

## GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS Law Enforcement Planning Commission

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## LEPC Announces Funding Opportunities for Federal Victims of Crime Assistance Grants Deadline Date: May 9, 2025

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS - The Virgin Islands Law Enforcement Planning Commission (LEPC) is pleased to announce it is accepting proposals effective Thursday, March 6, 2025, and closing on Friday, May 9, 2025, for two (2) federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Assistance Formula Grants (FY2023 and FY2024).

LEPC, with funding through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Victims of Crime, makes available VOCA Formula Grants to non-profit victim services entities and government agencies to provide direct services to assist victims recovering from victimization. VOCA funds will be awarded to support direct services to crime victims to include crisis counselling, follow-up, therapy, group treatment/support. shelter/safe house, information/referral, personal advocacy, assistance filing for victim compensation, criminal justice support/advocacy, and emergency legal advocacy; not all inclusive.

The VOCA funding was established by the Crime Victims Fund in 1984 as a repository of federal criminal fines, penalty assessments and bond forfeitures collected by the U.S. Attorney's Offices and the U.S. Courts from federal offenders. Under this program convicted federal criminals help pay for critical services for victims of child abuse, child sexual abuse, including incest, drunken driving, domestic violence, adult sexual assault, fraud, financial exploitation, kidnapping and other violent crimes.

The funding period is up to twelve (12) months from October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026. All awards are subject to the availability of funds. LEPC as the State Administering Agency, reserves the right to award as many subgrants and determine appropriate funding levels as it deems necessary.

Non-profit organizations applying must include the following documents in their application package:

- A valid Unique Entity ID (UEI) number
- Registration on SAM.gov
- Certificate of Incorporation
- IRS Determination Letter regarding 50l(c)3 status.
- Articles of Incorporation
- A current Certificate of Good Standing from the Lt. Governor's Office

Failure to submit all required documents by the scheduled deadline will result in disqualification for funding consideration. Each grant application <u>must</u> be received by LEPC electronically at rfp.response@lepc.vi.gov by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 9, 2025. Each application must be submitted with all required signatures and all other required documents, or it will be considered incomplete.

For an application or more information, please contact Ms. Carmen Potter, Executive Assistant to the Director, at 340-774-6400, or via email at <u>carmen.potter@lepc.vi.gov</u>. **Applications will be released on the effective date of Thursday, March 6, 2025.** 

LEPC is committed to supporting criminal justice initiatives and projects through collaboration, advise, strategic planning and resources that promote safe communities in the U.S. Virgin Islands.