



## COLORADO SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM EMERGENCY (SAVE) FUND PAYMENT PROGRAM Information for Law Enforcement Assisting Medical Reporting Victims

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In 2013, the Colorado General Assembly unanimously passed HB13-1163 which created the Sexual Assault Victim Emergency (SAVE) Payment Program. The Colorado Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) is the designated administrator of the SAVE program.

### SAVE Program Basics (C.R.S. §18-3-407.7)

- **Only medical reporting victims<sup>1</sup> are eligible for the SAVE program.**
- This program provides payment assistance to medical reporting victims for (*in priority order*):
  - 1) Routine costs associated with accessing a medical forensic exam (MFE);
  - 2) Some medical expenses related to injuries sustained from the sexual assault; and
  - 3) The cost of the evidence collection portion of the medical forensic exam (*DCJ will pay for evidence collection for medical reporting victims through the SAVE program or other funds; victims never pay this cost*).
- The SAVE program is a payor of last resort.
- SAVE program coverage is contingent upon the appropriation and availability of funds.
- Payments are subject to a per person cap, based on actual costs, determined annually by DCJ.

### SAVE Program Process

- The SAVE Program provides financial assistance, through DCJ, to victims who receive a medical forensic exam and initially choose not to participate in the criminal justice system.
- All billing and payment for the SAVE Program occurs between the hospital and DCJ. Law enforcement and the victims are not be involved in this process.

### SAVE Program - Converted Cases<sup>2</sup>

- **As with current practice**, law enforcement will pay the evidence collection cost for cases where the victim converts to a law enforcement reporting victim<sup>3</sup> prior to DCJ receiving the bill from the hospital.
- Converted case victims will be referred by DCJ to Victims' Compensation.

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<sup>1</sup> Medical reporting victims are sexual assault victims who obtain a medical forensic exam following a sexual assault but who are not participating in the criminal justice system at the time they leave the hospital.

<sup>2</sup> Converted cases are when medical reporting victims later report the assault to law enforcement. The conversion from a medical report to a law enforcement report can occur at any time after the victim has left the hospital.

<sup>3</sup> Law enforcement reporting victims are victims who report their assault to law enforcement prior to, at the time or, or independent of a medical forensic exam.