's debit."

A look at all of the other statutes in Title 46 related to the CVR board use the terms "award, award of reparations," or "order of payment" to describe what is actually to be paid by the CVR board.

The term award, on the other hand, means "to give as due or merited" or "assign or bestow."

So using those ordinary meanings, the board must promulgate rules on what a hospital can charge a victim outside an FME (which cannot exceed \$1,000), but the law does **not** allow the board to only award or pay for expenses up to \$1,000.

Louisiana Civil Code article 11 provides, "The words of a law must be given their generally prevailing meaning." But, let's just say the word "charged" was used in an ambiguous manner, we have guidance from Civil Code articles 10, 12, and 13 on how to handle this situation. They provide:

When the language of the law is susceptible of different meanings, it must be interpreted as having the meaning that best conforms to the purpose of the law. La. Civ. C. art 10.

When the words of a law are ambiguous, their meaning must be sought by examining the context in which they occur and the text of the law as a whole. La. Civ. C. art. 12.

Laws on the same subject matter must be interpreted in reference to each other. La. Civ. C. art. 13.

I want to be clear that I don't think the word charged is susceptible of different meanings, but even if it does, it must still be interpreted in a way that best conforms to the purpose of the law. Given that for years you and the board have **not** interpreted the provision to mean you could only pay up to \$1,000, and you had paid thousands and thousands of dollars ancillary to the FME, I believe our interpretation is correct. The other code articles further back our claims. As was pointed out at the board meeting, it would be absurd to limit the medical expense reimbursement for a sexual assault survivor simply because they also received an FME. That was never the intent of the legislation. I don't think there would be any weight for a hospital to follow what the CVR sets for what costs can be charged, but the rules say that's what you have to do.

Anyway, I just thought I would send this your way because even after reviewing the original bill and how the law stands, I don't understand how you would get to the conclusion that the CVR board could only "award" or make a "payment" of up to \$1,000 for healthcare expenses ancillary to the FME. If for some reason I am missing something, then please let me know, but the board should not be adopting rules that only make an "award" of up to \$1,000 for ancillary expenses.

Sincerely,

Morgan

--

Morgan Lamandre, Esq.
President & CEO
Sexual Trauma Awareness & Response®
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(225) 615-7093 ext. 104
www.star.ngo

Pronouns: She, her, hers

I work flexibly, so while it suits me to email now, I do not expect any response or action outside of your normal working hours.

SECTION 2

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:03

Dear Bob Wertz,

To the members of the Crime Victims Reparations (CVR) Board,

My name is Natalie Sharp, I am an organizer with Louisiana Survivors for Reform, and I urge board members of the Crime Victims Reparations Fund to vote NO on the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII.

As I stated in my public comment during the hearing on March 3rd, there are several substantive concerns I have with the current rules. First, the proposed rules state that the claimant must file "reasonable documentation to show the commission of a crime," but do not list what may be included as "reasonable documentation." Since the unanimous passage of HB 648, Louisiana law allows healthcare workers, counselors, and other trusted sources to verify that a crime occurred so that survivors may apply for life-saving funds through CVR. This list of what qualifies as reasonable documentation should be included in the rules, so survivors are clear on what they need to apply for CVR.

Another one of my primary concerns with the proposed rules is that sexual assault survivors who seek medical care that is not an FME are limited to a maximum reimbursement of \$1,000. This is a glaring and serious mistake. Many people who experience sexual assault also suffer other injuries and physical harm, and seek medical care for both the sexual assault and other injuries. Medical bills for a physical injury are a reimbursable cost under Louisiana law and CVR rules, and those who experience sexual harm AND other injuries should be able to seek assistance for both.

For the above reasons and more, I urge the Board to vote against the proposed rules, and restart the rulemaking process to correct these wrongs. In the meantime, the Board should also pass emergency rules to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487.

