



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

Administrative Office
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Bldg. 1, Room E-316
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
(304) 340-2305 Jennifer Bundy
(304) 340-2306 April Harless
(304) 558-4219 / TTY
(304) 558-1212 / FAX
Web Site: www.courtswv.gov
Twitter: [WVCourts](https://twitter.com/WVCourts)
Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/courtswv/
Email: Jennifer.Bundy@courtswv.gov
Email: April.Harless@courtswv.gov

\$254,331 collected in 2014 for Boone County victims of crime

For immediate release

MADISON, W.Va. – Boone County Circuit Court collected \$254,331.06 in restitution payments for crime victims in 2014, an increase of \$221,782.30 over 2013 collections of \$32,548.76.

Restitution is money collected from offenders to compensate victims for financial loss suffered as a result of a crime.

“Victim’s rights are the core of the criminal justice system, and compensating victims is second only to public safety,” said Twenty-Fifth Judicial Circuit (Boone and Lincoln Counties) Judge William S. Thompson.

Once restitution is ordered by the court, Boone County Circuit Clerk Sue Ann Zickefoose’s office collects and distributes funds to victims. “The money belongs to the victims, and my office processes and distributes the funds immediately in the form of a check from the county,” she said.

Boone County Prosecutor Keith Randolph said, “It’s one of our goals in Boone County to make every victim whole, and one way we seek to do that is through the pursuit of restitution. Collecting restitution can be a challenge, but with the collective effort of law enforcement, the Prosecutor’s Office, and the Probation Office, we are better able to meet that challenge. I believe \$254,000 in restitution collected last year is the most collected in recent memory, if not ever in Boone County.”

The Boone County Sheriff’s Office and other law enforcement agencies based in the county work with the court to protect public safety and victims’ rights. Boone County Sheriff Randall White said, “Too often our citizens are victimized, but never compensated by offenders. That’s why it gives us a sense of satisfaction when victims of crime receive restitution and offenders are held accountable financially. There is no doubt that such a large amount of money is a direct result of cooperation between agencies.”

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