

RESTITUTION

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
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I. [§83.1] SCOPE OF BENCHGUIDE

This benchguide provides an overview of the law and procedure relating to restitution fines, fees, and orders in adult, juvenile, and diversion matters. Sections 83.2-83.3 contain procedural checklists.

Sections 83.4–83.90 summarize the applicable law. Sections 83.90–83.96 contain forms. Sections 83.97–83.98 provide information about California’s program to compensate victims of crime for unreimbursed losses and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) restitution collection program.

II. PROCEDURAL CHECKLISTS

A. [§83.2] Restitution Fines

(1) *Before accepting a plea of guilty or no contest:*

(a) *Advise defendant that the sentence will include a restitution fine of \$200 to \$10,000 for a felony conviction, and \$100 to \$1000 for a misdemeanor conviction, in addition to any other fine the court may impose. For discussion, see §83.11.*

- ☛ JUDICIAL TIPS: The admonition may be, and often is, part of a written form. Defendant should be advised of the range of the fine and not merely the possible maximum. The admonition should also cover the probation revocation and parole revocation restitution fines. For discussion, see §83.11; for script and form, see §§83.90–83.91.

(b) *Determine whether the disposition is part of a plea bargain.*

- *If so, ascertain on the record whether the bargain limits the court’s discretion with respect to the restitution fine.*

- ☛ JUDICIAL TIP: Proposed dispositions that purport to waive the fine or set it below the statutory minimum should be rejected. [Pen C §1202.4\(b\)](#); see §83.5.

(2) *Before sentencing:*

(a) *Preliminarily determine the amount of the restitution fine by considering*

- *Any limitation imposed by a negotiated plea. Illustrations: fine to be in amount of statutory minimum; “wobbler” to be sentenced as misdemeanor.*

- ☛ JUDICIAL TIP: In the aftermath of a plea bargain that failed to address the restitution fine, which was not mentioned in the court’s advisements of the consequences of the plea, the court must either impose the minimum fine or give defendant an opportunity to withdraw the plea. But if the court, in accepting the plea, advises the defendant that a restitution fine at or above the minimum will be imposed, the court is not precluded from

imposing a fine above the statutory minimum. For discussion, see §83.12.

- *The statutory range:*

	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
Misdemeanor	\$100	\$1,000
Felony	\$200	\$10,000

For juvenile offenders, see §83.9.

- *Seriousness and circumstances of the offense.* Pen C §1202.4(b)(1), (d).
- *Inability to pay.* Pen C §1202.4(d).

➤ JUDICIAL TIPS: (1) Defendant has the burden of showing inability to pay. Pen C §1202.4(d). (2) Inability to pay only affects the amount of the fine above the statutory minimum. Pen C §1202.4(c). (3) The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) collects restitution fines from the wages and trust account deposits of prisoners. See §§83.5, 83.15, 83.23.

- *Defendant's economic gains, if any, from the crime; losses suffered by others; the number of victims, and any other relevant factors.* Pen C §1202.4(d); for discussion, see §83.14.

➤ JUDICIAL TIP: Judges often consider the amount of restitution to victims and other fines defendant will be ordered to pay. Again, these considerations only affect the amount of the restitution fine in excess of the statutory minimum.

- *The formula set out in Pen C §1202.4(b)(2) permits, but does not require, the court to set a restitution fine in a felony case as follows: \$200 x number of years to be served x number of felony counts of which defendant was convicted.*

➤ JUDICIAL TIP: Some judges simplify the formula to \$200 x number of counts. In the view of some judges, a life sentence calls for the maximum fine.

(b) *Determine whether an additional probation revocation restitution fine must be imposed and suspended under Pen C §1202.44.* Such a fine is mandatory whenever a defendant receives a conditional sentence or a sentence that includes a period of probation. For discussion, see §83.6.

(c) *In a felony case determine whether an additional parole revocation restitution fine must be imposed and suspended under Pen C*

§1202.45. Such a fine is mandatory whenever defendant will be sentenced to state prison and will be eligible for parole. For discussion, see §83.7.

(d) *Consider whether there are compelling and extraordinary reasons not to impose a restitution fine.* Pen C §1202.4(c); for discussion, see §83.20. If yes, make notes for statement of reasons and proceed to (e); if no, proceed to (f).

☛ JUDICIAL TIPS: Inability to pay is not an adequate reason. Pen C §1202.4(c). Nor, in the view of most judges, is a prison sentence. See §§83.5, 83.15.

(e) *Determine either (i) how much community service to require of defendant instead of the restitution fine or (ii) whether there are compelling and extraordinary reasons to waive the requirement.* Pen C §1202.4(n). In the event of (ii), make notes for a second statement of reasons at sentencing.

(f) *Determine whether the offense is one for which an additional restitution fine may be imposed under Pen C §294 for specified acts of misconduct against children and for child pornography.* (Note: The CDCR does not have the authority to collect restitution fines under Pen C §294.) For discussion, see §83.8. If yes, proceed to (g); if no, proceed to 3.

(g) *Consider whether to impose an additional restitution fine, and if so, in what amount.* Pen C §294. See §83.8.

(3) *At sentencing:*

(a) *Consider matters raised by counsel and make final decision concerning the restitution fine.*

☛ JUDICIAL TIPS: (1) Restitution fines are normally imposed at the sentencing hearing; defendant is not entitled to a separate hearing. See §83.13. (2) A judge who is inclined to impose an additional restitution fine under Pen C §294 should so inform defendant at the outset of the sentencing hearing and give defendant an opportunity to be heard.

To impose a restitution fine proceed to (b); to waive the fine proceed to (f).

(b) *Impose a restitution fine (Pen C §1202.4).*

☛ JUDICIAL TIPS:

- No portion of this fine may be stayed, suspended, or offset by the amount of victim restitution defendant is ordered to pay. See §83.21.

- As long as the fine is imposed, findings are unnecessary ([Pen C §1202.4\(d\)](#)) and usually not made. See [§83.18](#).
- The court should not enter a separate money judgment. Although restitution fines are enforceable in the manner of money judgments, the court may not actually enter a money judgment against a defendant for these amounts. See [§83.25](#).

(c) *If defendant is granted probation:*

- *Make payment of the fine a condition of probation.* [Pen C §1202.4\(m\)](#).
- *Impose an additional fine in the same amount as the restitution fine and order it suspended unless probation is revoked.* [Pen C §1202.44](#). The court cannot waive or reduce this fine absent compelling and extraordinary reasons, which must be stated on the record. See [§83.6](#).

(d) *If defendant is sentenced to prison, impose an additional fine in the same amount as the restitution fine and order it suspended unless parole is revoked.* [Pen C §1202.45](#).

☛ JUDICIAL TIP: It is unnecessary to order this fine when defendant is ineligible for parole. See [§83.7](#).

(e) *Impose any additional discretionary restitution fine.* [Pen C §294](#). See [§83.8](#).

(f) *When no restitution fine is imposed:*

(i) *State compelling and extraordinary reasons for this action on the record and*

(ii) *Order defendant, as a condition of probation, to perform community service as specified by the court instead of the fine, or state on the record compelling and extraordinary reasons for not ordering community service.* [Pen C §1202.4\(n\)](#). See [§83.20](#).

☛ JUDICIAL TIP: This statement should be in addition to the statement of reasons for not imposing a restitution fine. [Pen C §1202.4\(n\)](#).

B. [§83.3] Victim Restitution

(1) *Before accepting a plea of guilty or no contest:*

(a) *Advise defendant that the sentence may include an order to pay restitution to the victim in an amount to be determined by the court.* For discussion, see [§83.31](#); for form, see [§83.91](#).

➤ JUDICIAL TIPS: (1) When it is clear that the court will order restitution, many judges say so at this point. (2) The admonition can be incorporated into a written form.

(b) *Advise defendant that he or she is entitled to a hearing in court to dispute the amount of restitution but not the actual order to make restitution.* See §83.41.

➤ JUDICIAL TIP: Many judges prefer to give this advice at the time of sentencing.

(c) *When there is a Harvey waiver that will give the court authority to consider dismissed counts for restitution purposes, make sure that the waiver is stated clearly on the record, that its scope is clear, and that defendant understands it.* For discussion, see §83.86.

(2) *Before sentencing consider the probation report, when available, and*

(a) *Whether restitution should be ordered*

- Because one or more victims suffered or will suffer an economic loss as a result of the crime(s) of which defendant was convicted (Pen C §1202.4(a)(1); for discussion, see §§83.39–83.81; or
- For other reasons (e.g., Harvey waiver; hit-run victim; see §§83.82–83.89).

➤ JUDICIAL TIP: Judges may order victim restitution, if appropriate, for infractions. Although restitution *fin*es are expressly limited to felonies and misdemeanors, there is no such express limitation with respect to victim restitution. See Pen C §§19.7 (statutes relating to misdemeanors generally applicable to infractions), 1202.4(a)(1) (legislative intent that crime victims who suffer economic loss receive restitution), 1202.4(f) (restitution required in every case in which victim suffered economic loss as result of defendant's crime), and 1203b (courts may grant probation in infraction cases).

(b) *Whether the report includes detailed loss figures for each victim and whether they appear to be reasonable.*

(c) *Whether there are compelling and extraordinary reasons not to order full restitution.* Pen C §1202.4(f); for discussion, see §83.65. If yes, make notes for statement of reasons and proceed to (d); if no, proceed to (3).

➤ JUDICIAL TIPS: (1) This step should be taken only when the case comes within the mandatory restitution provisions of Pen C

§1202.4 or Welf & I C §730.6. Restitution to persons or for losses not covered by Pen C §1202.4 is discretionary (see §§83.82–83.89) and not governed by a compelling-and-extraordinary-reasons analysis. (2) Defendant’s inability to pay does not justify ordering less than full restitution. Pen C §1202.4(g); Welf & I C §730.6(h); for discussion, see §83.45.

(d) *Either (i) how much community service to require of defendant instead of full restitution, or (ii) whether there are compelling and extraordinary reasons to waive community service. Pen C §1202.4(n).* In the event of (ii), make notes for a separate statement of reasons at sentencing.

➡ JUDICIAL TIP: This statement should be separate from the statement of reasons for not requiring full restitution. The reasons are not always identical. Thus, a prison sentence makes community service impractical, but a waiver of restitution has to rest on another ground because restitution can be collected from prison wages and trust account deposits. For discussion, see §83.76.

(3) *At sentencing*

(a) *Announce either:*

(i) *The court’s preliminary views on restitution and inquire whether the victim or the defendant wishes to be heard.* If yes, proceed to (c); if no, proceed to (d) to order restitution or to (f) when waiving restitution.

Or

(ii) *That the probation report does not contain (sufficient) restitution information and proceed to (b).*

(b) *When the probation report lacks restitution data:*

(i) *Ascertain whether the victim is present.* If yes, receive the victim’s loss information; permit defendant to challenge it; upon request continue to give defendant time to rebut it. If no, proceed to (ii).

Or

(ii) *When the victim is not present and the report recommends a continuance, grant a reasonable continuance as to restitution issues.*

➡ JUDICIAL TIPS:

- Judges usually sentence the defendant even though restitution will be determined later. In such cases, the judge should include in the sentence an order for the defendant to pay restitution in an amount

to be determined by the court. The court retains jurisdiction for the purpose of imposing restitution until the losses are determined.

- Judges often seek a waiver of defendant's presence at the subsequent restitution hearing. This is particularly important when the defendant is sentenced to prison. See §83.68.

Or

(iii) *When the victim is not present, was notified, has not made a claim, and the report does not request a continuance, do not order restitution, except for any benefits that the victim received from the Restitution Fund.* Some judges reserve jurisdiction to order restitution unless the prosecutor states that none is due. See §83.68.

- ☛ **JUDICIAL TIP:** In many cases, the victim is not notified, and the prosecutor may not have any information regarding losses. In these situations, the court should order restitution for benefits that the victim received from the Restitution Fund and reserve jurisdiction to order any additional restitution.

(c) *Conduct a hearing when the victim or defendant requests one.*

- ☛ **JUDICIAL TIP:** The hearing does not have the formality of a trial. Hearsay is admissible. For discussion, see §83.43.

At the end of the hearing proceed to (d) to order restitution; otherwise proceed to (f).

(d) *Order defendant to pay restitution* (for discussion, see §§83.67–83.72):

Use a separate order for each victim. For form, see §83.92.

- *Identify each loss separately by name of victim and amount; do not merely order a lump sum payment.*
- *Specify whether interest (at 10 percent) will accrue from the date of the order or of the loss.* Pen C §1202.4(f)(3)(G).
- *Specify whether codefendants are jointly and severally responsible for restitution.*
- *Do not delegate determination of restitution amount unless the defendant consents to a determination by the probation officer; determination of the number and dollar amounts of installment payments is often delegated to the probation department or other county agency.* For discussion, see §83.69.
- *When the sentence includes probation, make payment of the restitution order a condition of probation.* Pen C §1202.4(m).

- *Order defendant to pay restitution to the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board to reimburse payments to the victim from the Restitution Fund.* [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(2\)](#).

☛ **JUDICIAL TIP:** The court should not enter a separate money judgment. Although restitution orders are enforceable in the manner of money judgments, the court may not actually enter a money judgment against a defendant based on an order to pay restitution. See [§83.35](#).

(e) *Make and stay a separate income deduction order upon determining that defendant has the ability to pay restitution.* [Pen C §1202.42](#); for discussion, see [§83.74](#). For sample income deduction order and related forms, see [§§83.94–83.96](#).

☛ **JUDICIAL TIP:** [Penal Code §1202.42](#) does not apply to juvenile court restitution or to any restitution order not made under [Pen C §1202.4](#). For discussion of orders to apply a specified portion of earnings to restitution, see [§83.75](#).

(f) *When restitution is not ordered because of compelling and extraordinary reasons:*

(i) *State reasons on the record, and*

(ii) *Order defendant, as a condition of probation, to perform community service as specified by the court or state on the record compelling and extraordinary reasons for not ordering such service.* [Pen C §1202.4\(n\)](#). See [§83.65](#).

☛ **JUDICIAL TIP:** This statement should be in addition to the statement of reasons for not ordering the payment of restitution. See (2)(d) of this checklist.

III. APPLICABLE LAW

A. Restitution Fine

1. [\[§83.4\]](#) Purpose of Fine

Restitution fines are a major source of financing the state Restitution Fund (see [Pen C §§1202.4\(e\), 1202.44, 1202.45](#)); penalty assessments on other fines provide additional financing. See [Pen C §1464](#). Eligible victims of criminal acts may obtain restitution from the Restitution Fund, which is administered by the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board. For detailed information about the Board's Victim Compensation Program, see [§83.97](#).