I have also attended every CVR Board meeting since September 2022 and have grave concerns about the rulemaking process and the deliberate, ongoing exclusion of public participation. The public comment section is at the very beginning of the meeting agendas so the public has no opportunity to speak on matters raised during the Board meetings. When the public has requested that public comment be reopened, those requests have been denied. Additionally, the meeting minutes do not reflect what is discussed at the meetings, and do not reflect public comments. CVR Board meetings are open to the public and should be recorded and streamed so that

survivors may have a voice in the process. Only one member of the CVR Board showed up to hear public comment from victims and survivors at the hearing on March 3rd, and LCLE refused to remind Board members of the hearing and encourage attendance, even when requested to do so. Victims in Louisiana deserve a more accessible and accountable CVR process, and I hope the Board takes its first steps towards making that happen today by voting against these rules.

Sincerely,

Natalie Sharp

nsharp@defendla.org

232 S Scott St

New Orleans, LA 70119

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:03
LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT

2023 MAR 17 PM 1: 03

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Sincerely,

Samantha Bosalavage

s.bosalavage@gmail.com

3048 Grand Route Saint John Street

New Orleans, LA 70119

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:03

Dear Bob Wertz,

As a survivor of violence, and an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

I urge the board to vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, I urge the board to pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

I believe the CVR Board wants to do the right thing and produce regulations that are in alignment with this enacted legislation and help survivors. I am available to provide support and technical assistance if needed. Please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Vonnie Hawkins

Vonnie@SocialWorx.org

13564 Neil Avenue

Baton Rouge, LA 70810

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:03

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Lydia Wright

lydia.a.wright@gmail.com

1020 Music St

New Orleans, LA 70117

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:03

Dear Bob Wertz,

I am a licensed clinical social worker that works with children, adolescents and families. As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Sam King

samanthaeking@gmail.com

2205 St Roch Ave

New Orleans, LA 70117

2023 MAR 17 PH 1: 03

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Sara Gozalo

sgozalo@defendla.org

5315 Saint Anthony Ave

New Orleans, LA 70122

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:03

Dear Bob Wertz,

Dear Members of the CVR Board,

I have had the honor to hear stories directly from survivors of violence as well as victim's loved ones in the state of Louisiana which motivate me to serve as a committed advocate for the rights of this population. In the name of ensuring the healing, well-being, and dignity of survivors and victims' loved ones, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Julia Louizides

Sincerely,

Julia Louizides

jlouizides@defendla.org

2011 General Pershing Street

New Orleans, LA 70115

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT 

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:03

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:04

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Mercedes Montagnes

mercedes.montagnes@gmail.com

1233 Lowerline St

New Orleans, LA 70118-5234

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT
2023 MAR 17 PM 1:04

Dear Bob Wertz,

Hello,

As a friend of survivors of violence and victims in Louisiana, I am writing to you as that the board vote against the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Laura Devitt

mustbered@gmail.com

6318 Carlson Drive

New Orleans, LA 70122

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:04

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Sincerely,

Eva Lessinger

evaroselessinger@gmail.com

2014 Josephine St.

New Orleans, LA 70113

2023 MAR 17 PM 1: 04

Dear Bob Wertz,

Dear CVR Board,

I am a survivor of sexual assault and rape. My friend and fellow teacher was murdered two years ago by her ex-boyfriend. Nothing will erase these traumas, but your alliance and solidarity can help make life go on.

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Caileen


Sincerely,

Caileen Coleman

caileen.coleman@gmail.com

4036 Dhemecourt St

New Orleans, LA 70119

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT 
2023 MAR 17 PM 1: 04

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:04

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Sincerely,

Michael Cahoon

michael.i.cahoon@gmail.com

1601 Feliciana Street

New Orleans, LA 70117

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT
2023 MAR 17 PM 1:04

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As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Herron

eherron@orleansda.com

Orleans

New Orleans, LA 70119

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT
2023 MAR 17 PM 1:04

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

treschell howard

trehoward30@gmail.com

4710 Rosemont place

New Orleans , LA 70126

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:04

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Angelle Bradford

bradford.751@osu.edu

2103 Selma Street

New Orleans, LA 70122

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:04

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Andy G

andygross26@gmail.com

323 S Scott St

new orleans , LA 70119

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT
2023 MAR 17 PM 1:04

Dear Bob Wertz,

I am a survivor of violence in Louisiana, and I care about how our state treats survivors and their loved ones.

