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For Immediate Release

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# DA's Office Ready to Assist San Diego County Victims of Las Vegas Shooting

## *Victim Advocates Available to Provide Guidance on State Assistance*

San Diego County District Attorney [Summer Stephan](#) said today that San Diego County residents affected by the Las Vegas mass shooting may qualify for local victim services and resources, including help paying for expenses associated with loss and recovery. Many San Diego-area residents were at the concert and are victims of this tragedy. Many have created GoFundMe accounts and may not realize that, even though the crime happened in Las Vegas, they may be entitled to receive help from the state of California.

**“Words cannot adequately express the pain left in the wake of the recent mass shooting in Las Vegas that caused the senseless loss of innocent lives and the injury of hundreds more,” said District Attorney Summer Stephan. “As a community, we need to do everything we can to help victims of this tragic event, and our team is actively reaching out to identified victims and are standing by to help any additional victims learn about the services and financial support that may be available to them. Our office is here to serve you.”**

If you are a California resident and were at the concert in Las Vegas, even if you were not personally physically harmed, you and your family may qualify for victim services. In addition, if you're not sure you're a qualifying victim or family member, the DA's Office can assist you in answering your questions. Victim Advocates are available to provide resources, including assistance with the California Victim Compensation Board (CalVCB) application, which may help pay for a variety of crime-related expenses including: mental health services; medical and dental treatment; income loss; funeral and burial expenses; loss of support; and home or vehicle modifications. CalVCB can help victims of crimes that occur in California, as well as California residents who are victims of crimes that occur in other states or countries.

Please contact the District Attorney's Office Victim Services Division at 619-531-4041 for assistance regarding applicable compensation benefits, information, and 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 2016, they assisted 12,789 new crime victims. This assistance included 1,301 crisis interventions and 12,130 resources and referrals. In addition, they provided case status to 6,756 victims and court accompaniment to 1,015 victims. Victim Advocates also assisted in filing 869 applications with the Victim Compensation Board.*