2. Major Statutory Requirements

a. [§83.5] Restitution Fine (Pen C §1202.4)

The principal statutes that govern the imposition of restitution fines on adult offenders are Pen C §§1202.4, 1202.44, and 1202.45. For discussion of Pen C §§1202.44 and 1202.45, see §83.6–83.7; for juvenile offenders, see §§83.9–83.10. Key features of Pen C §1202.4 include:

- *Mandatory nature of fine.* Imposition of the fine is mandatory except for compelling and extraordinary reasons stated on the record. See §83.20.
- *Statutory minimums and maximums:*

Felonies:	\$200–\$10,000
Misdemeanors:	\$100–\$1,000
- *Limited effect of inability to pay.* Defendant’s lack of ability to pay does not justify waiver of the fine. It may be considered only in setting the amount above the statutory minimum. For discussion, see §83.15; for discussion of other factors the court should consider in setting the fine, see §83.14.
- *Hearing.* Defendant is not entitled to a separate hearing for determining the amount of the fine. See §83.13.
- *Community service.* When the court does not impose a restitution fine, defendant must be ordered to perform community service except for compelling and extraordinary reasons stated on the record. See §83.20.
- *Probation.* Grants of probation must include payment of the restitution fine as a condition.

b. [§83.6] Probation Revocation Restitution Fine (Pen C §1202.44)

When a defendant receives a conditional sentence or a sentence that includes a period of probation, the court must impose an additional restitution fine. Pen C §1202.44. In felony cases, the fine applies to both defendants who are placed on probation after the court has suspended imposition of sentence and to defendants who are placed on probation after the court has suspended execution of sentence. *People v Taylor* (2007) 157 CA4th 433, 436–439, 68 CR3d 682. The probation revocation restitution fine has the following features (Pen C §1202.44):

- It must be imposed in addition to, not instead of, the restitution fine required by Pen C §1202.4;

- The amount of the fine is the same as the amount imposed under [Pen C §1202.4](#);
- The fine does not become effective unless and until the probation or conditional sentence is revoked; and
- The court may not waive or reduce the fine, absent compelling and extraordinary reasons stated on the record.

c. [§83.7] Parole Revocation Restitution Fine (Pen C §1202.45)

When a defendant is sentenced for one or more felonies and will be statutorily eligible for parole, the court must impose an additional restitution fine. [Pen C §1202.45](#). The parole revocation restitution fine has the following features ([Pen C §1202.45](#)):

- It must be imposed in addition to, not instead of, the restitution fine required by [Pen C §1202.4](#).
- The amount of the fine is the same as the amount imposed under [Pen C §1202.4](#).
- The fine shall be suspended unless and until parole is revoked.

The parole revocation restitution fine cannot be imposed unless the defendant is eligible for parole. [Pen C §1202.45](#); see *People v Oganessian* (1999) 70 CA4th 1178, 1183, 83 CR2d 157 (defendant sentenced to life in prison without possibility of parole not subject to fine); *People v Brasure* (2008) 42 C4th 1037, 1074, 71 CR3d 675 (defendant who is sentenced to death for capital murder and sentenced to determinate prison term under [Pen C §1170](#) for several other offenses is subject to fine).

d. [§83.8] Discretion To Impose Additional Restitution Fine (Pen C §294)

[Penal Code §294](#) permits the court to impose an additional restitution fine on defendants convicted of specified offenses. Although labeled a restitution fine, it goes to the Restitution Fund only for the purpose of being transferred to the county children's trust fund for child abuse prevention.

Offenses. The court may impose the added fine upon conviction of any of the following offenses ([Pen C §294\(a\)](#)):

- [Pen C §273a](#) (child abuse);
- [Pen C §273d](#) (inflicting corporal injury on child);
- [Pen C §288.5](#) (multiple sexual conduct with child under 14);
- [Pen C §§311.2–311.3](#) (obscene depiction of minor);

- [Pen C §647.6](#) (child molestation);

as well as for any of the violations listed below when the victim was under the age of 14 at the time of the offense ([Pen C §294\(b\)](#)):

- [Pen C §261](#) (rape);
- [Pen C §264.1](#) (rape in concert with others);
- [Pen C §285](#) (incest);
- [Pen C §286](#) (sodomy);
- [Pen C §288a](#) (oral copulation);
- [Pen C §289](#) (sexual penetration by foreign or unknown object).

Amount. The maximum is \$5000 for a felony and \$1000 for a misdemeanor, in addition to the mandatory restitution fine.

Ability to pay. Defendant's ability to pay is a factor in deciding whether to impose the fine and in what amount.

Hardship on victim. When the defendant is a member of the victim's immediate family, the court is to consider whether the added fine would result in hardship for the victim. [Pen C §294\(c\)](#).

- ☛ **JUDICIAL TIP:** When the court is considering a fine under [Pen C §294](#), it should so advise the defendant and afford an opportunity for a hearing on ability to pay, victim hardship, and other relevant matters.

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) does not have the authority to collect restitution fines under [Pen C §294](#).

e. [§83.9] Juvenile Offenders ([Welf & I C §730.6](#))

Juvenile offenders are also subject to mandatory restitution fines. [Welf & I C §730.6](#). The principal features of the provisions governing juveniles are:

- The felony fine range is \$100 to \$1000; the misdemeanor fine cannot exceed \$100. There is no prescribed minimum misdemeanor fine. [Welf & I C §730.6\(b\)\(1\)](#).
- The factors that the court should consider in setting the fine are essentially the same as for adult offenders. See [Welf & I C §730.6\(d\)\(1\)](#). See also chart in [§83.10](#). Express findings are unnecessary and usually not made. See [Welf & I C §730.6\(e\)](#).
- Imposition of the fine is mandatory, except for compelling and extraordinary reasons in felony cases. The reasons must be stated on the record. [Welf & I C §730.6\(g\)](#). The restitution fine cannot be

waived for misdemeanors, probably because there is no statutory minimum fine with respect to them.

- When the fine is waived, the minor must be required to perform community service except for compelling and extraordinary reasons stated on the record. [Welf & I C §730.6\(n\), \(o\)](#).
- Inability to pay does not justify failure to impose a restitution fine. [Welf & I C §730.6\(c\)](#). It is a factor in setting the amount of the fine. The offender has the burden of showing inability, but is not entitled to a separate hearing. [Welf & I C §730.6\(b\), \(d\)\(2\)](#). In determining a juvenile offender’s ability to pay, the court may consider the juvenile’s future earning capacity. [Welf & I C §730.6\(d\)\(2\)](#).
- Payment of the fine must be a condition of probation. [Welf & I C §730.6\(l\)](#).
- Parents and guardians may be jointly and severally liable. [Welf & I C §730.7](#).

f. [§83.10] Chart: Comparison of Restitution Fine Provisions for Adult and Juvenile Offenders (Pen C §§1202.4, 1202.44, 1202.45; Welf & I C §730.6)

	<i>Adult</i>	<i>Juvenile</i>
Amount of fine		
Misdemeanor	\$100–\$1000	Not more than \$100
Felony	\$200–\$10,000	\$100–\$1000
Factors to consider when setting fine above statutory minimum	All relevant factors including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inability to pay • Seriousness of offense • Circumstances of commission • Economic gain by offender • Losses to others from offense 	
	Number of victims Optional formula for multiple felonies	
Burden of showing inability to pay when court sets fine above	Offender	

	<i>Adult</i>	<i>Juvenile</i>
statutory minimum		
Waiver	Only for compelling and extraordinary reasons stated on record; inability to pay not adequate reason	No waiver when offense is a misdemeanor
Community service	Mandatory when fine waived except for compelling and extraordinary reasons stated on record	
Effect of restitution to victim	Cannot be offset against fine	
Relation to probation	Payment must be condition of probation	
Probation revocation fine	Must be imposed separately in same amount as restitution fine and becomes effective on revocation of probation or of a conditional sentence	Inapplicable
Parole revocation fine	Must be imposed separately in same amount as restitution fine and suspended unless and until parole is revoked	Inapplicable

3. Procedure at Time of Guilty Plea

a. [§83.11] Advisement When Taking Plea

A restitution fine is a direct consequence of a guilty or no contest plea. Accordingly, the court must advise defendant of the minimum and maximum fines. *People v Walker* (1991) 54 C3d 1013, 1022, 1 CR2d 902. For script and form, see §§83.90-83.91.

Error that results from not giving this advice is waived unless called to the attention of the trial court at or before sentencing. *People v Walker, supra*. Upon timely objection, the court must determine whether the error was prejudicial, and if so, either impose only the minimum fine or permit defendant to withdraw the plea. *People v Walker, supra*, 54 C3d at 1023–1024. The major factor in determining prejudice is the size of the fine that the court imposed. *People v Walker, supra*.

The *Walker* case should not be understood as finding that the restitution fine has been and will be subject of plea negotiations in every case. The parties are free to make any lawful bargain they choose, including leaving the imposition of fines to the discretion of the sentencing court. *People v Dickerson* (2004) 122 CA4th 1374, 1384–1385, 22 CR2d 854.

b. [§83.12] Silent Plea Bargain

When a plea bargain fails to address the restitution fine, the court must either reduce the fine to the minimum or allow defendant to withdraw the plea. *People v Walker* (1991) 54 C3d 1013, 1028–1029, 1 CR2d 902. Defendant does not waive this issue by failing to raise it at the time of sentencing; it may be raised on appeal. If the issue is raised after sentencing, the proper remedy generally is to reduce the fine to the statutory minimum and to leave the plea bargain intact. *People v Walker, supra*.

When a defendant enters a plea bargain that makes no mention of the imposition of a restitution fine, but the court, in accepting the plea, accurately advises the defendant that it will impose a restitution fine, and that the amount may be anywhere in the statutory range, the court is not thereafter precluded from imposing a restitution fine above the statutory minimum. *People v Crandell* (2007) 40 C4th 1301, 1307–1310, 57 CR3d 349. The court in *Crandell* stated that the lack of an agreement on the restitution fine demonstrates that the parties intend to leave the amount of the fine to the discretion of the court. 40 C4th 1309–1310. *Crandell* distinguished *People v Walker, supra*, in which the restitution fine was neither an element of the plea bargain nor mentioned in the court's advisements of the consequences of the plea. 40 C4th at 1307–1310.

☛ JUDICIAL TIPS:

- Counsel should be asked to state any agreement with respect to the fine when putting the proposed terms of negotiated plea on the record.
- When the negotiations leave the fine open, the court should explain to the defendant the minimum and maximum fines or have counsel do so and obtain defendant's oral assent.

- The court should give the [Pen C §1192.5](#) admonition (relating to the defendant’s right to withdraw the plea) whenever required by that statute. See *People v Walker, supra*, 54 C3d at 1030; *People v Crandell, supra*, 40 C4th at 1310.

4. Determination of Fine

a. [§83.13] No Separate Hearing

The defendant is not entitled to a hearing apart from the sentencing hearing with respect to the restitution fine. [Pen C §1202.4\(d\)](#).

- JUDICIAL TIP: Both sides should be given an opportunity to address the matter at the sentencing hearing, because, inter alia, defendant has the burden of demonstrating inability to pay. [Pen C §1202.4\(d\)](#).

b. [§83.14] Factors

Statutory factors. In determining the amount of the fine, the court should consider any relevant factor ([Pen C §1202.4\(d\)](#)), including:

- Inability to pay (for discussion, see [§83.15](#));
- Seriousness of the offense;
- Circumstances of the offense;
- Defendant’s economic gain, if any, from the crime;
- Pecuniary and intangible losses of victims or dependents of victims;
- Number of victims.

Criminal record. Defendant’s criminal record is a relevant factor. *People v Griffin* (1987) 193 CA3d 739, 741–742, 238 CR 371; *Cal Rules of Ct* 4.411.5, 4.414.

Optional formula. In multicount felony cases the court may set the fine by using the formula stated in [Pen C §1202.4\(b\)\(2\)](#). See [§83.16](#).

Juveniles. Factors to consider in juvenile cases are virtually the same as in cases involving adult offenders. See chart in [§83.10](#).

c. [§83.15] Ability To Pay

Defendant is presumed to be able to pay the restitution fine and has the burden of demonstrating inability. [Pen C §1202.4\(d\)](#); *People v Romero* (1996) 43 CA4th 440, 448–449, 51 CR2d 26.

The court may consider future earning capacity. [Pen C §1202.4\(d\)](#); *People v Gentry* (1994) 28 CA4th 1374, 1376–1377, 34 CR2d 37 (court

may consider defendant's future prison wages as well as possibility of employment when defendant is released from prison).

The court must impose the minimum fine even when defendant is unable to pay it. [Pen C §1202.4\(c\)](#); [Welf & I C §730.6\(b\)](#); *People v Draut* (1999) 73 CA4th 577, 582, 86 CR2d 469. The court may consider inability to pay only when increasing the amount of the restitution fine in excess of the \$200 or \$100 minimum. [Pen C §1202.4\(c\)](#).

Such a mandate is not constitutionally infirm; however, imprisonment of an indigent defendant for nonpayment violates equal protection. *People v Long* (1985) 164 CA3d 820, 826–827, 210 CR 745. A defendant who *has* the financial ability to pay restitution as a condition of probation *may* be imprisoned for willfully refusing to do so and the defendant's probation may be revoked. *People v Lawson* (1999) 69 CA4th 29, 35–36, 81 CR2d 283.

- JUDICIAL TIP: Requiring a defendant to complete the Judicial Council asset disclosure form CR–115 (see [§83.93](#)) will help in assessing the defendant's ability to pay.

d. [[§83.16](#)] Multiple Counts

Discretionary formula. For defendants convicted of several felony counts the court may calculate the fine by the following formula ([Pen C §1202.4\(b\)\(2\)](#)):

\$200 x number of years of sentence x number of counts of which defendant was convicted.

- JUDICIAL TIP: Some judges simplify the formula to \$200 x number of counts. In the view of some judges, a life sentence calls for the maximum fine.

Limitation of maximum. The total fine may not exceed the statutory maximum, regardless of the number of victims and counts. *People v Blackburn* (1999) 72 CA4th 1520, 1534, 86 CR2d 134. See also *People v Ivans* (1992) 2 CA4th 1654, 1667, 4 CR2d 66 (decided under former [Govt C §13967](#)).

Resolution of multiple cases under negotiated plea bargain. The Courts of Appeal are divided on whether a defendant, who enters a guilty plea in more than one separate case and is sentenced on all the cases at the same time, may be subject to a separate restitution fine in each case as long as the aggregate total of the restitution fines does not exceed the statutory maximum. *People v Schoeb* (2005) 132 CA4th 861, 864–865, 33 CR3d 889 (yes); *People v Enos* (2005) 128 CA4th 1046, 1048–1050, 27

CR3d 610 (yes); *People v Soria* (2008) 163 CA4th 247, 254–260, 77 CR3d 421 (no).

Resolution of multiple cases in joint trial. When a defendant is convicted of crimes in two cases that are consolidated for trial, the court may not impose restitution fines in both cases, even if the cases involve charges in separately filed informations. *People v Ferris* (2000) 82 CA4th 1272, 1275–1278, 99 CR2d 180.

Conviction of felony and misdemeanor in same proceeding. When a defendant is convicted of both a felony and misdemeanor in the same proceeding, the court must impose a separate restitution fine for each so long as the total of the restitution fines does not exceed the statutory maximum. *People v Holmes* (2007) 153 CA4th 539, 546–548, 63 CR3d 150.

Counts stayed under Pen C §654. The trial court may not consider a felony conviction for which the sentence is stayed under Pen C §654 as part of the court’s calculation of the restitution fine under the formula provided in Pen C §1202.4(b)(2). *People v Le* (2006) 136 CA4th 925, 932–934, 39 CR3d 146.

e. [§83.17] No Joint and Several Liability for Restitution Fines

Restitution fines (Pen C §1202.4(b)), probation revocation fines (Pen C §1202.44), and parole revocation fines (Pen C §1202.45) may not be imposed as payable jointly and severally by multiple defendants. *People v Kunitz* (2004) 122 CA4th 652, 655–658, 18 CR3d 843 (although court addressed only Pen C §§1202.4(b) and 1202.45 fines, reasoning applicable to Pen C §1202.44 fine).

Direct victim restitution is not punishment, and it may be imposed jointly and severally. 122 CA4th at 657. For discussion, see §83.71.

f. [§83.18] Findings

The court need not specify reasons for setting the fine in any particular amount; only when the court waives the fine must reasons be stated. Pen C §1202.4(b), (d); *People v Urbano* (2005) 128 CA4th 396, 405, 26 CR3d 871; *People v Romero* (1996) 43 CA4th 440, 448, 51 CR2d 26 (court not required to make findings on ability to pay); for discussion of fine waiver, see §83.20.

☛ JUDICIAL TIP: Some judges state reasons when they set the fine at a level that departs from their usual practice.