That's why I'm asking that you vote against the proposed rules (published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII) that would contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Eight months after this bill went into effect, survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process. The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation.

Thank you for your time and your service as part of this process.

Sincerely,

Matt Bailey

m Bailey@defendla.org

3409 Severn Ave #226

Metairie, LA 70002

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:04

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Will Thinnes

will.thinnes@gmail.com

4602 S Toni St

New Orleans, LA 70125

2023 MAR 17 PM 1: 04

Dear Bob Wertz,

Almost all the women in my life are survivors of violence and they deserve real rules for HB 648, not the sham rules up for a vote this month. Please vote against the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Maxwell Ciardullo

maxwell.ciardullo@gmail.com

3702 St Claude Ave

New Orleans, LA 70117

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:04

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Sylvia Burn

sburn927@gmail.com

2454 Dauphine St Apt

New Orleans, LA 70117

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT
2023 MAR 17 PM 1:05

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Sincerely,

meghan johnson

meghanlizj@gmail.com

2733 urquhart street

new orleans, LA 70117

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:05

Dear Bob Wertz,

Protect survivors of sexual assault. The trauma endured by survivors is something they will deal with for the rest of their lives. There are ways to mitigate the impact of that trauma, and a supportive response is one thing we can do as a community to reduce the traumatic impact.

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

TQ SIMS

TQSIMS@GMAIL.COM

1709 Coliseum St

New Orleans, LA 70130

SECTION 5

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:05

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Latonya Kemp

latonyakemp365@gmail.com

6353 CROSSWIND DR

Shreveport, LA 71119

2023 MAR 17 PM 1: 05

Dear Bob Wertz,

Hello, all.

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Annie Nowak

annierose.nowak@gmail.com

320 N Olympia St

New Orleans, LA 70119

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:05

Dear Bob Wertz,

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Sincerely,

Zoe Johnson

zoemj@mac.com

1504 Sauvage Street

New Orleans, LA 70119

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:05

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As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

According to Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN), one out of every six American women has been the victim of attempted or completed sexual assault in her lifetime. According to the Department of Justice, sexual assault is the most under-reported, under investigated and under prosecuted of all violent crimes and least likely to result in conviction. Sexual assault is a traumatic event that can have significant and long-lasting impacts on victims. As cited in a recent op-ed in the LA Times, approximately 30% of survivors experience post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), higher than that of combat veterans. Victims of sexual assault may experience a range of physical, emotional, and psychological symptoms, including anxiety, depression, and substance abuse. Given the gravity of these consequences, financial resources are crucial to support victims of sexual assault, especially when it comes to the need for treatment and resources for safety and recovery.

Firstly, victims of sexual assault may delay reporting the crime for a variety of reasons, including fear of retaliation, shame, or disbelief from others. Delayed reporting can make it more difficult for victims to access the necessary resources and support, as evidence may have deteriorated or disappeared entirely. Financial resources can help to bridge this gap by providing victims with access to legal assistance, medical care, and counseling services, even if the assault occurred months or years ago.

Second, victims of sexual assault often experience PTSD, a mental health condition that can be debilitating without proper treatment. PTSD can manifest itself in a variety of ways, including flashbacks, nightmares, and severe anxiety. Treatment for PTSD can be expensive and prolonged, requiring specialized care from mental health professionals. It is essential that financial resources are available to support victims of sexual assault in accessing the necessary treatment to heal from PTSD.

Lastly, victims of sexual assault need resources for safety and recovery. This can include access to safe housing, transportation, and support networks. Many victims may need to relocate or take time off work to recover from the trauma of sexual assault. Financial resources can help to ensure that victims have access to these essential resources, enabling them to rebuild their lives in the aftermath of the assault.

