



FORT SILL POST CLAIMS



Victims of Crime

When you are the victim of a crime, Law Enforcement Officers (such as Army CID) may take and store your personal property as evidence of the crimes committed. Examples of property that CID may hold include stolen property, property that contains physical evidence, such as finger prints or DNA samples, and property that contains other forms of evidence, such as a cell phone with stored pictures or text messages.

Any property held as evidence will be safeguarded in the evidence storage facility and returned to the rightful owner as soon as possible. The prompt return of your property is preferable to CID and the Claims Office. However, if you need your property returned before the criminal investigation and prosecution are complete, you should first contact the investigating officer in charge of the case. If the investigating officer cannot return your property based on the ongoing needs of the investigation or prosecution, the officer will explain the reasons for retaining your property and provide an estimate of when the property can be returned to you.

If property belonging to a victim of a crime is destroyed or damaged as a result of its use as evidence in a criminal proceeding, the loss is compensable. The compensable amount is determined after the Claims Office considers the original cost, the replacement cost, the cost to repair, and normal depreciation of the item.

If the property belonging to the victim of a crime must be held as evidence for an extended period of time and the temporary loss of use of the property will cause a grave hardship on the victim, this loss is also compensable. In determining if a grave hardship will result from retention of the claimant's property, the Claims Office will consider the nature of the item and the length of time it is expected to be retained. As a general rule, payment for nonessential items will not be allowed, unless they will be held for more than 60 days.

Claims for some items, such as a child's car seat or cell phone, might be compensable even if the item will only be held for a week. This provision will not be used unless every effort has been made to determine whether secondary evidence, such as photographs, may be substituted for the actual item.

The following documents will be needed to process your claim:

1. DD Form 1842, Claim for Loss or Damage to Personal Property
2. DD Form 1844, Itemized list of the property including month/year purchased and purchase price (if an item was a gift or inherited, provide an estimated or actual value as of the date you received it)
3. Direct deposit information
4. CID report case number
5. Copy of the itemized list of the property that was held as evidence

Note: All claimed property must be substantiated.

No compensation will be paid for property seized from the person suspected of an offense unless all of the evidence, including any evidence excluded at trial, clearly exonerates the suspect of all crimes. In all other cases, where items seized from a suspect are lost or damaged, the claim can only be considered as a tort claim.

The Fort Sill Claims Office is located at 4700 Mow-Way Road, Suite 400 in the Client Services Center. Our office operates on a walk-in basis from the hours of 09:00 – 16:00, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. On Thursdays, hours are from 13:00 – 16:00. Our telephone number is (580) 442-2317.

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