The amount of the fine is reviewed only for abuse of discretion and upheld when supported by the record. *People v McGhee* (1988) 197 CA3d 710, 716–717, 243 CR 46 (maximum restitution fine justified when court

properly imposed upper prison term); *People v Griffin* (1987) 193 CA3d 739, 740–742, 238 CR 371 (record of recidivist thief convicted of petty theft with prior supports \$2000 restitution fine).

g. [§83.19] Retrial or Remand for Resentencing

The court may not increase the restitution fine after a retrial that followed defendant’s successful appeal (*People v Thompson* (1998) 61 CA4th 1269, 1276, 71 CR2d 586; *People v Jones* (1994) 24 CA4th 1780, 1785, 30 CR2d 238), or after remand for resentencing following the defendant’s partially successful appeal (*People v Hanson* (2000) 23 C4th 355, 366–367, 97 CR2d 58). Such an increase in the restitution fine is precluded by the state constitutional prohibition against double jeopardy (Cal Const art I, §15). 23 C4th at 366–367.

5. [§83.20] Waiver of Fine

The court must impose a restitution fine unless it finds “compelling and extraordinary reasons” for not doing so and states them on the record. Pen C §1202.4(b), (c); *People v Tillman* (2000) 22 C4th 300, 302, 92 CR2d 741.

Inability to pay is not an adequate reason for waiving the fine. Pen C §1202.4(c). There is no judicial guidance on what constitutes compelling and extraordinary reasons. Sentencing a defendant to prison is not a sufficient reason because the fine can be collected from prison wages and trust account deposits. See §83.23.

☛ JUDICIAL TIP: Some judges waive the fine in the case of street people who suffer from mental or other disabilities. Others excuse payment when the defendant is on SSI or receives General Assistance. Most judges do not regard being jobless or homeless standing alone a sufficient reason.

When the court waives the fine, it must order the defendant to perform community service instead, unless it finds additional compelling and extraordinary reasons stated on the record. Pen C §1202.4(n); for suggestions, see Checklist, §83.2.

The prosecution waives any objection to the trial court’s failure to impose a restitution fine under Pen C §1202.4 by failing to object to the omission at the time of sentencing; in such event, the appellate court may not modify the judgment to add a restitution fine. *People v Tillman*, *supra*, 22 C4th at 302–303. However, when the trial court imposes a restitution fine under Pen C §1202.4, but omits or imposes an erroneous parole revocation restitution fine under Pen C §1202.45 (see §83.7) and the prosecution does not object to this omission, an appellate court has the authority to modify the judgment to impose or correct the fine. *People v*

Smith (2001) 24 CA4th 849, 102 CR2d 731 (trial court imposed \$5000 restitution fine but only a \$200 parole revocation fine); *People v Rodriguez* (2000) 80 CA4th 372, 375–379, 95 CR2d 299 (trial court imposed \$200 restitution fine and no parole revocation fine).

6. [§83.21] No Crediting Amount of Restitution Against Restitution Fine

The court may not offset the amount of direct victim restitution against a Pen C §1202.4 restitution fine. *People v Blackburn* (1999) 72 CA4th 1520, 1534, 86 CR2d 134.

7. [§83.22] Penalty Assessments; Administrative Fees

Restitution fines, probation revocation restitution fines, and parole revocation restitution fines are exempt from the penalty assessments of Pen C §1464 and Govt C §76000, the state surcharge of Pen C §1465.7, and the state court construction penalty of Govt C §70372(a). Pen C §§1202.4(e), 1202.45, 1464(a)(3)(A), 1465.7(a); Govt C §§70372(a)(3)(A), 76000 (a)(3)(A).

Counties may impose a fee to cover the administrative costs of collecting the restitution fine. The fee may not exceed 10 percent of the fine. Pen C §1202.4(l).

- ☛ JUDICIAL TIP: In counties that charge this fee the sentence should include an order to pay it.

8. [§83.23] Collection of Fine by CDCR and DJJ

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) deducts restitution fines from prisoners wages and trust account deposits, transmits the moneys to the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board. Pen C §2085.5; see, e.g., *People v Gentry* (1994) 28 CA4th 1374, 1377–1378, 34 CR2d 37.

☛ JUDICIAL TIPS:

- Penal Code §2085.5 is self-executing and it is *not* necessary to refer to it when imposing sentence. If the judge chooses to make a reference, the judge should make it clear that the fine is *imposed* under Pen C §1202.4 and shall be *collected* under Pen C §2085.5. Court documents should not state that the fine is imposed under Pen C §2085.5. See *People v Rowland* (1988) 206 CA3d 119, 124, 253 CR 190.
- Courts should make sure that the abstract of judgment reflects the restitution fine because the CDCR relies on the abstract. See *People v Hong* (1998) 64 CA4th 1071, 1080, 76 CR2d 23.

The CDCR’s Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) (formerly California Youth Authority) also collects restitution fines from wards’ wages and trust account deposits and transfers the moneys to the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board. The DJJ must provide the sentencing court with a record of payments. [Welf & I C §§1752.81–1752.82](#).

9. [§83.24] Applying Seized Funds to Restitution Fine

The court may apply funds confiscated from the defendant at the time of the defendant’s arrest, except for funds confiscated under [Health & S C §11469](#) (illegal drug funds), to the restitution fine if the funds are not exempt for spousal or child support or subject to any other legal exemption. [Pen C §1202.4\(c\)](#).

The common law rule that money belonging to an arrestee and held for safekeeping is exempt from execution does not apply to funds sought for payment of a restitution fine, a debt that was created after the defendant’s conviction. *People v Willie* (2005) 133 CA4th 43, 49–50, 34 CR3d 532. Further, this exemption has been superseded by [CCP §704.090](#), which effectively limits the exemption to \$300 for a restitution fine. 133 CA4th at 50–52.

10. [§83.25] Fine Enforceable as Civil Judgment

An order to pay a [Pen C §1202.4](#), [§1202.44](#), or [§1202.45](#) restitution fine is enforceable as if it were a civil judgment. [Pen C §1214\(a\)](#). Restitution fines derived from misdemeanor cases, cases involving a violation of a city or town ordinance, and noncapital cases with a plea of guilty or no contest, are enforceable in the same manner as a money judgment in a *limited* civil case. [Pen C §1214\(c\)](#); [CCP §582.5](#).

A restitution fine is enforceable immediately and continues to be enforceable by the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board after termination of probation or parole. [Pen C §1214\(a\)](#).

- **JUDICIAL TIP:** The court should *not* enter a separate money judgment. Execution can issue on the order to pay the fine. *People v Hart* (1998) 65 CA4th 902, 906, 76 CR2d 837. See also *People v Willie* (2005) 133 CA4th 43, 47–49, 34 CR3d 532 (district attorney’s motion for release of funds taken from defendant on his arrest for payment of restitution fine, and court’s nunc pro tunc order for their release, were not appropriate methods for enforcing the restitution fine).

11. [§83.26] Restitution Fine in Bribery Cases

The court must impose restitution fines that exceed those required under [Pen C §1202.4](#) on defendants convicted of specified bribery offenses.

Offenses: The court must impose the fine on conviction of any of the following offenses:

- [Pen C §68](#) (asking for, receiving, or agreeing to receive, bribe by officer, employee, or appointee of state or local government);
- [Pen C §86](#) (asking for, receiving, or agreeing to receive, bribe by member of state legislature or local legislative body);
- [Pen C §93](#) (asking for, receiving, or agreeing to receive, bribe by judicial officer or other person authorized to determine matters in controversy).

Amount. In cases in which no bribe was received, the minimum fine is \$2000 up to a maximum of \$10,000. When a bribe has been received, the minimum fine is \$2000 or the amount of the bribe, whichever is greater, and not more than \$10,000 or double the amount of the bribe, whichever is greater. [Pen C §§68\(a\), 86, 93\(a\)](#).

Ability to pay. Defendant's ability to pay *is* a factor in deciding whether to impose the fine and in what amount. [Pen C §§68\(b\), 86, 93\(b\)](#).

B. Restitution Fee in Diversion Matters

1. [§83.27] Mandatory Fee; Amount

In diversion and deferred entry of judgment cases the counterpart to the restitution *fine* is the restitution *fee* required by [Pen C §1001.90](#). Imposition is mandatory ([Pen C §1001.90\(a\), \(c\)](#)), subject to exceptions discussed in [§83.28](#).

The minimum fee is \$100; the maximum, \$1000. [Pen C §1001.90\(b\)](#). The factors that should guide the court in setting the amount of the fee are essentially the same as apply to restitution fines. [Pen C §1001.90\(d\)](#); for discussion, see [§83.14](#). The court may not modify the amount of the fee except to correct an error in setting the amount. [Pen C §1001.90\(e\)](#).

- ☛ **JUDICIAL TIP:** Modification is probably warranted only when the fee was erroneously omitted, set below the statutory minimum or above the maximum, and to correct ministerial errors. Forgiveness of the fee upon successful completion of diversion is probably precluded.

Counties may add a collection fee not to exceed 10 percent of the restitution fee. [Pen C §1001.90\(g\)](#).

Like restitution fines, the fee goes to the state Restitution Fund. [Pen C §1001.90\(f\)](#).

2. [§83.28] Exceptions

As with restitution fines, the court may waive the fee when it finds that there are compelling and extraordinary reasons and states them on the record. [Pen C §1001.90\(c\)](#). The fee must be imposed regardless of defendant's ability to pay it; ability to pay is, however, a factor to be considered in setting the amount. [Pen C §1001.90\(c\), \(d\)](#).

Additionally, [Pen C §1001.90](#) does not apply to diversion of defendants with cognitive developmental disabilities. [Pen C §1001.90\(a\)](#).

3. [§83.29] Fee Enforceable as Civil Judgment

An order to pay a diversion restitution fee is enforceable as if it were a civil judgment. [Pen C §1214\(a\)](#). A diversion restitution fee is enforceable immediately and continues to be enforceable by the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board after the defendant has completed diversion. [Pen C §1214\(a\)](#).

- **JUDICIAL TIP:** The court should *not* enter a separate money judgment. Execution can issue on the order to pay the fine. *People v Hart* (1998) 65 CA4th 902, 906, 76 CR2d 837.

C. Victim Restitution

1. [§83.30] Mandatory and Discretionary Restitution

The court must order payment of restitution when the crime of which defendant was convicted resulted in economic loss to the victim. [Pen C §1202.4](#); [Welf & I C §730.6](#); see [Cal Const art I, §28\(b\)](#). A sentence without a restitution award to a victim, as mandated by [Cal Const art I, §28\(b\)](#) and [Pen C §1202.4](#) (or an alternative statement of extraordinary reasons) is invalid; the only discretion retained by the court is that of fixing the amount of the award. *People v Rowland* (1997) 51 CA4th 1745, 1751–1752, 60 CR2d 351. For discussion, see §§83.39–83.81.

Under some circumstances California courts may order restitution when the losses are not the result of the crime underlying the defendant's conviction. For example, courts often order a defendant to make restitution to a victim of offenses that underlie dismissed counts. For discussion, see §§83.82–83.89; principles that apply to both mandatory and discretionary restitution are discussed in §§83.31–83.38.

2. Principles Applicable to Restitution Generally

a. Procedure at Time of Guilty Plea

(1) [§83.31] Advisement When Taking Plea

Restitution is a direct consequence of a guilty or no contest plea of which defendant must be advised. *People v Rowland* (1997) 51 CA4th 1745, 1752–1753, 60 CR2d 351; *People v Valdez* (1994) 24 CA4th 1194, 1203, 30 CR2d 4. For form, see §83.91.

Failure to so advise is fatal only if it prejudices the defendant. *People v Rowland*, *supra* 51 CA4th at 1753 (no prejudice because, inter alia, amount of restitution ordered matched defendant’s civil liability).

(2) [§83.32] Silent Plea Bargain

A silent plea bargain does not circumscribe the mandatory duty of the trial court to order the payment of restitution. *People v Valdez* (1994) 24 CA4th 1194, 1203, 30 CR2d 4; see *People v Campbell* (1994) 21 CA4th 825, 829, 26 CR2d 433 (silent plea agreement did not nullify restitution order as condition of probation).

When a defendant enters into a plea bargain in which the defendant reasonably believes he or she will be ordered to pay a small amount of restitution, and thereafter at sentencing is ordered to pay a much larger amount, the defendant is entitled to withdraw his or her plea. *People v Brown* (2007) 147 CA4th 1213, 1221–1228, 54 CR3d 887. The court in *Brown* stated that an award of victim restitution constitutes punishment for purposes of determining whether there is a violation of a plea agreement when the sentencing court imposes a larger restitution amount than that specified in the plea agreement. 147 CA4th 1221–1223. In this case the victim restitution order imposed was a significant deviation from the terms of the plea agreement. Specific performance was not an available remedy because full victim restitution is mandated by Cal Const art 1, §28.5 and Pen C §1202.4(f), and unless there is a compelling and extraordinary reason for not imposing it, the court has no discretion or authority to impose a negotiated sentence that provides for an award of less than full restitution. 147 CA4th at 1224–1228.

In *People v Rowland* (1997) 51 CA4th 1745, 60 CR2d 351, the plea agreement made no mention of victim restitution, and the trial court resentenced the defendant to include a substantial award of victim restitution. The First District Court of Appeal upheld the trial court’s conclusion that absent a showing of prejudice, the defendant was not entitled to withdraw his plea. 51 CA4th at 1750–1754. The court in *People v Brown*, *supra*, distinguished *Rowland*, by pointing out that because restitution was not mentioned in the plea agreement in that case, the trial

court's restitution order did not violate an express term of the agreement. 147 CA4th at 1223 n6.

b. [§83.33] Right to Notice and Hearing

Victims and defendants have a right to a hearing and to notice. For discussion, see §§83.41–83.44.

c. [§83.34] Restitution Not Affected by Bankruptcy

Defendant's bankruptcy. The Bankruptcy Code does not apply to restitution orders. *People v Washburn* (1979) 97 CA3d 621, 158 CR 822. A restitution obligation imposed as a condition of probation is not dischargeable in a liquidation or “straight bankruptcy” proceeding under Chapter 7 (11 USC §§701 et seq). *Kelly v Robinson* (1986) 479 US 36, 50–53, 107 S Ct 353, 93 L Ed 2d 216; 11 USC §523(a)(7). See also *Warfel v City of Saratoga (In re Warfel)* (9th Cir BAP 2001) 268 BR 205, 209–213 (civil restitution judgment originally imposed as a condition of debtor's probation not dischargeable under Chapter 7). Nor is a restitution obligation dischargeable under Chapter 13 (11 USC §§1301 et seq). 11 USC §1328(a)(3).

Bankruptcy does not block restitution even when defendant's civil obligations to the victim were discharged by bankruptcy *before* criminal charges were filed. *People v Moser* (1996) 50 CA4th 130, 136, 57 CR2d 647.

Because collection of restitution is a continuation of a criminal action, the automatic stay provisions of bankruptcy law do not apply. See *In re Gruntz* (9th Cir 2000) 202 F3d 1074, 1084–1087 (automatic stay did not enjoin state court criminal proceedings against debtor for failure to pay child support); 11 USC §362(b)(1).

Victim's bankruptcy. When the victim incurred an obligation to a third party as a result of defendant's conduct, the bankruptcy discharge of the victim's obligation does not preclude a restitution order. *People v Dalvito* (1997) 56 CA4th 557, 560–562, 65 CR2d 679 (bankruptcy is economic loss despite discharge; no explanation why loss is equal to amount of obligation).