In conclusion, financial resources are essential to support victims of sexual assault, particularly when it comes to the need for treatment of PTSD and resources for safety and recovery. Survivors need more financial support without short timelines. Without such resources, victims may struggle to access the support and care they need to heal from the trauma of sexual assault. It is critical that we prioritize the provision of financial resources to support victims of sexual assault and promote healing and recovery.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

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Sincerely,

Gena Castro Rodriguez
gena@prosecutorsalliance.org
236 West Portal Ave #447
San Francisco , CA 94127

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:05
LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

Dear Bob Wertz,

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Sincerely,

Willie Marie McMutry

2277wmm@gmail.com

7610 Harris street

Shreveport, LA 71106

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Cozette Padon

cozettepadon@gmail.com

608 N Olympia St

New Orleans, LA 70119

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

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As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Carla Collins

carlamcollins@yahoo.com

443 E 83rd Street

Shreveport, LA 71106

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

Dear Bob Wertz,

As a survivor and an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Melissa Tyler

mtylerwells@gmail.com

2103 Stephen Girard

New Orleans, LA 70122

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

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As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Emily Cooper

emily.michelle1210@comcast.net

31 a Beaver Park Rd

Framingham , MA 01702

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

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Sincerely,

Alix Tarnowsky

atarnowsky31@gmail.com

726 General Pershing St

New Orleans, LA 70115

2023 MAR 17 PH 1: 06

Dear Bob Wertz,

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Sincerely,

Hannah Udell

heudell@gmail.com

3711 Danneel Street

New Orleans, LA 70115

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

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Sincerely,

Katherine MacDermott

kate.macdermott@gmail.com

3824 Dauphine Street

New Orleans, LA 70117

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

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Sincerely,

Mary Christopher

marytchristopher@yahoo.com

1026 Mariners Cove Blvd

Slidell, LA 70458-5770

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

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Sincerely,

Nadiyah Muhammad

nadiyah222@gmail.com

2439 Delery St

New Orleans, LA 70117

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

Dear Bob Wertz,

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Sincerely,

Zoe Reier

zoe.a.reier@gmail.com

11 Fontainebleau Dr, Apt F

New Orleans, LA 70125

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

Dear Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Beatrice Taylor

btaylorlpp@gmail.com

947 N. Bon Marche Dr. APT 318

Baton Rouge LA, LA 70806

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

Dear Bob Wertz,

I am a Survivor of Domestic Violence! I was strangled and suffered emotionally and mentally from my abuser. I could not get access to assistance to help me.

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Tracey Taylor

samba-snitch0e@icloud.com

810 Bienville Street

New Orleans, LA 70112

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

Dear Bob Wertz,

Hi there,

I have unfortunately experienced firsthand the devastation of violent crime. Going through that pain, I needed all the support I could get. Even small road blocks to services seemed insurmountable to me as I navigated healing from a violent assault. I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Bobby Breedlove

joannakb@live.com

2341 N Miro St

New Orleans, LA 70117

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:06

Dear Bob Wertz,

As a survivor of sexual violence, I've experienced the least amount of help from the people who are supposed to make things right in these cases. So much light is put on the assault itself, without any consideration for the survivor's life post assault. These traumatic events affect each and every survivor differently. You may not know me, and you may not even know any survivors personally, but you have the power to make sure that this community gets even small victories in a race that seems impossible to win. Think about your daughters/sons, nieces/nephews, or any person you care deeply about. If they were faced with the unexpected tragedy of experiencing sexual violence, would you want a rule you voted yes to, to make their process of life post assault any harder than it has to be? There's so much change that needs to be made, but small victories/movement towards improvement are better than nothing at all. You may go back to your homes and think nothing about the lives that will be affected by voting yes to these proposed rules, however, I hope that with these words you feel every tear and every ounce of pain any survivor has gone through and will continue to go through as this fight will continue to go on. So with that being said, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Sincerely,

Carly Jones

carlyncijones1999@gmail.com

10222 Deer Hollow Dr.

Dallas, TX 75249

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT
2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

