

or indebtedness reasonably incurred for medical care or other services necessary as a result of the injury upon which such claim is based.

8. Determination of claims.

(a) A claim, when accepted for filing, shall be assigned by the chairman to himself or to another member of the Board. All claims arising from the death of an individual as a direct result of a crime, shall be considered together by a single Board member.

(b) The Board member to whom such claim is assigned shall examine the papers filed in support of the claim and shall thereupon cause an investigation to be conducted into the validity of the claim. The investigation shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of police, court and official records and reports concerning the crime and an examination of medical and hospital reports relating to the injury upon which the claim is based.

(c) Claims shall be investigated and determined, regardless of whether the alleged criminal has been apprehended or prosecuted for or convicted of any crime based upon the same incident, or has been acquitted, or found not guilty of the crime in question owing to criminal responsibility or other legal exemption.

(d) The Board member to whom a claim is assigned may decide the claim in favor of a claimant on the basis of the papers filed in support thereof and the report of the investigation of the claim. If the Board member is unable to decide the claim upon the basis of the said papers and report, he shall order a hearing. At the hearing any relevant evidence, not legally privileged, shall be admissible.

(e) After examining the papers filed in support of the claim and the report of investigation, and after a hearing, if any, the Board member to whom the claim was assigned shall make a decision either granting an award pursuant to Section 12 of this Article or deny the claim.

(f) The Board member making a decision shall file with the secretary a written report setting forth such decision and his reasons therefor. The secretary shall thereupon notify the claimant and furnish him a copy of such report, UPON REQUEST.

9. Consideration of decisions by full Board.

(a) The claimant may, within thirty days after receipt of the report of the Board member to whom his claim was assigned, make an application in writing to the Board for consideration of the decision by the full Board.

(b) Upon receipt of an application pursuant to subsection (a) of this Section OR UPON ITS OWN MOTION, the Board shall review the record and affirm or modify the decision of the Board member to whom the claim was assigned. The action of the Board in affirming or modifying such decision shall be final. If the Board receives no application pursuant to subsection (a) of this Section OR TAKES NO ACTION UPON ITS OWN MOTION the decision of the Board member to whom the claim was assigned shall become the final decision of the Board.