Bankruptcy of parent of a minor held jointly and severally liable for minor's restitution order. A parent of a minor found jointly and severally liable under [Welf & I C §730.7](#) for the minor's restitution order does not ordinarily get his or her obligation for the restitution order discharged in bankruptcy. Arguably, however, such a discharge may be proper in a Chapter 7 bankruptcy action. A federal bankruptcy court in Idaho did discharge the parents' liability for their minor children's criminal restitution obligation in *Mabey v Ellis (In re Ellis)* (Bankr D Idaho 1998) 224 BR 786. However, the court specifically held that not all restitution

awards made against parents of juvenile offenders may be discharged in bankruptcy. 224 BR at 792. Differences between California and Idaho law may lead a bankruptcy court to reach a different conclusion with regard to a [Welf & I C §730.6](#) restitution order.

d. [§83.35] Order Enforceable as Civil Judgment

An order to pay restitution is deemed a money judgment and enforceable as if it were a civil judgment. [Pen C §§1202.4\(i\), 1214\(b\); Welf & I C §730.6\(r\)](#). Restitution orders derived from misdemeanor cases, cases involving a violation of a city or town ordinance, and noncapital cases with a plea of guilty or no contest, are enforceable in the same manner as a money judgment in a *limited* civil case. [Pen C §1214\(c\); CCP §582.5](#).

The following conditions must be met before a restitution order may be enforced as if it were a civil judgment ([Pen C §1214\(b\)](#)):

(1) The defendant was informed of the right to have a judicial determination of the amount, and

(2) the defendant was

- Provided with a hearing,
- Waived a hearing, or
- Stipulated to the amount of restitution.

In addition, [Pen C §1214\(b\)](#) gives victims and the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board the right to receive on request a certified copy of the restitution order and the defendant's financial disclosure (see [§83.78](#)). See also [Welf & I C §730.7\(c\)](#) (victims of juvenile offenses entitled to certified copy of restitution order). If requested, the court must provide the financial disclosure to the district attorney in connection with an investigation or prosecution involving perjury or the veracity of the information contained in the disclosure. [Pen C §1214\(b\)](#).

[Penal Code §1214\(b\)](#) also gives victims "access to all resources available under the law to enforce the restitution order," including, *inter alia*, wage garnishment and lien procedures.

A restitution order is enforceable immediately and continues to be enforceable by the victim after termination of defendant's probation or parole. [Pen C §§1214\(b\), 1202.4\(m\); Welf & I C §730.6\(l\)](#).

- ☛ **JUDICIAL TIP:** Enforcement, like a judgment, should not be confused with the actual entry of a civil judgment based on the order to pay restitution. Judges should not at any time order the entry of such a judgment. However, it is entirely proper for the

judge to order the appropriate civil clerk to issue enforcement of judgment orders, such as writs of execution, to victims with a restitution order. See *People v Hart* (1998) 65 CA4th 902, 906, 76 CR2d 837. But see *People v Farael* (1999) 70 CA4th 864, 866–867, 83 CR2d 16 (on conviction of insurance fraud, court properly required defendant as condition of probation to sign confession of judgment in insurer’s favor in amount of its investigation costs; appellate court found “no practical or legal difference between a restitution order and a confession of judgment for the purpose of restitution”).

e. [§83.36] Penalty Assessments; Administrative Fees

Restitution orders are not subject to the penalty assessments of [Pen C §1464](#) or [Govt C §76000](#). Unlike penalty assessments, restitution is not collected by the courts, but is ordered payable directly to the victim. *People v Dorsey* (1999) 75 CA4th 729, 734–737, 89 CR2d 498; *People v Martinez* (1999) 73 CA4th 265, 267–268, 86 CR2d 346.

Statutory penalties may not be included in a victim restitution order. *People v Boudames* (2006) 146 CA4th 45, 49–53, 52 CR3d 629.

Counties may impose a fee to cover the administrative costs of collecting restitution when the restitution is paid to the victim. The fee may not exceed 10 percent of the total amount of restitution ordered to be paid. [Pen C §1203.1\(i\)](#); *People v Eddards* (2008) 162 CA4th 712, 716, 75 CR3d 924. Administrative fees may not be imposed, however, when restitution is paid to the State Restitution Fund. 162 CA4th at 716–717.

f. [§83.37] Persons Found Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity

[Article I, §28\(b\)](#), of the [California Constitution](#), and [Pen C §1202.4\(a\)](#) refer to restitution from the persons *convicted* of crimes. A person found not guilty by reason of insanity (NGI) is not a convicted person. *People v Morrison* (1984) 162 CA3d 995, 998, 208 CR 800; *Newman v Newman* (1987) 196 CA3d 255, 259, 241 CR 712 (defendant found NGI is not “convicted” within meaning of [CCP §340.3](#)). Although there is no California case on point dealing with restitution in NGI cases, other states have ruled on the issue and concluded that there is no authority to order restitution in these cases. See *State v Heartfield* (Ariz 2000) 998 P2d 1080; *State v Gile* (Or App 1999) 985 P2d 199 (defendant found NGI not subject to assessment similar to [Pen C §1202.4](#) restitution fine).

g. [§83.38] Effect of Acquittal

In a nonprobation context, a restitution order may not be imposed for a crime of which the defendant has been acquitted. *People v Percelle* (2005) 126 CA4th 164, 178–180, 23 CR3d 731. However, the court may impose a restitution order as a condition of probation, regardless of whether the defendant has been convicted of the underlying crime. 126 CA4th at 169. See also §83.82.

3. Mandatory Restitution

a. [§83.39] Conditions That Bring Case Within Pen C §1202.4 and Welf & I C §730.6

Penal Code §1202.4 or its counterpart for juvenile offenders, Welf & I C §730.6, apply when all four of the following conditions are present:

- (1) a claim by a victim (see §§83.46–83.49)
- (2) who suffered an economic loss (see §§83.50–83.60) victim of felony violation of Pen C §288 entitled to restitution for noneconomic losses (Pen C §1202.4(f)(3)(F))
- (3) as a result of the commission of a crime
- (4) of which the defendant was convicted (Pen C §1202.4(a)(1); see *People v Carbajal* (1995) 10 C4th 1114, 43 CR2d 681; *People v Woods* (2008) 161 CA4th 1045, 1049–1053, 74 CR3d 786; *People v Lai* (2006) 138 CA4th 1227, 1246–1249, 42 CR3d 444).

When some of these conditions are not met, the court may have discretion to order restitution. For discussion, see §§83.82–83.89.

b. [§83.40] Presentence Investigation Report

A probation officer's presentence investigation report must include information and recommendations pertaining to restitution fines and victim restitution. Pen C §1203(b)(2)(C), (d), (g). Specifically, the report must include:

- Information concerning the victim of the crime, including the victim's statement, the amount of the victim's loss, and whether that loss is covered by the victim's or defendant's insurance (Cal Rules of Ct 4.411.5(a)(5); for discussion of the effect of insurance on restitution awards, see §§83.62–83.63);
- A statement of mandatory and recommended restitution, restitution fines, and other fines and costs to be assessed against the defendant (Cal Rules of Ct 4.411.5(a)(11)); and
- Findings concerning a defendant's ability to make restitution and pay any fine (Cal Rules of Ct 4.411.5(a)(8), (11)).

If, as is typical in misdemeanor cases, no probation report is prepared for sentencing, the court may consider any information that could have been included in a probation report. [Pen C §1203\(d\)](#).

Financial evaluation. The court may order the defendant to appear before a county financial evaluation officer, if available, for an evaluation of the defendant's ability to make restitution. [Pen C §1203\(j\)](#). The county officer must report findings regarding restitution and other court-related costs to the probation officer on the question of the defendant's ability to pay those costs. [Pen C §1203\(j\)](#).

c. Hearing

(1) [§83.41] Right to Hearing

Defendant. The defendant has the right to a court hearing to dispute the amount of restitution or the manner in which it is to be made. [Pen C §§1202.4\(f\)\(1\), 1203\(d\), 1203.1k](#); *People v Carbajal* (1995) 10 C4th 1114, 1125, 43 CR2d 681. Juvenile offenders have the same right. [Welf & I C §730.6\(h\)\(1\)](#). Advisement of this right is a precondition to enforcement of the restitution order by a victim. [Pen C §1214\(b\)](#); for more on notice, see [§83.42](#).

Victim. A victim has a right to appear at sentencing personally or by counsel to express his or her views regarding restitution. [Pen C §1191.1](#). This right also extends to:

- The parents or guardians of a victim who is a minor ([Pen C §1191.1](#));
- The next of kin of a deceased victim ([Pen C §1191.1](#));
- An insurer or employer victimized by workers' compensation fraud ([Pen C §1191.10](#));
- The California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board when enforcing its subrogation rights ([Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(2\)](#); see [§83.71](#)).

(2) [§83.42] Notice

Defendant. The court should inform the defendant of the right to a hearing to contest restitution. See [Pen C §§1202.4\(f\)\(1\)](#) (right to hearing), [1214\(b\)](#); *People v Carbajal* (1995) 10 C4th 1114, 1125, 43 CR2d 681. The consequences of failing to provide this information differ depending on whether the court follows the recommendations of the probation report:

- If the court does not order more restitution than the report recommends, failure to request a hearing waives any error. *People*

v Foster (1993) 14 CA4th 939, 949, 18 CR2d 1; *People v Blankenship* (1989) 213 CA3d 992, 997, 262 CR 141.

- JUDICIAL TIP: Some judges obtain an express waiver of hearing when the defendant does not contest restitution. This forestalls later objections to civil enforcement of the restitution order based on a lack of hearing.
 - However, when the court exceeds the recommendations without first bringing that prospect to the defendant's attention and affording the defendant an opportunity to contest it, the defendant has been deprived of any meaningful opportunity to be heard. See *People v Sandoval* (1989) 206 CA3d 1544, 1550, 254 CR 674. See also *People v Thygesen* (1999) 69 CA4th 988, 993, 81 CR2d 886.
- JUDICIAL TIP: When the judge contemplates ordering more restitution than the probation officer recommended, the judge should indicate this before making an order and should inquire whether the defendant desires a hearing.

Victim. The probation officer has the duty to notify the victim of

- All sentencing proceedings or juvenile disposition hearings,
- The right to appear, and
- The right to express his or her views. [Pen C §§679.02\(a\)\(3\), 1191.1.](#)

The probation officer must also provide the victim with timely written information concerning the court's duty to order restitution and the victim's

- Right to civil recovery against the defendant;
- Right to a copy of the restitution order from the court;
- Right to enforce the restitution order as a civil judgment;
- Responsibility to provide information about losses to the probation department, district attorney, and court; and
- Opportunity to be compensated from the Restitution Fund. [Pen C §§679.02\(a\)\(8\), 1191.2.](#)

- JUDICIAL TIP: When there is no probation referral, as is often the case with misdemeanors, the prosecutor should notify the victim unless the county has another agency in charge of victim restitution that notifies victims.

In cases of juvenile offenders the obligation to notify is limited to offenses that would have been felonies if committed by an adult. [Pen C §679.02\(a\)\(4\).](#)

Designated agencies are required to develop and make available a “notification of eligibility” card for victims and derivative victims that includes specified information about eligibility to receive payment from the Restitution Fund for losses resulting from the crime. [Pen C §1191.21\(a\)](#). The law enforcement officer with primary responsibility for investigating the crime and the district attorney may provide this card to the victim and any derivative victims. [Pen C §1191.21\(b\)](#).

- **JUDICIAL TIP:** To spare victims court appearances that are unnecessary because defendant does not contest restitution, some judges initially make only uncontested orders. They continue the case when the defendant plans to challenge restitution; the victim is invited to attend the continued hearing.

(3) [§83.43] Nature of Restitution Hearing

A restitution hearing does not require the formalities of a trial. *People v Hartley* (1984) 163 CA3d 126, 130, 209 CR 131. Thus

- Defendant has no right to a jury trial on restitution issues (*People v Rivera* (1989) 212 CA3d 1153, 1161, 261 CR 93).
- Defendant has no right to confront and cross-examine witnesses, including the probation officer who prepared the probation report. *People v Cain* (2000) 82 CA4th 81, 86–88, 97 CR2d 836 (no right to cross-examine psychotherapist whose fees defendant was ordered to reimburse under [Pen C §273.5\(h\)\(2\)](#)).
- Victims have a right to express their views ([Pen C §1191.1](#)).
- The court may consider the recommendations in the presentence report despite their hearsay character (*People v Cain, supra*, 82 CA4th at 87–88; [Pen C §§1203\(b\)\(2\)\(C\)\(ii\)](#), [1203.1k](#)), as long as the court independently determines the amount of restitution (*People v Hartley, supra*).
- The evidentiary requirements for establishing a victim’s economic losses are minimal. The court must base its determination on the “amount of loss claimed by the victim or victims or any other showing to the court.” [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)](#). A victim may submit estimates of losses. *People v Goulart* (1990) 224 CA3d 71, 82–83, 273 CR 477. An owner of property is always entitled to give an opinion of its value. [Evid C §813](#). See *People v Prosser* (2007) 157 CA4th 682, 690–692, 68 CR3d 808 (in determining value of stolen property, court may consider testimony of victim as to its value, even though testimony was unsupported by receipts or appraisals, or a detailed description of each individual stolen piece); *People v Gemelli* (2008) 161 CA4th 1539, 1542–1544, 74

CR3d 901 (court may rely on victim's unverified statement of losses that is detailed and facially credible, and explains how the claimed losses relate to the crime).

- Documentary evidence such as bills, receipts, repair estimates, insurance payment statements, payroll stubs, business records, and similar documents relevant to the value of stolen or damaged property, medical expenses, and wages and profits lost may not be excluded as hearsay evidence. [Pen C §1203.1d\(d\)](#).

☛ **JUDICIAL TIP:** Restitution hearings should not further victimize victims by long courtroom waits or multiple hearings. This problem often arises in misdemeanor cases that involve long calendars and that lack probation reports. To minimize delays for victims some judges

- Instruct courtroom clerks to ascertain cases in which victims are present and call these cases first; and
- Permit victims to present restitution information without delay when an out-of-custody defendant is absent, on a determination and finding that defendant's absence is voluntary and with knowledge of the hearing. See [Pen C §1043](#) for a similar procedure at trial. Merely asking the victim to hand papers to the clerk and deferring the restitution determination may create confusion and an inadequate record.

(4) [§83.44] Burden of Proof

The victim must present evidence showing that there were losses and that the losses were caused by the crime committed by the defendant. *People v Fulton* (2003) 109 CA4th 876, 885-886, 135 CR2d 466. The amount of restitution must be proved by a preponderance of the evidence. *People v Gemelli* (2008) 161 CA4th 1539, 1542-1543, 74 CR3d 901. Once the victim makes a prima facie showing of economic losses, the burden shifts to the defendant to disprove the amount of the claimed losses. 161 CA4th at 1543. The defendant has the burden of showing that the restitution recommendation in the probation report or the victims' estimates are inaccurate. *People v Foster* (1993) 14 CA4th 939, 946, 18 CR2d 1; *People v Hartley* (1984) 163 CA3d 126, 130, 209 CR 131.

d. [§83.45] Ability To Pay

Defendant's inability to pay has no bearing on making a restitution order:

- It is not a compelling and extraordinary reason that justifies failing to impose restitution; and

- It cannot be considered in determining the amount of restitution. [Pen C §1202.4\(g\)](#).

However, ability to pay is vital in two other respects:

(1) At the time of making the restitution order the court needs to make an ability-to-pay determination in order to decide whether to make an income deduction order. [Pen C §1202.42\(a\)](#); for discussion, see [§83.74](#).