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Sincerely,

Colin Reingold

COLINREINGOLD@gmail.COM

1131 Marigny St

NEW ORLEANS, LA 70117

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

Dear Bob Wertz,

I am a resident of Louisiana, as well as a long-time advocate for the rights of survivors of violence and their loved ones. Given my experience I strongly encourage the board to vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Kendra Davis

kda0312@gmail.com

906 Wilson Dr

New Orleans, LA 70119

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

Dear Bob Wertz,

Alliance for Safety and Justice and Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice recommend a no vote on proposed rules to the CVR Board. Alliance for Safety and Justice (ASJ) is a multi-state organization that aims to advance public safety priorities that break cycles of crime and promote support for crime victims. Through our flagship program, Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice (CSSJ), we represent a growing network of crime victims across the country advocating for new safety solutions, including 1,800 victims in Louisiana. Alliance for Safety and Justice and Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice have spent the last decade advocating in states across the country for policies that remove barriers to trauma recovery for survivors, and stop cycles of crime.

We respectfully request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and request that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Louisiana needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Sincerely,

Andrea Gentile

andi@safeandjust.org

1459 E 33rd Street

Oakland, CA 94602

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

Dear Bob Wertz,

I am a loved one. The effects of crime can be wide ranging, deeply impactful and very expensive to recover from. Our states fails it's citizens in many areas, please don't let this be one of them.

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. This cap perpetuates inequities in our communities whereby only wealthy people can access resources need to heal from crime and victimization.

Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Sincerely,

Melissa Tyler

mtylertwells@gmail.com

LA COMMISSION 
LAW ENFORCEMENT

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

2103 Stephen Girard

New Orleans , LA 70122

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

Dear Bob Wertz,

I am not a crime survivor. I am merely a taxing paying citizen of Louisiana. I appreciate your desire to protect the limited funds available for victims. That said, I believe that providing this meager aid to crime victims will actually result in saving the state money in the long run. It will help victims recover from the harm they suffered and return to being productive members of society.

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Kristin Wenstrom

k_wenstrom@yahoo.com

571 Jack Drive
Covington, LA 70433

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT
2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

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Sincerely,

Leonetta MHP

leonettaterrell@hotmail.com

7801 neavda st

METAIRIE, LA 70003

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

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Sincerely,

Angelle Bradford

bradford.751@osu.edu

2103 Selma Street

New Orleans, LA 70122

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

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Sincerely,

Latonya Kemp

Latonyakemp365@gmail.com

6353 CROSSWIND DR

Shreveport, LA 71119

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT
2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

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As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Adrienna Winfrey

arinsnest@gmail.com

po box 741632

New Orleans, LA 70174

2023 MAR 17 PM 1:07

Dear Bob Wertz,

As a survivor of violence and a victim in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Sincerely,

Natasha Scott

natasha46scott@gmail.com

1824 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd

New Orleans , LA 70113



LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT
2023 MAR 20 PM 1:43

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

To Bob Wertz,

Please see attached a recommended amendment to the proposed rules published in the January 2023 Louisiana Register regarding the Crime Victims Reparations (CVR) Board. As I stated during my comments at the public hearing held as part of this rulemaking process, survivors of violence request that the CVR board make several changes to the proposed rules.

The board must amend Section 303, A. Claimant Responsibility, 2d. regarding the reasonable documentation that is accepted with an application. For consistency with the law, clarity for the CVR staff, board, and claims investigators, and for the accessibility of survivors- reasonable documentation must be listed here. Citing the statute in Louisiana law is confusing and creates more work for all involved in this process. Attached is language for the amendment.

Additionally, the board must amend Section 503, N. Medical Examination of Sexual Assault Victims, 4. regarding the cap on awards for sexual assault survivors. The sentence, "The maximum reimbursement for this type of visit may not exceed \$1,000." must be removed from the proposed rules. It is a cruel limit on sexual assault victims and an incorrect reading of the law by the CVR staff and board to have proposed rules with this sentence included.

