District Attorney’s Office Offering Assistance to Victims of Church’s Chicken Shooting

Victim Advocates Available to Provide Guidance on State Assistance

Individuals affected by the November 6 fatal shooting at a Church’s Chicken restaurant in Otay Mesa West may qualify for victim services and resources through the state of California’s Victim Compensation Board, which provides assistance in paying for expenses associated with loss and recovery. Individuals eligible for assistance include anyone present inside the restaurant when the shooting occurred, and possibly those present in the parking lot near the restaurant at the time.

The San Diego County District Attorney’s Victim Services Division strives to reduce the trauma by addressing the medical and emotional needs experienced by victims, witnesses, and family members affected by crime.

“Our victim advocates stand ready to assist victims of crime in their most desperate moments,” District Attorney Summer Stephan said. “The protection of victims of crime is a core part of our mission and each year we help at least 13,000 crime victims with support and resources.”

Individuals who believe they may be eligible for assistance can contact the District Attorney’s Office Victim Services Division at 619-531-4041 for help regarding applicable compensation benefits, information and other resources.

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The District Attorney’s Victim Assistance Program provides comprehensive services to all crime victims, as mandated by law. Mandatory and optional services are provided to crime victims even when a suspect has not been apprehended or prosecuted. The goal of the program is to reduce the trauma that victims experience in the aftermath of a crime.

The San Diego District Attorney’s Victim Advocates are focused on providing assistance to victims of violent crimes. In 2018, they assisted 13,315 new crime victims. This assistance included 1,567 crisis interventions and 13,718 resources and referrals. In addition, they provided case status to 7,291 victims and court accompaniment to 1,895 victims. Victim Advocates also assisted in filing 948 applications with the Victim Compensation Board.