(2) Ability to pay becomes important if the defendant fails to pay restitution; it is a precondition to revoking probation or imprisoning defendant for failure to pay. See, e.g., *People v Whisenand* (1995) 37 CA4th 1383, 1393, 44 CR2d 501. See [§83.70](#).

e. Persons Entitled to Restitution

(1) [[§83.46](#)] Direct Victims

Restitution under [Pen C §1202.4](#) is generally limited to direct victims; *i.e.*, to persons against whom the crime was committed. *People v Torres* (1997) 59 CA4th 1, 5, 68 CR2d 644; *People v Valdez* (1994) 24 CA4th 1194, 1200, 30 CR2d 4 (victim is person who is object of crime).

A direct victim of crime does not have to be an individual. Corporations, business trusts, estates, trusts, partnerships, associations, joint ventures, governments and governmental agencies, or any other legal or commercial entities are included in the definition of “direct victim.” [Pen C §1202.4\(k\)\(2\)](#). See, e.g., *People v Saint-Amans* (2005) 131 CA4th 1076, 1084–1087, 32 CR3d 518 (restitution properly ordered for a bank for its losses from a defendant whose fraudulent transactions affected a deposit holder’s account; the bank was a direct victim because the bank did not act as an indemnitor, the bank was the object of the crime, and the defendant pleaded guilty to “commercial” burglary); *People v Ortiz* (1997) 53 CA4th 791, 795–799, 62 CR2d 66 (defendant convicted of selling counterfeit tapes; trial court properly found record company trade association was a direct victim and was entitled to restitution for both investigation expenses and lost sales).

- ☛ JUDICIAL TIP: Caution is advisable when counsel refers to statutes other than [Pen C §1202.4](#) for the purpose of defining who is a victim. See, e.g., a narrower definition in [Govt C §§13951\(c\), \(g\), 13955](#), dealing with persons entitled to compensation from the Restitution Fund, and [Pen C §1191.10](#). These definitions do not limit who qualifies as a victim under [Pen C §1202.4](#). See, e.g., *People v Broussard* (1993) 5 C4th 1067, 1077, 22 CR2d 1078 (persons entitled to restitution not limited to those who qualify for assistance from Restitution Fund); *People v Valdez, supra*, 24 CA4th at 1199.

(2) [§83.47] Governmental Agencies

A governmental agency may be a direct victim of the defendant's crime under [Pen C §1202.4\(k\)](#). For example, a defrauded governmental agency is a direct victim entitled to restitution for its losses. See *People v Crow* (1993) 6 C4th 952, 957, 26 CR2d 1 (welfare fraud); *People v Akins* (2005) 128 CA4th 1376, 1385-1389, 27 CR3d 815 (welfare fraud); *People v Hudson* (2003) 113 CA4th 924, 927-930, 7 CR3d 114 (discussion of how to calculate restitution to defrauded government agency). See also *In re Johnny M.* (2002) 100 CA4th 1128, 123 CR2d 316 (school district is direct victim entitled to restitution from minor who vandalized school property in amount that included reimbursement for property damage and labor costs of salaried employees who repaired the damage).

Governmental units are often indirect victims, not entitled to restitution. For example:

- A law enforcement agency that bought illicit drugs from the defendant does not qualify for restitution for the funds expended. *People v Torres* (1997) 59 CA4th 1, 5, 68 CR2d 644 (overhead expenses costs incurred in the course of regular investigatory duties not recoverable).
- A public agency may not be awarded restitution for cleanup costs incurred in removing hazardous waste from a defendant's illegal drug lab. *People v Martinez* (2005) 36 C4th 384, 391-394, 30 CR3d 779 ([Health & S C §§11470.1 and 11470.2](#) provide exclusive means by which Department of Toxic Substances Control can recover costs).
- A city may not be awarded restitution for workers' compensation payments to a police officer who was injured by defendant's criminal act. *People v Franco* (1993) 19 CA4th 175, 183-186, 23 CR2d 475 (city may pursue civil action under [Lab C §3852](#) to collect restitution).
- A public agency may not be awarded restitution under [Pen C §1202.4](#) for costs to investigate crimes or apprehend criminals. *People v Ozkan* (2004) 124 CA4th 1072, 1076-1077, 21 CR3d 854 (Board of Equalization entitled to recover costs under [Bus & P C §12015.5](#)).

As illustrated in some of the above cases, statutes often give governmental agencies other remedies to obtain reimbursement for expenditures attributable to defendant's conduct. Other examples include:

- *Emergency response to DUI auto accident.* The court can order restitution to a public agency for expenses incurred in its

emergency response to a DUI auto accident. [Govt C §53150](#); [Pen C §1203.1\(e\)](#). See *California Highway Patrol v Superior Court* (2006) 135 CA4th 488, 38 CR3d 16 (discussion of recoverable emergency response costs under [Govt C §53150](#)).

- *Fire suppression.* Fire departments can receive restitution expenses incurred in putting out a fire that was negligently or unlawfully set. Related rescue and emergency medical costs are also recoverable. [Health & S C §13009](#).
- *Medical examination.* The court can order restitution to a law enforcement agency for the cost of a medical examination conducted in child abuse or neglect cases and in sexual assault cases. [Pen C §1203.1h](#).
- *Emergency response.* The court can order restitution to a public agency for costs incurred due to their response to an emergency. [Pen C §1203.1l](#)
- *Child stealing cases.* The court must order the payment of restitution to the district attorney for any costs incurred in locating and returning a child to the custodial parent. [Pen C §278.6\(c\)](#); [Fam C §3134](#).
- *Criminal threat cases.* The court must order payment to a public or private entity for costs incurred stemming from an emergency response to a false bomb threat or to a false threat to use a weapon of mass destruction. [Pen C §422.1](#).
- *Damage to public property.* The court must order payment of restitution to a public entity for costs of cleanup, repair, replacement, or restoration of public property damaged by parties who refused to comply with an order to disperse. [Pen C §416\(b\)](#).

A governmental agency may be the beneficiary of restitution under [Pen C §1203.1](#) (restitution imposed as condition of probation) for losses resulting from unusual expenses directly incurred because of defendant's criminal conduct. *People v Rugamas* (2001) 93 CA4th 518, 521–523, 113 CR2d 271 (court upheld restitution order requiring defendant to reimburse police department for medical expenses incurred to treat defendant after police shot him with rubber bullets). See [§83.82](#).

(3) [§83.48] Insurance Companies

An insurance company that has paid the crime losses of its insured under the terms of an insurance policy is not a direct victim of crime and has no right to restitution. *People v Birkett* (1999) 21 C4th 226, 231, 245, 87 CR2d 205 (court also lacks discretion to divide restitution between victim and insurer). However, when the defendant is convicted of

submitting false claims to an insurance company, the insurance company is considered to be a direct victim of the defendant's crime and thus entitled to restitution. *People v O'Casey* (2001) 88 CA4th 967, 106 CR2d 263 (workers compensation fraud); *People v Moloy* (2000) 84 CA4th 257, 100 CR2d 676.

(4) [§83.49] Others

Other persons entitled to restitution under Pen C §1202.4 include:

- The immediate surviving family of the actual victim. Pen C §1202.4(k)(1).
- Parents and guardians of a victim who is a minor. Pen C §1202.4(f)(3)(D) and (E); for discussion, see §83.54.
- Any person who has sustained economic loss as the result of a crime and who satisfies any of the following conditions (Pen C §1202.4(k)(3)):
 - At the time of the crime was the parent, grandparent, sibling, spouse, child, or grandchild of the victim.
 - At the time of the crime was living in the victim's household.
 - At the time of the crime was a person who had previously lived in the victim's household for at least two years in a relationship substantially similar to that of a parent, grandparent, sibling, spouse, child, or grandchild.
 - Is another family member of the victim, including, but not limited to, the victim's fiancé or fiancée, and who witnessed the crime.
 - Is the primary caretaker of a minor victim.
- Any person who is eligible to receive assistance from the Restitution Fund under the California Victim Compensation Program (Govt C §§13950–13969.7). Pen C §1202.4(k)(4).

For discussion of restitution payments to the state Restitution Fund, see §83.71.

f. Losses Subject to Restitution; Amount

(1) [§83.50] Full Restitution for Economic Losses

Penal Code §1202.4 requires

(a) *full* restitution (subject only to an exception for compelling and extraordinary reasons (Pen C §1202.4(f), (g); for discussion of the exception, see §83.65))

(b) for *economic* losses determined by the court. Pen C §1202.4(a)(1), (f)(3).

Two kinds of losses not covered by Pen C §1202.4 are:

- Noneconomic losses (*e.g.*, psychological harm) except those suffered by victims of felony violations of Pen C §288; and
- Losses that did not result from the crime of which defendant was convicted. Pen C §1202.4(a)(1), (f)(3)(F); for basis of restitution other than Pen C §1202.4, see §§83.82–83.89.

(2) [§83.51] Components of Economic Loss

Penal Code §1202.4(f)(3) lists a number of losses and expenditures that qualify as recoverable economic losses. The list is not inclusive; the statute provides broad discretion with respect to the type of losses subject to a restitution order. Pen C §1202.4(f)(3) (“losses . . . including, but not limited to . . .”); *In re Johnny M.* (2002) 100 CA4th 1128, 1135–1136, 123 CR2d 316. See, *e.g.*, *People v Keichler* (2005) 129 CA4th 1039, 1046–1047, 29 CR3d 120 (trial court properly ordered restitution for the cost of a traditional Hmong healing ceremony and herbal medicines to victims of a fight). See also §83.57 (support to victim’s children).

(a) [§83.52] Property Damages or Loss

Victims have a right to restitution “for the value of stolen or damaged property,” defined as the replacement cost of like property or the cost of repairing it when repair is possible. Pen C §1202.4(f)(3)(A).

The Fourth District Court of Appeal held in *People v Yanez* (1995) 38 CA4th 1622, 1627, 46 CR2d 1, that the restitution for damaged but reparable property is limited to the amount of damages recoverable in a civil action. That is, the restitution for such property is the lesser of the following:

- Market value before the crime minus market value after it; or
- The reasonable cost of repairing the property to its condition before defendant damaged it.

However, the First District Court of Appeal in *In re Dina V.* (2007) 151 CA4th 486, 488–489, 59 CR3d 862, disagreed with the holding in *Yanez* and held that in imposing restitution in a juvenile wardship case when property has been damaged, the court has discretion to impose the actual cost of repairing the property, even if that amount exceeds the replacement cost. The Court stated that neither Welf & I C §730.6 nor Pen C §1202.4 limits victim restitution to that amount recoverable in a civil action.

Restitution may be ordered for cleanup, repair, or replacement of property damaged by parties who refused to comply with order to disperse. [Pen C §416\(b\)](#).

Stolen property. For most types of stolen property, original cost is a fair approximation of replacement cost. *People v Foster* (1993) 14 CA4th 939, 946, 18 CR2d 1. Accordingly, the court may consider a victim's statement of what the property cost, as set out in the probation report. It is up to the defendant to contest the valuation. *People v Foster, supra*.

Appreciated property. When the value of stolen property appreciates after the theft, as may happen with securities, the court may order restitution in the amount of the appreciated value. See *People v Tucker* (1995) 37 CA4th 1, 4-6, 44 CR2d 1 (embezzled mutual fund shares; decision based on former [Pen C §1203.04](#)).

- ☛ **JUDICIAL TIP:** The converse is not true in the view of most judges. When shares decline in value after defendant embezzled them, defendant should not get a windfall; defendant's crime deprived the victim of the opportunity to sell the shares before their value dropped.

Application of other statute to determine loss. In *People v Baker* (2005) 126 CA4th 463, 468-470, 23 CR3d 871, a defendant was convicted of cattle theft and was ordered to make restitution for the stolen cows and for the calves that were born while the cows were misappropriated. In calculating the restitution owed, the trial court properly applied [Food & A C §21855](#) in quadrupling the restitution amount. 126 CA4th at 469-470.

(b) [§83.53] Medical and Counseling Expenses

Medical expenses are a proper item of restitution ([Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(B\)](#)) and include future expenses. *People v Phelps* (1996) 41 CA4th 946, 949-951, 48 CR2d 855. Victims also have a right to restitution for mental health counseling expenses. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(C\)](#). See *People v O'Neal* (2004) 122 CA4th 817, 820-821, 19 CR3d 202 (defendant convicted of sexual molestation ordered to pay restitution for psychological counseling expenses incurred by victim's brother).

Other statutes provide for restitution of medical and counseling expenses in specific situations. For example:

- Defendants convicted of the following offenses may be ordered to reimburse a victim for reasonable costs of counseling and other reasonable expenses as condition of probation:
 - Domestic battery (see [Pen C §243\(e\)\(2\)\(B\)](#)),
 - Spousal rape (see [Pen C §262\(d\)\(2\)](#)),

- Spousal abuse (see [Pen C §273.5\(h\)\(2\)](#)), and
- Violation of protective order (see [Pen C §273.6\(h\)\(2\)](#)).
- Defendants convicted of the sexual assault on a minor are required to make restitution for the victim’s medical or psychological treatment expenses. [Pen C §1203.1g](#).
- Defendants convicted of the sexual assault on an elderly person are required to make restitution for the victim’s medical or psychological treatment expenses. [Pen C §1203.1j](#).

For a discussion of restitution for medical expenses when the victim is covered by Medi-Cal, see [§83.64](#),

(c) [[§83.54](#)] **Lost Wages and Profits; Out-of-Pocket Expenses**

Wages or profits lost by the victim as a result of the crime are a proper item of restitution. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(D\)–\(E\)](#); see, e.g., *People v Ortiz* (1997) 53 CA4th 791, 798, 62 CR2d 66 (sales lost as result of counterfeited cassette tapes).

Restitution should include:

- Future lost wages. See *People v Fulton* (2003) 109 CA4th 876, 880 n2, 887, 135 CR2d 466 (lost wages associated with future postsurgery recovery).
- Profits or wages lost because of time spent as a witness. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(E\)](#); *People v Nguyen* (1994) 23 CA4th 32, 42, 28 CR2d 140; see *People v Ryan* (1988) 203 CA3d 189, 192, 249 CR 750.
- Out-of-pocket expenses assisting the authorities in the investigation and prosecution of the case. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(E\)](#); *People v Ortiz, supra*, 53 CA4th at 797; see *People v Rowland* (1997) 51 CA4th 1745, 1749–1750, 60 CR2d 351.
- Wages or profits lost by the parents or guardian of a victim who is a minor. [Pen C §§1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(D\)](#) (loss while caring for injured minor), [1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(E\)](#) (loss because of time spent as witness or assisting prosecution).
- Wages lost because of psychological injury. *People v Brasure* (2008) 42 C4th 1037, 1074–1075, 71 CR3d 675 ([Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)](#) applied to compensate a murder victim’s mother for two years’ lost wages due to the trauma of her son’s death; the statute does not distinguish between economic losses covered by physical injuries and those caused by psychological trauma).

Lost wages include any commission income as well as any base wages. Commission income must be established by evidence of this income during the 12-month period before the date of the crime for which the court is ordering restitution, unless good cause for a shorter time period is shown. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(D\)–\(E\)](#).

- **JUDICIAL TIP:** If a victim is unable to go to work because of injuries inflicted by the defendant, and he or she used hours of sick leave in order to be paid, the victim should be reimbursed for the economic value of the hours of depletion of his or her accrued sick leave.

(d) [§83.55] Lost Work Product

A restitution award may include the reasonable value of employee work product lost as a result of the crime. *In re Johnny M.* (2002) 100 CA4th 1128, 1134, 123 CR2d 316. In *In re Johnny M.*, a minor admitted to vandalizing school property. Several salaried school employees were required to spend time repairing the damage to the classrooms. The juvenile court held that the school district incurred an economic loss because the district was deprived of the work product the salaried employees would have generated if they had not been obliged to repair school property. The court reasonably valued the lost work product at the salary rate of the district employees, including benefits, for the lost time. *In re Johnny M., supra*.