We look forward to the CVR staff and board amending the proposed rules to best serve crime victims and their loved ones in Louisiana.

Sincerely,
Katie Hunter-Lowrey
Lead Organizer, Louisiana Survivors for Reform

Amendment for proposed rules of the Crime Victims Reparations Board

303. Application Process

A. Claimant Responsibility

d. If a victim chooses not to report the crime to a law enforcement officer, the claimant must submit reasonable documentation ~~(as provided by R.S. 46:1806(A.)(1)(b) with the application)~~ to show the commission of a crime relevant to the application. Reasonable documentation includes but is not limited to:

- i. a police report
- ii. court records
- iii. a provider verification form
- iv. a death certificate

LA COMMISSION
LAW ENFORCEMENT
2023 MAR 20 PM 1:43

(E1)
SECTION 4

Bob Wertz

From: Adrienna Winfrey <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 10:26 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Adrienna Winfrey
arinsnest@gmail.com

po box 741632
New Orleans, Louisiana 70174

(E2)

Bob Wertz

From: Angelle Bradford <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:28 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

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Angelle Bradford
bradford.751@osu.edu

2103 Selma Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70122

E3

Bob Wertz

From: Leonetta MHP <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 9:02 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

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Leonetta MHP
leonettaterrell@hotmail.com

7801 neavda st
METAIRIE, Louisiana 70003

E4

Bob Wertz

From: Kristin Wenstrom <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 3:12 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

I am not a crime survivor. I am merely a taxing paying citizen of Louisiana. I appreciate your desire to protect the limited funds available for victims. That said, I believe that providing this meager aid to crime victims will actually result in saving the state money in the long run. It will help victims recover from the harm they suffered and return to being productive members of society.

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Kristin Wenstrom

k_wenstrom@yahoo.com

571 Jack Drive

Covington, Louisiana 70433

ES

Bob Wertz

From: Melissa Tyler <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 1:40 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

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As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

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Melissa Tyler

mtylerwells@gmail.com

2103 Stephen Girard

New Orleans , Louisiana 70122

E6

Bob Wertz

From: Colin Reingold <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:27 AM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

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Colin Reingold
COLINREINGOLD@gmail.COM
1131 Marigny St

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana 70117

E7

Bob Wertz

From: Carly Jones <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:25 AM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As a survivor of sexual violence, I've experienced the least amount of help from the people who are supposed to make things right in these cases. So much light is put on the assault itself, without any consideration for the survivor's life post assault. These traumatic events affect each and every survivor differently. You may not know me, and you may not even know any survivors personally, but you have the power to make sure that this community gets even small victories in a race that seems impossible to win. Think about your daughters/sons, nieces/nephews, or any person you care deeply about. If they were faced with the unexpected tragedy of experiencing sexual violence, would you want a rule you voted yes to, to make their process of life post assault any harder than it has to be? There's so much change that needs to be made, but small victories/movement towards improvement are better than nothing at all. You may go back to your homes and think nothing about the lives that will be affected by voting yes to these proposed rules, however, I hope that with these words you feel every tear and every ounce of pain any survivor has gone through and will continue to go through as this fight will continue to go on. So with that being said, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap

E7 cont

on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Carly Jones

carlyncijones1999@gmail.com

10222 Deer Hollow Dr.

Dallas, Texas 75249

Bob Wertz

From: Hannah Udell <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 11:08 AM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Hannah Udell
heudell@gmail.com

3711 Danneel Street
New Orleans , Louisiana 70115

E-9

Bob Wertz

From: Alix Tarnowsky <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 10:59 AM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Alix Tarnowsky
atarnowsky31@gmail.com

726 General Pershing St
New Orleans, Louisiana 70115

E-10

Bob Wertz

From: Melissa Tyler <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 3:05 AM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As a survivor and an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Melissa Tyler
mtylertwells@gmail.com

2103 Stephen Girard St
New Orleans , Louisiana 70122

(E-11)