(e) [§83.56] Future Economic Losses of Spouse of Deceased Victim

The court may order the defendant to pay restitution to compensate the spouse of a deceased victim for the spouse's future economic losses attributable to the deceased victim's death. *People v Giordano* (2007) 42 C4th 644, 68 CR3d 51. In support of its decision, the Supreme Court looked to the state's wrongful death statutes that allow a spouse of a person wrongfully killed to seek compensation for the loss of financial benefits the decedent was contributing to support his or her family at the time of the decedent's death and the loss of that that support that was reasonably expected in the future. The Court stated that when the Legislature enacted [Pen C §1202.4](#), "it did so with the presumed knowledge that courts have long understood that a surviving spouse incur an economic loss upon the death of his or her spouse." 42 C4th at 659.

In calculating the loss of support, the trial court should consider the earning history of the deceased spouse, the age of the survivor and decedent, and the degree to which the decedent's income provided support to the survivor's household. These factors are not an exhaustive list; the

trial court has discretion to be guided by the particular factors in each individual claim. 42 C4th at 665.

(f) [§83.57] Child Support to Victims' Children

The children of a homicide victim are entitled to restitution for the loss of support. *People v Harvest* (2000) 84 CA4th 641, 652–653, 101 CR2d 135 (defendant ordered to pay child support for murder victim's children). See also *People v Clark* (1982) 130 CA3d 371, 384, 181 CR 682 (court ordered defendant to make monthly support payments to the children of a manslaughter victim as condition or probation). The court may also order restitution to the Restitution Fund for support to widows and children paid by the Fund. See Govt C §13957.5(a)(4).

(g) [§83.58] Interest

The court must award interest on a restitution order under Pen C §1202.4 at the rate of 10 percent per year. Pen C §§1202.4(f)(3)(G), 1214.5. The court has the option of awarding interest from the date of sentencing or loss. Pen C §1202.4(f)(3)(G).

- ☛ JUDICIAL TIPS: The latter is most workable when there was a single loss. Many judges leave it to the probation officer or other county agency to factor interest into a payment schedule.

(h) [§83.59] Attorneys' Fees

Penal Code §1202.4(f)(3)(H) mandates restitution for actual and reasonable attorneys' fees "and other costs of collection accrued by a private entity on behalf of the victim." See *People v Maheshwari* (2003) 107 CA4th 1406, 1409–1411, 132 CR2d 903 (defendant convicted of embezzlement ordered to pay victim's attorneys' fees and private investigator fees incurred in civil action to determine the amount of and recover embezzled funds). Only those attorneys' fees attributable to the victim's recovery of economic damages are allowed under Pen C §1202.4(f)(3)(H). The victim, however, is entitled to full reimbursement for attorneys' fees incurred to recover both economic and noneconomic losses when the fees cannot be reasonably divided. *People v Fulton* (2003) 109 CA4th 876, 882–885, 135 CR2d 466.

People v Fulton, supra, sets out the procedure for determining the proper amount of attorney's fees as restitution. Once evidence is introduced that the victim suffered economic losses and incurred reasonable attorney fees to recover those losses, this showing establishes the amount or restitution the victim is entitled to receive, unless challenged by the defendant. In that event, the burden shifts to the defendant to show, by a preponderance of the evidence, the portion of the

attorney fees that are not recoverable because those fees are attributable solely to noneconomic losses. 109 CA4th at 886.

A contingent fee paid by the victim to an attorney to pursue civil liability is recoverable under [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(H\)](#). *People v Pinedo* (1998) 60 CA4th 1403, 1405–1406, 71 CR2d 151. Restitution is also proper for attorneys' fees incurred to prevent a dispersal of assets by defendant. *People v Lyon* (1996) 49 CA4th 1521, 57 CR2d 415. However, legal expenses related to opposing discovery in the criminal case are not allowable. *People v Lyon, supra*.

Although [Welf & I C §730.6](#) does not include legal fees and costs in its list of compensable economic losses, the Second District Court of Appeal has held that a juvenile offender can be ordered to pay restitution for the legal fees and costs that the victim incurred to collect restitution. *In re Imran Q.* (2008) 158 CA4th 1316, 1319–1321, 71 CR3d 121 ([Welf & I C §730.6](#)'s silence on attorney's fees and costs is a mere legislative oversight; trial court should utilize procedure discussed in *People v Fulton, supra*, for allocating fees).

(i) [§83.60] Other Expenses

Relocation expenses. Adult victims have a right to restitution for expenses in relocating away from the defendant, including, but not limited to, deposits for utilities and telephone service, deposits for rental housing, temporary lodging and food expenses, and expenses for clothing and personal items. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(I\)](#). These expenses must be verified by law enforcement to be necessary for the victim's personal safety or by a mental health treatment provider to be necessary for the victim's emotional well-being. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(I\)](#). See *People v Mearns* (2002) 97 CA4th 493, 501–502, 118 CR2d 511 (court properly ordered relocation expenses to rape victim in the amount of difference between the sale price of the victim's original mobilehome where the rape occurred and the purchase price of a new one).

Residential security expenses. [Penal Code §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(J\)](#) mandates restitution for expenses to install or increase residential security related to any violent felony (as defined in [Pen C §667.5\(c\)](#)), including, but not limited to, a home security device or system, or replacing or increasing the number of locks.

Residence and/or vehicle retrofitting expenses. [Penal Code §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)\(K\)](#) requires restitution for expenses to retrofit a residence or vehicle, or both, to make the residence accessible to, or the vehicle operational by, the victim, if the victim is permanently disabled, whether the disability is partial or total, as a direct result of the crime.

(3) [§83.61] Restitution to Human Trafficking Victim

When a defendant has been convicted of violating [Pen C §236.1](#) (human trafficking), the court must order the defendant to make restitution to any victim who has suffered economic losses. [Pen C §1202.4\(q\)](#). In determining the restitution in such a case, the court must base its order on the greater of the following ([Pen C §1202.4\(q\)](#)):

- The gross value of the victim’s labor or services based on the comparable value of similar services in the labor market in which the offense occurred;
- The value of the victim’s labor as guaranteed by California law;
- The actual income derived by the defendant from the victim’s labor or services; or
- Any other appropriate means to provide reparations to the victim.

(4) [§83.62] Matters That Do Not Affect Amount of Restitution

Inability to pay. See [§83.45](#).

Victim’s insurance. A victim is entitled to restitution regardless of whether the victim has submitted an insurance claim or has been partially or fully reimbursed by his or her insurer. [People v Birkett \(1999\) 21 C4th 226, 245–247, 87 CR2d 205](#). The amount that a victim paid as a deductible under his or her insurance contract is not the measure of restitution. Rather, it is the full amount of loss, including the total amount that the victim’s insurance company paid out plus the victim’s deductible payments, and any other amounts not covered by the victim’s insurance. See [In re Brittany L. \(2002\) 99 CA4th 1381, 1386–1390, 122 CR2d 376](#).

Pending civil litigation by victim against defendant. A victim should not be penalized for pursuing a civil remedy. Restitution payments through the probation department or other appropriate agency should minimize any risk of double recovery.

Bankruptcy. See [§83.34](#).

Third party rights. Third party indemnification or subrogation rights do not affect the amount of restitution that is to be ordered. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(2\)](#); [People v Hove \(1999\) 76 CA4th 1266, 1272–1273, 91 CR2d 128](#) (court properly ordered restitution in full amount of medical expenses even though victim had not incurred any actual economic losses because of coverage by Medicare and/or Medi-Cal benefits).

Victim’s release of liability. A victim’s release of liability to the defendant’s insurance company as part of a settlement does not release the

defendant from his or her restitution obligation. A release cannot waive the People's right to have a defendant pay restitution ordered as part of the sentence. The victim would be in an untenable position if he or she had to reject a settlement offer from the defendant's insurance company that covers only a portion of the victim's losses in order to preserve the uncertain possibility that the full amount might be recovered. *People v Bernal, supra*, 101 CA4th at 160-161. See also *In re Tommy A. (2005) 131 CA4th 1580, 1592, 33 CR3d 103* (minor defendant's restitution order based on a plea agreement created an implied agreement between the minor and the state obligating the minor to satisfy a "rehabilitative and deterrent debt to society" by paying restitution; the victim, not being a party to the implied agreement, could not release the minor from court-ordered restitution under *Welf & I C §730.6(a)(1)*). However, a victim's release of claims against the parent or guardian of a minor for damages inflicted during the minor's commission of a crime releases the parent or guardian. *In re Michael S. (2007) 147 CA4th 1443, 1451-1455, 54 CR3d 920*.

Prison sentence. See §83.76.

(5) [§83.63] Payment by Defendant's Insurer

If the defendant's insurer has made payments to the victim for losses subject to a *Pen C §1202.4* restitution order, those payments must be offset against the defendant's restitution obligation. *People v Bernal (2002) 101 CA4th 155, 165-168, 123 CR2d 622*.

An insurer's payment to the victim must be made on behalf of the defendant as a result of the defendant's status as an insured under the policy. *People v Short (2008) 160 CA4th 899, 903-905, 73 CR3d 154* (defendant was entitled to an offset for a settlement payment made by defendant's employer's liability insurer to victim of defendant's DUI accident involving company vehicle; even though defendant did not procure policy or make premium payments, he was member of class of insureds covered under the policy); *People v Jennings (2005) 128 CA4th 42, 53-58, 26 CR3d 709* (defendant was entitled to an offset for an insurance settlement payment when both defendant and a parent were named on policy; irrelevant whether defendant or parent paid the premiums). Compare *People v Hamilton (2004) 114 CA4th 932, 941-943, 8 CR3d 190* (payments made by insurer of defendant's parent to settle victim's civil action against both the defendant and parent may not offset defendant's restitution obligation when payments are made on parent's behalf and not directly on behalf of defendant); *In re Tommy A. (2005) 131 CA4th 1580, 1590-1592, 33 CR3d 103* (juvenile committed hit-and-run accident while driving another person's car without permission; settlement payment by owner's insurer was "completely distinct and

independent from the minor” and therefore could not be offset against minor’s restitution obligation).

When offsetting a defendant’s restitution obligations by the amount of a civil settlement, the court must determine what portion of the settlement payment is directed to cover economic losses outlined in the restitution order. Only that portion of settlement may be used to reduce the defendant’s obligations. *People v Short, supra*, 160 CA4th at 905; *People v Jennings, supra*, 128 CA4th at 58–59.

(6) [§83.64] Medi-Cal Payments

When the victim is covered by Medi-Cal, victim restitution for medical expenses is based on the amount actually paid by Medi-Cal and not the amount charged by the medical provider. *In re Anthony M. (2007) 156 CA4th 1010, 1015–1019, 67 CR3d 734* (juvenile court erred in imposing restitution based on the amount charged by the medical provider). If the medical provider accepts payment from Medi-Cal for medical services rendered, that payment constitutes payment in full, and it is barred from seeking any unpaid balance from the patient. 42 CFR §447.15; Welf & I C §§14019.3(d), 14019.4(a). Under certain circumstances, Medi-Cal, on the other hand, may seek reimbursement from the patient or other responsible party for the amount it paid to the provider. 42 USC §§1396a(a)(25)(B), (a)(45), 1396k(a)(1)(A), (b). The court in *In re Anthony M.* distinguished *People v Hove (1999) 76 CA4th 1266, 91 CR2d 128*, in which the trial court ordered restitution in an amount in excess of that paid by Med-Cal to cover continuing care costs beyond the date of the award. No finding of ongoing medical care was made in *In re Anthony M.*, 156 CA4th at 1019.

(7) [§83.65] Waiver of Full Restitution

The court’s authority to waive full restitution is circumscribed in the same manner as authority to waive the restitution fine. The court may do so only if it finds compelling and extraordinary reasons for not ordering full restitution and states these reasons on the record. Pen C §1202.4(f). When the court waives full restitution, it must order the defendant to perform community service as a condition of probation, unless the court finds and states on the record compelling and extraordinary reasons for not doing so. Pen C §1202.4(n).

☛ JUDICIAL TIPS:

- Reasons for not ordering community service should be stated separately and in addition to the reasons for not ordering full restitution.

- In the event probation is revoked, the court needs to replace the community service order with an order to pay restitution. [Pen C §1202.4\(n\)](#). The statute contains no grounds that would excuse making such an order to pay.

(8) [§83.66] Audio-Video Hearing To Impose or Amend Restitution Order

Where such technology exists, the court may conduct a hearing to impose or amend a restitution order by two-way electronic audio-video communication between a defendant incarcerated in state prison and the courtroom in place of defendant's appearance in the courtroom. [Pen C §1202.41\(a\)\(1\)](#). The hearing is allowed only in those cases when the victim has received assistance from the Restitution Fund. [Pen C §1202.41\(a\)\(1\)](#). The hearing must be initiated through a request of the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), to collaborate with the court to arrange the hearing. [Pen C §1202.41\(a\)\(1\)](#).

If the defendant is represented by counsel, the attorney may be present with the defendant during the hearing, or may be present in the courtroom if the CDCR establishes a confidential telephone and facsimile transmission link between the defendant and the attorney. [Pen C §1202.41\(a\)\(3\)](#).

The determination to hold a two-way audio-video hearing lies within the discretion of the court. The court has the authority to issue an order requiring the defendant to be physically present in those cases where circumstances warrant. [Pen C §1202.41\(a\)\(2\)](#).

If a defendant is incarcerated in a prison without two-way audio-video communication capability, and does not waive his or her right to be present at a hearing to amend a restitution order, the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board must determine whether the cost of holding the hearing is justified. If the Board determines that the cost of holding the hearing is not justified, the Board may not pursue the amendment of the restitution order. [Pen C §1202.41\(b\)](#).

g. Order

(1) [§83.67] Specificity and Form

Specificity. The court's restitution order must be specific and detailed, identifying each victim and each loss to the extent possible. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(3\)](#); see *People v Blankenship* (1989) 213 CA3d 992, 998, 262 CR 141. An order for restitution is unenforceable if it does not specify the losses to which it pertains. *People v Guardado* (1995) 40 CA4th 757, 762-763, 47 CR2d 81. Because a restitution order is enforceable by the

victim as if it were a civil judgment (see §83.35), it must have the same degree of specificity as a civil judgment. 40 CA4th at 762. For discussion of procedure when the amount of restitution is uncertain at the time of sentencing, see §83.68.

- **JUDICIAL TIP:** Courts are encouraged to use Judicial Council form CR–110/JV–790 when making restitution orders. For form, see §83.92.

Separate form. Many judges issue a separate copy of the restitution order for each victim because victims often need a certified copy of the order for enforcement purposes and are entitled to one on request. Pen C §1214(b); see discussion in §83.35. The California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board is also entitled to a copy on request. Pen C §1214(b). Penal Code §1202.4(f)(3) also seems to contemplate separate orders.

Notice to Board. The court clerk must notify the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board within 90 days of the court’s imposition of a restitution order if the defendant is ordered to pay restitution to the Board because of the victim receiving compensation from the Restitution Fund. Pen C §1202.4(p).

(2) [§83.68] Amount Initially Uncertain

At the time of sentencing, the amount of restitution often cannot be fixed because necessary information is lacking or a subsequent hearing is needed to resolve a dispute about the amount. In these situations the court may order that it will determine the amount later. Pen C §1202.4(f); See *People v Amin* (2000) 85 CA4th 58, 62, 101 CR2d 756 (as part of plea bargain defendant agreed to pay restitution, and decision on amount reserved by court for later hearing). The court retains jurisdiction over the defendant for purposes of imposing or modifying restitution until the losses are determined. Pen C §1202.46. There is no limitation on when the court must set the restitution hearing. See *People v Bufford* (2007) 146 CA4th 966, 969–972, 53 CR3d 273 (trial court did not lose jurisdiction to order restitution, notwithstanding that defendant had fully served her prison sentence before the final restitution hearing was held).

➤ JUDICIAL TIPS:

- Judges often seek a waiver of defendant’s presence at the future restitution hearing. For judicial economy, judges will often set the date for the restitution hearing at the time of sentencing.
- When the defendant is sentenced to prison, it is highly advisable to address restitution prior to the defendant being transported to the prison. If the defendant is transported to prison with a “to be

determined” order, it is highly unlikely that the victim will ever be able to obtain a restitution order unless the defendant waives his or her personal appearance at any future hearing. Counties typically cannot afford to bring a prisoner back to the local area for a restitution hearing. If the total amount of losses cannot be determined prior to the defendant being transported, the court should (1) order the amount that can be determined so that the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) can start the collection, (2) include an order in the sentence for the defendant to pay any additional restitution in an amount to be determined by the court, and (3) seek a waiver of the defendant’s presence at any future restitution hearings.

- There is a prevailing misperception that when a “to be determined order” is issued, the CDCR will subsequently set the amount of restitution. CDCR can collect on restitution orders, but CDCR cannot set or order the amount.

(3) [§83.69] Delegating Restitution Determination

General rule. The court may not delegate to the probation officer the duty to determine the amount of restitution. *People v Cervantes* (1984) 154 CA3d 353, 358, 201 CR 187; see Pen C §1202.4(f) (court shall require restitution in amount to be established by court order). But see *People v Lunsford* (1998) 67 CA4th 901, 79 CR2d 363 (restitution order directing county agency to determine amount at later time enforceable). As to minors, see *In re Karen A.* (2004) 115 CA4th 504, 507–511, 9 CR3d 369, which holds that Welf & I C §730.6(h) allows the juvenile court to delegate to the probation officer the tasks of identifying losses and specifying the amount of restitution. Minors are entitled to a court hearing to dispute the probation officer’s determination of the restitution amount. Welf & I C §730.6(h).

Delegation with consent. The court with the defendant’s consent may order the probation officer to set the amount of restitution. Pen C §1203.1k; see *People v DiMora* (1992) 10 CA4th 1545, 1549, 13 CR2d 616. The defendant can contest the probation officer’s determination in court. Pen C §1203.1k.

Delegation when amount uncertain at sentencing. When the extent of a victim’s loss cannot be ascertained at the time of sentencing, *People v Lunsford, supra*, permits the court to order the defendant to pay restitution in an amount to be determined by the local agency that administers the victim restitution program; the defendant has a right to a court hearing in accordance with Pen C §1202.4(f)(1).

➤ JUDICIAL TIPS:

- Most judges seek defendant’s consent or proceed as discussed in §83.68.
- The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) is not authorized to initiate collection of restitution based on determinations by probation officers or other county agencies. CDCR must have a signed, sealed, and certified court order reflecting specific amounts and names of victims.

Setting payment schedule. Courts often delegate the task of setting up the defendant’s payment schedule to the probation department or another county agency. See *People v Ryan* (1988) 203 CA3d 189, 198, 249 CR 750. Payment schedules are not necessary for adults committed to the CDCR or youthful offenders committed to the CDCR’s Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) (formerly California Youth Authority). Under statute, a specified percentage will be deducted from prison wages and trust account deposits. Pen C §2085.5; Welf & I C §§1752.81–1752.82.

- JUDICIAL TIP: The defendant should be given an opportunity to challenge the determination.

Relying on probation report. The court may rely on the probation report in setting the amount of restitution. *People v Campbell* (1994) 21 CA4th 825, 830–832, 26 CR2d 433; *People v Foster* (1993) 14 CA4th 939, 946, 18 CR2d 1; see §83.43.

(4) [§83.70] Relation of Restitution Order to Probation

Penal Code §1202.4 applies whether or not the court grants probation. Pen C §1202.4(a)(1), (f).

- JUDICIAL TIP: When defendant is sentenced to prison, an order for full restitution is as mandatory as in cases of probation.

When the court grants probation, payment of restitution must be made a condition of probation. Pen C §1202.4(m)–(n). Termination of probation does not affect the victim’s right to enforce the order. Pen C §1202.4(m).

- JUDICIAL TIP: When probation is revoked or terminated, and the defendant is sentenced to CDCR, the initial order reflecting the restitution must be included in the legal documents accompanying the inmate to CDCR. In order for the restitution to continue to be collected, the victim must submit a request to CDCR.

The court may revoke a defendant's probation based on the defendant's willful failure to pay restitution when the defendant has the ability to do so. [Pen C §1203.2\(a\)](#); *People v Lawson* (1999) 69 CA4th 29, 81 CR2d 283.

If the defendant is unable to pay full restitution within the initial term of probation, the court may modify and extend the period of probation to allow the defendant to pay off all restitution within the probation term. [Pen C §1203.3\(b\)\(4\)](#); *People v Cookson* (1991) 54 C3d 1091, 1097, 2 CR2d 176. Generally, the probation term may be extended up to but not beyond the maximum probation period allowed for the offense. *People v Medeiros* (1994) 25 CA4th 1260, 1267–1268, 31 CR2d 83. However, [Pen C §1203.2\(e\)](#) provides an exception, allowing probation to be extended past the maximum period if probation is revoked based on a violation of probation and the revocation has been set aside. *In re Hamm* (1982) 133 CA3d 60, 67, 183 CR 626; *People v Carter* (1965) 233 CA2d 260, 268, 43 CR 440.

A defendant is not entitled to have his or her conviction expunged under [Pen C §1203.4](#) following termination of the defendant's probation when the defendant has not paid the full amount of the restitution. For purposes of [Pen C §1203.4](#), a defendant has not fulfilled a restitution condition of probation unless the defendant has made all court-ordered payments for the entire period of probation and has paid the obligation in full. *People v Covington* (2000) 82 CA4th 1263, 1271, 98 CR2d 852.

(5) [§83.71] Relation of Restitution Order to Restitution Fund

Victims of criminal acts may recover compensation from the state Restitution Fund under specified circumstances; the Fund is administered by the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board. [Govt C §§13950–13969.7](#).

A restitution order does not preclude a victim's right to financial assistance from the Fund, but the amount of such assistance is reduced by the amount the victim actually receives for the same loss under the restitution order. [Pen C §1202.4\(j\)](#).

Restitution payments are made to the Fund to the extent that it provided compensation to the victim. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(2\)](#). More broadly, when the Fund pays a victim, it is subrogated to the victim's rights against persons liable for restitution. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(2\)](#); [Govt C §13963\(a\)](#).

Assistance from the Fund as a result of the defendant's conduct is presumed to be a direct result of the defendant's crime and must be included in the amount of restitution ordered by the court. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(4\)\(A\)](#). The amount of assistance provided by the Fund may be established by copies of bills submitted to the Board reflecting the amount

paid by the Board and whether the services for which payment was made were for medical or dental expenses, funeral or burial expenses, mental health counseling, wage or support losses, or rehabilitation. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(4\)\(B\)](#). Certified copies of these bills provided by the Board and redacted to protect the victim's privacy and safety or any legal privilege, together with a statement made under penalty of perjury by the custodian of records that the bills were submitted to and paid by the Board, are sufficient to meet this requirement. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(4\)\(B\)](#); see *People v Cain* (2000) 82 CA4th 81, 87–88, 97 CR2d 836 (Board's statement of claims paid on victim's behalf is inherently reliable document). If the defendant offers evidence to rebut this presumption, the court may release additional information contained in the Board's records to the defendant *only after* (1) reviewing the information in camera, and (2) finding that the information is necessary for the defendant to dispute the amount of the restitution order. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(4\)\(C\)](#).

(6) [§83.72] Order Imposing Joint and Several Liability

A restitution order under [Pen C §1202.4](#) may require codefendants to pay restitution jointly and severally. *People v Blackburn* (1999) 72 CA4th 1520, 1535, 86 CR2d 134; *People v Madrana* (1997) 55 CA4th 1044, 1049, 64 CR2d 518. Courts frequently make such orders. Under such an order, each defendant is entitled to a credit for any actual payments made by the other. *People v Blackburn, supra*, 72 CA4th at 1535. But a defendant cannot be jointly and severally liable with a codefendant for restitution if the defendant did not participate in the crime causing the victim's loss. See *People v Leon* (2004) 124 CA4th 620, 21 CR3d 394 (defendant convicted of passing one forged check for \$2450, and codefendant convicted of passing three forged checks totaling \$11,000; trial court erred in ordering defendant to pay victim restitution of \$13,450 jointly and severally with codefendant).

As to joint and several liability of the parents or guardians of a juvenile offender, see [§83.80](#).

(7) [§83.73] Correction, Modification, and Amendment of Restitution Orders

Correcting failure to order restitution. A sentence without a restitution award to a victim within [Pen C §1202.4](#) (or an alternative statement of extraordinary reasons) is invalid; the trial court may properly add a restitution order later. [Pen C §1202.46](#); *People v Rowland* (1997) 51 CA4th 1745, 1750–1752, 60 CR2d 351. See also *People v Moreno* (2003) 108 CA4th 1, 132 CR2d 918 (correction of sentence under [Pen C §1202.46](#) not limited to situations where restitution amount is not ascertainable at the time of sentencing).

Modification. Penal Code §1202.4(f)(1) authorizes courts to modify restitution on motion of the prosecutor, victim, defendant, or court. See also Pen C §1203.2(b) (modification of probation). Penal Code §1203.3(b)(4) provides that when the defendant is on probation, the court may not modify the dollar amount of restitution obligations because of the defendant's good conduct and reform absent compelling and extraordinary reasons. Penal Code §1203.3(b)(5) additionally provides that nothing in Pen C §1203.3 prohibits the court from modifying the dollar amount of a restitution order under Pen C §1202.4(f) at any time during the term of the probation. Both the prosecutor and the victim have a right to notice and a hearing before a restitution order may be modified or terminated. Pen C §§679.02(a)(3), 1191.1, 1202.4(f)(1); 1203.3(b)(1). See *Melissa J. v Superior Court* (1987) 190 CA3d 476, 237 CR 5 (court set aside termination of restitution order made without notice to the victim or an opportunity for the victim to object). For modification of probation generally, see 3 Witkin and Epstein, California Criminal Law, *Punishment* §§573–576 (3d ed 2000).

➤ JUDICIAL TIPS:

- Many judges read Pen C §§1202.4(f)(1), (g), and 1203.3(b)(4) as prohibiting a modification that orders less than full restitution absent compelling and extraordinary reasons whenever payment of restitution is a condition of probation.
- When the court revokes probation and commits defendant to prison, it should modify the original judgment by ordering defendant to pay restitution because the probation condition that requires such payment no longer exists. See *People v Young* (1995) 38 CA4th 560, 567, 45 CR2d 177. Some judges believe that this is unnecessary because in their view a restitution obligation, like a restitution fine, survives a revocation of probation. See *People v Arata* (2004) 118 CA4th 195, 201–203, 12 CR3d 757; *People v Chambers* (1998) 65 CA4th 819, 821–823, 76 CR2d 732; Pen C §1202.4(m) (restitution unpaid, when defendant no longer on probation, enforceable like a civil judgment).

h. Enforcement

(1) [§83.74] Income Deduction Orders

On entry of a restitution order under Pen C §1202.4, the court must enter a separate order for income deduction on determination of the defendant's ability to pay, regardless of probation status, in accordance with Pen C §1203. Pen C §1202.42(a). The court may consider future earning capacity when determining the defendant's ability to pay. The

defendant bears the burden of demonstrating an inability to pay. [Pen C §1202.42\(a\)](#). Express findings by the court as to the factors bearing on the amount of the deduction are not required. [Pen C §1202.42\(a\)](#).

The order is stayed as long as defendant pays restitution. [Pen C §1202.42\(b\)\(1\)](#). [Penal Code §1202.42](#) includes detailed provisions for enforcing the order by service on defendant's employer if defendant fails to meet the restitution obligation. Defendant has a right to notice and a hearing before the income deduction order is enforced. [Pen C §1202.42\(b\)\(2\)](#), (f).

By its terms, [Pen C §1202.42](#) applies only to restitution orders made under [Pen C §1202.4](#) or its predecessors.

➡ **JUDICIAL TIP:** The court should *not* consider making an income deduction order in the following situations:

- A restitution order directed to a juvenile offender under [Welf & I C §730.6](#).
- An order to pay restitution for losses from conduct other than the commission of a crime of which defendant was convicted. See [§§83.82–83.89](#).

County retirement benefits exemption. The court may not order a county retirement system to deduct restitution payments from a disability allowance owed to a defendant who is a retired county employee. [Government Code §31452](#) provides an exemption from execution or other court process for benefits under county retirement systems. *Board of Retirement v Superior Court* (2002) 101 CA4th 1062, 124 CR2d 850 (court found that neither [Proposition 8](#) nor [former Govt C §13967.2](#) (recast as [Pen C §1202.42](#)) has impliedly repealed the exemption).

See the Judicial Council income deduction form and related forms in [§§83.94–83.96](#).

(2) [§83.75] Order To Apply Specified Portion of Income to Restitution

In two situations the court must order probationers to seek and maintain employment and apply a portion of earnings specified by the court to make restitution for the victim's medical and psychological treatment expenses:

- (1) Conviction of sexual assault on a minor. [Pen C §1203.1g](#).
- (2) Conviction of assault, battery, or assault with a deadly weapon on a senior. [Pen C §1203.1j](#).

In all cases of probation, the court may require as a condition of probation that the probationer go to work and earn money to pay any

reparation condition and apply those earnings as directed by the court. [Pen C §1203.1\(d\)](#).

(3) [§83.76] Collection of Restitution by CDCR and DJJ

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and the CDCR's Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) (formerly California Youth Authority) collect restitution from the funds of inmates and wards in the same manner as restitution fines. [Pen C §2085.5](#); [Welf & I C §§730.6\(p\), 1752.81](#); for discussion, see [§83.23](#). Victim restitution is collected before the restitution fine. [Pen C §2085.5\(g\)](#); [Welf & I C §§730.6\(p\), 1752.81\(f\)](#).

☛ JUDICIAL TIPS:

- Courts should make sure that the CDCR and the DJJ are given restitution information that includes *specific amounts and names of victims*.
- Courts should not direct the correctional institutions to collect restitution; their obligation to do so rests on statute, not court order.

The CDCR provides a form CDCR 1707 (Request for Victim Services) that a victim may complete and send to the CDCR to notify the CDCR of a restitution order. Completion of the form is not required for the CDCR to collect restitution on the victim's behalf, but it greatly assists the CDCR in disbursing funds to victims, because it requests the victim's address of where to send the money. Frequently, CDCR does not have this information, and therefore, disbursement of collections is thwarted. The victim may use form CDCR 1707 to request notification of the inmate's status in prison or to request special conditions of parole on the inmate's release. The form can be obtained at the CDCR Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services Web site: www.cdcr.ca.gov/victim_services/application.html.

(4) [§83.77] Restitution Centers

The Secretary of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) may establish and operate restitution centers, which are facilities that house nonviolent defendants who are required to work outside the facilities during the day to pay off restitution owing to their victims. [Pen C §§6220-6236](#). Of the wages earned by a defendant while housed at a restitution center, one-third is given to the victim, one-third to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to pay for the operation costs of the center, and one-third to the defendant's savings account. [Pen C §6231](#). To participate in the restitution center, defendants

must be employable, provide no risk to the community, and have no prior convictions of crimes involving violence, sex, or the sale of narcotics. See [Pen C §6228](#) for discussion of eligibility requirements.

At present, there is only one restitution center located in Los Angeles County. The center has a maximum capacity of 110 offenders.