Bob Wertz

From: Carla Collins <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 10:01 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Carla Collins
carlamcollins@yahoo.com

443 E 83rd Street
Shreveport , Louisiana 71106

E-12

Bob Wertz

From: Cozette Padon <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 6:41 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LACLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Cozette Padon
cozettepadon@gmail.com

608 N Olympia St
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119

Bob Wertz

From: Willie Marie McMutry <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 6:32 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Willie Marie McMutry
2277wmm@gmail.com

7610 Harris street
Shreveport , Louisiana 71106

Bob Wertz

From: TQ SIMS <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 10:36 AM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LACLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

Protect survivors of sexual assault. The trauma endured by survivors is something they will deal with for the rest of their lives. There are ways to mitigate the impact of that trauma, and a supportive response is one thing we can do as a community to reduce the traumatic impact.

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs

a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

TQ SIMS

TQSIMS@GMAIL.COM

1709 Coliseum St

New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

(E-15)

Bob Wertz

From: Sylvia Burn <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 9:44 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Sylvia Burn
sburn927@gmail.com

2454 Dauphine St Apt
New Orleans, Louisiana 70117

(E-16)

Bob Wertz

From: Matt Bailey <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 10:12 AM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: CVR Board, please vote NO on proposed rules

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LACLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

I am a survivor of violence in Louisiana, and I care about how our state treats survivors and their loved ones.

That's why I'm asking that you vote against the proposed rules (published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII) that would contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Eight months after this bill went into effect, survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process. The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation.

Thank you for your time and your service as part of this process.

Matt Bailey

mbailey@defendla.org

3409 Severn Ave #226

Metairie, Louisiana 70002

E-17

Bob Wertz

From: Andy G <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 9:55 AM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Andy G
andygross26@gmail.com

323 S Scott St
new orleans , Louisiana 70119

(E-18)

Bob Wertz

From: Greg Waddell <gwaddell@lhaonline.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 10:29 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Notice of Intent

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Bob,

I mentioned to you at the conclusion of the public hearing that portions of your synopsis of the proposed rule you provided at the beginning of the hearing seemed to be inconsistent with the actual provisions contained in the Notice of Intent. I think it would be helpful to understand if there could possibly be errors in the Notice of Intent (particularly as it relates to the FME) as this could potentially address some of our concerns.

Thanks,

Greg

Gregory L. Waddell | Vice President of Legal, Governmental and Regulatory Affairs
Louisiana Hospital Association
9521 Brookline Ave | Baton Rouge, LA 70809
Tel: 225-928-0026 | Cell: 225-333-0800

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E-19

Bob Wertz

From: bradford.751@osu.edu <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 9:40 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

bradford.751@osu.edu
2103 Selma Street

New Orleans, Louisiana 70122

E-20

Bob Wertz

From: Michael Cahoon <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 3:04 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Michael Cahoon
michael.i.cahoon@gmail.com

1601 Feliciana Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70117

E-21

Bob Wertz

From: Cailleen Coleman <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 2:22 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

Dear CVR Board,

I am a survivor of sexual assault and rape. My friend and fellow teacher was murdered two years ago by her ex-boyfriend. Nothing will erase these traumas, but your alliance and solidarity can help make life go on.

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for

participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Caileen

Caileen Coleman

caileen.coleman@gmail.com

4036 Dhemecourt St

New Orleans, Louisiana 70119

E-22

Bob Wertz

From: Eva Lessinger <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 2:03 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Eva Lessinger
evaroselessinger@gmail.com

2014 Josephine St.
New Orleans, Louisiana 70113

Bob Wertz

From: Laura Devitt <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 2:01 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Please Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

Hello,

As an friend of survivors of violence and victims in Louisiana, I am writing to ask that the board vote against the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Laura Devitt

mustbered@gmail.com

6318 Carlson Drive

New Orleans, Louisiana 70122

E-24

Bob Wertz

From: Mercedes Montagnes <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 12:37 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

Mercedes Montagnes
mercedes.montagnes@gmail.com

1233 Lowerline St
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118-5234

Bob Wertz

From: Sara Gozalo <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 11:34 AM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

As an advocate for survivors of violence and victims' loved ones in Louisiana, I request that the board vote against adoption of the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII. The proposed rules contradict Louisiana law and harm crime victims who need assistance. HB 648, passed unanimously by the legislature in 2022 and signed into law as Act 487 by the governor, made long needed changes to CVR accessibility for crime victims and their families. Though this bill went into effect August 1, 2022, eight months later survivors are still unable to receive the assistance that Act 487 makes possible.

The board must vote against adoption of these rules. New rules must list the reasonable forms of documentation that can be submitted with an application and remove the \$1,000 cap on reimbursement for sexual assault survivors. Additionally, the board must pass emergency rules immediately to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487. It is crucial that survivors be able to utilize the higher caps and healthcare provider verification that they are now entitled to under Louisiana law.

The rulemaking process led by the CVR staff and board has lacked transparency and has intentionally kept the public from taking part. Survivors want to have a voice in this process and demand that future CVR meetings, which are open to the public, be streamed to allow for participation. Crime victims are struggling to survive and to heal in Louisiana. Our state needs a more accessible and accountable CVR process.

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New Orleans, Louisiana 70122

E-26

Bob Wertz

From: Samantha Bosalavage <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 10:56 AM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

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Samantha Bosalavage
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New Orleans, Louisiana 70119

E-27

Bob Wertz

From: Natalie Sharp <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 10:09 PM
To: Bob Wertz
Subject: Vote NO on proposed rules to CVR Board

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

LCLE Staff Member Bob Wertz,

To the members of the Crime Victims Reparations (CVR) Board,

My name is Natalie Sharp, I am an organizer with Louisiana Survivors for Reform, and I urge board members of the Crime Victims Reparations Fund to vote NO on the proposed rules published in the January edition of the Louisiana Register that would change Title 22, Part XIII.

As I stated in my public comment during the hearing on March 3rd, there are several substantive concerns I have with the current rules. First, the proposed rules state that the claimant must file "reasonable documentation to show the commission of a crime," but do not list what may be included as "reasonable documentation." Since the unanimous passage of HB 648, Louisiana law allows healthcare workers, counselors, and other trusted sources to verify that a crime occurred so that survivors may apply for life-saving funds through CVR. This list of what qualifies as reasonable documentation should be included in the rules, so survivors are clear on what they need to apply for CVR.

Another one of my primary concerns with the proposed rules is that sexual assault survivors who seek medical care that is not an FME are limited to a maximum reimbursement of \$1,000. This is a glaring and serious mistake. Many people who experience sexual assault also suffer other injuries and physical harm, and seek medical care for both the sexual assault and other injuries. Medical bills for a physical injury are a reimbursable cost under Louisiana law and CVR rules, and those who experience sexual harm AND other injuries should be able to seek assistance for both.

For the above reasons and more, I urge the Board to vote against the proposed rules, and

restart the rulemaking process to correct these wrongs. In the meantime, the Board should also pass emergency rules to allow survivors to utilize the process and reimbursement changes made under Act 487.

I have also attended every CVR Board meeting since September 2022 and have grave concerns about the rulemaking process and the deliberate, ongoing exclusion of public participation. The public comment section is at the very beginning of the meeting agendas so the public has no opportunity to speak on matters raised during the Board meetings. When the public has requested that public comment be reopened, those requests have been denied. Additionally, the meeting minutes do not reflect what is discussed at the meetings, and do not reflect public comments. CVR Board meetings are open to the public and should be recorded and streamed so that survivors may have a voice in the process. Only one member of the CVR Board showed up to hear public comment from victims and survivors at the hearing on March 3rd, and LCLE refused to remind Board members of the hearing and encourage attendance, even when requested to do so. Victims in Louisiana deserve a more accessible and accountable CVR process, and I hope the Board takes its first steps towards making that happen today by voting against these rules.

Natalie Sharp

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