➤ **JUDICIAL TIPS:**

- Defendants from any county may be placed in the Los Angeles Restitution Center. This is a very good alternative for those defendants convicted of white collar crime.
- The court may order the CDCR to place an eligible defendant in the Restitution Center. [Pen C §6227](#). However, the CDCR treats these orders as recommendations for placement because the CDCR is responsible for determining whether the defendant meets the eligibility requirements outlined in [Pen C §6228](#). If the CDCR determines that the defendant is eligible and the defendant has a significant restitution order, the CDCR will usually fulfill the court's order for placement.

(5) [§83.78] Financial Disclosure

A restitution order under [Pen C §1202.4](#) subjects the defendant to detailed financial disclosure requirements in aid of enforcement. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(5\)–\(11\)](#).

The defendant must disclose all assets, income, and liabilities in which the defendant held or controlled a present or future interest as of the date of the defendant's arrest. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(5\)](#). See the Judicial Council asset disclosure form CR–115 in [§83.93](#)). The disclosure must be filed with the clerk of the court no later than the defendant's sentencing date unless otherwise directed by the court under [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(8\)](#). [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(7\)](#).

The court may consider a defendant's unreasonable failure to make a complete disclosure as (1) a circumstance in aggravation of the crime in imposing a term under [Pen C §1170\(b\)](#), or (2) a factor indicating that the interests of justice would not be served by admitting the defendant to probation, by conditionally sentencing the defendant, or by imposing less than the maximum fine and sentence fixed by law for the case. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(9\)](#). A defendant's failure or refusal to file a disclosure statement does not delay the entry of an order of restitution or pronouncement of sentence. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(10\)](#). A defendant who willfully states as true on the disclosure any material matter that the defendant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor, unless this conduct is punishable as perjury or another provision of law provides for a greater penalty. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(5\), \(11\)](#).

Financial information filed by the defendant under [Pen C §987\(c\)](#) to help the court determine the defendant's ability to employ counsel may be used instead of the required financial disclosure when the defendant fails to file the disclosure. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(6\)](#). In such an event, the defendant shall be deemed to have waived confidentiality of the information. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(6\)](#).

Filing of updated financial disclosure. If a defendant has a remaining unpaid balance on a restitution order or fine 120 days before the defendant's scheduled release from probation or completion of a conditional sentence, the defendant must prepare and file a new and updated financial disclosure identifying all assets, income, and liabilities. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(11\)](#). The defendant must file this updated financial disclosure with the court clerk no later than 90 days before the defendant's scheduled release from probation or completion of the defendant's conditional sentence. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)\(11\)](#).

Use of interrogatories. A crime victim who has not received complete payment of restitution may serve Judicial Council Form CR–200 interrogatories on the defendant once a year to discover information about the defendant's assets, income, and liabilities. [CCP §2033.720\(b\)](#).

For enforcement of restitution orders as civil judgments, see [§83.35](#).

(6) [§83.79] Applying Seized Assets to Restitution

The court may apply funds confiscated from the defendant at the time of the defendant's arrest, except for funds confiscated under [Health & S C §11469](#) (illegal drug funds), to the restitution order if the funds are not exempt for spousal or child support or subject to any other legal exemption. [Pen C §1202.4\(f\)](#).

The common law rule that money belonging to an arrestee and held for safekeeping is exempt from execution does not apply to funds sought for payment of a restitution order, a debt that was created after the defendant's conviction. *People v Willie* (2005) 133 CA4th 43, 49–50, 34 CR3d 532. Further, this exemption has been superseded by [CCP §704.090](#), which effectively limits the exemption to \$300 for a restitution order. 133 CA4th at 50–52.

If a complaint alleges facts to support an aggravated white collar enhancement under [Pen C §186.11](#), the prosecution may act to preserve the defendant's assets for the payment of restitution. [Pen C §186.11\(e\)](#); see, e.g., *People v Semaan* (2007) 42 C4th 79, 64 CR3d 1; *Q-Soft, Inc. v Superior Court* (2007) 157 CA4th 441, 68 CR3d 687. The assets of the defendant that may be frozen are not limited to assets involved in the crime with which the defendant is charged, because the obligation to pay restitution is a general obligation. *People v Semaan, supra*, 42 C4th at 86–87.

Before the court may release seized assets to a victim, it must afford the defendant notice and opportunity to be heard in opposition to the victim's claim. *People v Chabear* (1984) 163 CA3d 153, 155, 209 CR 218 (due process violation to deny defendant the right to challenge robbery victim's claim of money seized during search of defendant's residence). However, in *People v Nystrom* (1992) 7 CA4th 1177, 1181–1182, 10 CR2d 94, the court held, in contrast to *Chabear*, that a defendant was not entitled to notice and hearing before money seized at the time of arrest was released to the victim because the trial court had already entered a valid restitution order as part of a negotiated plea, and thus there was no question that the victim was entitled to the money. 7 CA4th at 1181–1182.

i. [§83.80] Juvenile Offenders

Juvenile restitution law under [Welf & I C §730.6](#) parallels [Pen C §1202.4](#). The more extensive case law on adult restitution can therefore be used by a juvenile court for guidance on most restitution issues. See *In re Johnny M.* (2002) 100 CA4th 1128, 1132–1133, 123 CR2d 316. Although there is a substantial similarity between juvenile and adult restitution law, there are the following exceptions:

- *Ability to pay.* For minors, as for adults, ability to pay is not a consideration in making restitution orders ([Welf & I C §730.6\(h\)](#)), subject to an exception in [Welf & I C §742.16](#) (when minor is unable to repair damage caused by vandalism or graffiti offense, order for monetary restitution depends on ability to pay).
- *Liability of parents.* Parents and guardians with joint or sole legal and physical custody and control of the minor are rebuttably presumed to be jointly and severally liable for a minor's restitution obligation. [Welf & I C §730.7\(a\)](#). The amount of their liability is limited by statute and is subject to the court's consideration of their inability to pay. [Welf & I C §730.7\(a\)](#); [CC §§1714.1, 1714.3](#). The parents or guardians have the burden of showing inability to pay and the burden of showing by a preponderance of the evidence that they were either not given notice of potential liability for payment of restitution before the wardship petition was sustained or that they were not present during the proceedings when the petition was sustained and during any subsequent hearing addressing restitution. [Welf & I C §730.7\(a\)](#). A child's age at the time of the offense, and not his or her age on the date the restitution order is imposed, determines whether parents may be held jointly and severally liable. *In re Jeffrey M.* (2006) 141 CA4th 1017, 1022–1027, 46 CR3d 533 (defendant was age 17 when

offense was committed but had reached majority at time of disposition order; trial court properly held parent liable for son's restitution obligation).

- *Economic losses.* Penal Code §1202.4(f)(3) includes interest, attorneys' fees, and collection costs in the definition of economic losses; Welf & I C §730.6 does not. However, the Second District Court of Appeal has held that a juvenile offender can be ordered to pay restitution for the victim's legal fees and costs that the victim incurred to collect restitution. *In re Imran Q.* (2008) 158 CA4th 1316, 1319–1321, 71 CR3d 121 (Welf & I C §730.6's silence on attorney's fees and costs is a mere legislative oversight).
- *Financial disclosure.* Welfare and Institutions Code §730.6 does not impose financial disclosure requirements on juvenile offenders.
- *Wage deduction order.* Juvenile offenders are not subject to such orders. See Pen C §1202.42.
- *Identification of victims.* The restitution order, to the extent possible, must identify each victim, unless the court for good cause finds that the order should not identify the victim(s). Welf & I C §730.6(h).
- *Retention of jurisdiction to determine restitution amount.* If the amount of restitution cannot be ascertained at the time of sentencing, the court retains jurisdiction to determine restitution only during the minor's term of commitment or probation. Welf & I C §730.6(h). The restitution obligation of the minor may extend beyond expiration of wardship and into adulthood. *In re Michael S.* (2007) 147 CA4th 1443, 1456–1457, 54 CR3d 920.

j. [§83.81] Remand for Resentencing

A restitution order may be increased or imposed for the first time after a remand for resentencing following the defendant's partially successful appeal. *People v Harvest* (2000) 84 CA4th 641, 646–650, 101 CR2d 135 (no double jeopardy bar because victim restitution is civil remedy).

Restitution fines may *not* be increased after remand for resentencing following a successful appeal. See §83.19.

4. Discretionary Restitution

a. [§83.82] Court's Discretion Under Pen C §1203.1 To Order Restitution as Condition of Probation

The court has broad discretion to order restitution as a condition of probation consistent with the ends of fostering rehabilitation and

protecting public safety. [Pen C §1203.1\(a\)\(3\), \(j\)](#); [People v Carbajal \(1995\) 10 C4th 1114, 1120, 43 CR2d 681](#). Under [Pen C §1203.1\(j\)](#), the court can order restitution when the losses are not the result of the crime underlying the defendant's conviction. However, the restitution condition must be reasonably related either to the crime of which the defendant was convicted or to the goal of deterring future criminality. 10 C4th at 1121–1124. In [People v Rugamas \(2001\) 93 CA4th 518, 521, 113 CR2d 271](#), the court upheld, as a condition of probation, restitution for the cost of medical treatment received by the defendant and paid for by the police department, and administered as a result of injuries sustained by the defendant when the police shot him with rubber bullets. Even though the police department was not a victim entitled to restitution under the mandatory restitution provisions of [Pen C §1202.4](#), the restitution order was proper under [Pen C §1203.1](#). The restitution was reasonably related to both the crime of which the defendant was convicted (brandishing weapon to avoid arrest) and the goal of deterring future criminality. See also [In re I. M. \(2005\) 125 CA4th 1195, 1208–1211, 23 CR3d 375](#) (restitution for funeral expenses of murder victim's family was properly imposed, as a condition of probation, against a juvenile offender who was found to have acted as an accessory after the fact in connection with the murder; order was reasonably related to the crime of which defendant was convicted and was calculated to deter defendant's gang involvement). Compare [People v Woods \(2008\) 161 CA4th 1045, 1049–1053, 74 CR3d 786](#) (defendant who is convicted of acting as accessory after the fact of murder and sentenced to prison could not be required to pay restitution for economic losses resulting from the murder).

A similar provision to [Pen C §1203.1j](#) is found in [Welf & I C §730\(b\)](#). It states that when a ward is placed under the supervision of the probation officer or committed to the care, custody, and control of the probation officer, the court may make any and all reasonable orders for the conduct of the ward, including the imposition of any reasonable conditions that it may determine fitting and proper to the ends that justice may be done and the reformation and rehabilitation of the ward enhanced.

b. [§83.83] Accidents Related to Hit-and-Run or DUI Offenses

Conviction of a hit-and-run or misdemeanor DUI offense does not establish responsibility for the accident in which defendant was involved. See [People v Braz \(1998\) 65 CA4th 425, 432, 76 CR2d 531](#) (in a hit-and-run case the crime is the running, not the hitting). However, even though the crime did not cause the loss, the court may order restitution as a condition of probation, at least when “there is no question as to defendant's responsibility for the loss.” [People v Carbajal \(1995\) 10 C4th](#)

1114, 1124, 43 CR2d 681 (defendant conceded liability in hit-and-run accident); *People v Kleinman* (2004) 123 CA4th 1476, 1479–1481, 20 CR3d 885 (hit-and-run); *People v Phillips* (1985) 168 CA3d 642, 650, 214 CR 417 (DUI).

Restitution is appropriate in these cases because it is reasonably related to the crime of which defendant was convicted and to the goal of probation to deter future criminality. *People v Carbajal, supra*, 10 C4th at 1123. It is particularly important for the court to

- Notify defendant that the court may consider requiring restitution as a condition of probation; and
- Give defendant “a meaningful opportunity to controvert the information” that the court considers. 10 C4th at 1125.

The First District of the Court of Appeal has applied the reasoning of *Carbajal* in a nonprobation case. See *People v Rubics* (2006) 136 CA4th 452, 456–461, 38 CR3d 886 (defendant was convicted of felony hit-and-run resulting in death, sentenced to prison, and ordered to pay funeral expenses as direct restitution to victim’s family).

☛ JUDICIAL TIPS:

- In the absence of a plea agreement, restitution in a hit-and-run case ([Veh C §§20001, 20002](#)) or misdemeanor DUI case ([Veh C §23152](#)) should probably be ordered only when it is obvious or undisputed that defendant caused the accident.
- Convictions of *felony* DUI causing injury ([Veh C §23153](#)) pose no causation problems and should be handled as mandatory restitution cases. See *People v Pinedo* (1998) 60 CA4th 1403, 71 CR2d 151.

c. [§83.84] License Violations

A defendant convicted of driving with a suspended license may not be ordered to pay restitution for an accident. *People v Taylor* (1986) 179 CA3d Supp 1, 225 CR 430.

☛ JUDICIAL TIPS:

- Many judges believe that *Taylor* has been superseded by *People v Carbajal* (1995) 10 C4th 1114, 43 CR2d 681, discussed in §83.83. See also *People v Hays* (1991) 234 CA3d Supp 22, 286 CR 462 (conviction of acting as unlicensed contractor justifies restitution order if victim entered contract on assumption that defendant had license).
- A restitution order based on a conviction of driving with a suspended or revoked license should be made, if at all, only when

the defendant does not dispute responsibility for the accident. See *People v Carbajal, supra*.

d. [§83.85] Receiving Stolen Property

A receiving conviction does not by itself permit a conclusion that the defendant was responsible for the underlying theft; such a conviction is not a basis for ordering restitution to the theft victim. *People v Scroggins* (1987) 191 CA3d 502, 506, 236 CR 569; *In re Maxwell C.* (1984) 159 CA3d 263, 266, 205 CR 310.

In contrast, there is a sufficient connection between a conviction for vehicle theft and loss of personal property that had been in the car to justify a restitution order covering the lost personal property. *People v Vournazos* (1988) 198 CA3d 948, 955–956, 244 CR 82.

**5. Restitution Based on Dismissed and Uncharged Counts:
Harvey Waivers**

a. [§83.86] General Principles

The court may order restitution on dismissed counts when the negotiated disposition includes a *Harvey* waiver. [Pen C §1192.3](#). See, e.g., *People v Campbell* (1994) 21 CA4th 825, 26 CR2d 433; *People v Beck* (1993) 17 CA4th 209, 21 CR2d 250. *Harvey* waivers derive their name from *People v Harvey* (1979) 25 C3d 754, 758, 159 CR 696 (defendant to suffer no adverse sentencing consequences from dismissed count in absence of contrary agreement); see *People v Dalvito* (1997) 56 CA4th 557, 559 n2, 65 CR2d 679; *People v Moser* (1996) 50 CA4th 130, 132, 57 CR2d 647.

The waiver may also encompass unfiled charges; when it does, the court may base a restitution order on defendant's uncharged offenses. See, e.g., *People v Goulart* (1990) 224 CA3d 71, 273 CR 477; *People v Baumann* (1985) 176 CA3d 67, 222 CR 32.

The *Harvey* waiver suffices; the plea agreement need not specifically refer to restitution on dismissed counts. *People v Campbell, supra*.

b. [§83.87] Burden of Proof

The prosecution has the burden of proving defendant's culpability for uncharged or dismissed offenses by a preponderance of the evidence when the defendant denies having committed them. *People v Baumann* (1985) 176 CA3d 67, 80, 222 CR 32.

- ➡ **JUDICIAL TIP:** Disputes concerning this culpability can be avoided by having the plea agreement pinpoint the matters on which the court may order restitution. See, e.g., *People v Moser* (1996) 50 CA4th 130, 133, 57 CR2d 647.

For the amount of restitution, the rule is the same as for orders under [Pen C §1202.4](#): defendant has the task of showing that the recommendation of the probation officer or the figures of the victims are inaccurate. *People v Baumann, supra*; see [§83.44](#).

c. [§83.88](#) Relation to Probation

The court may make a valid restitution order under a *Harvey* waiver even when it does not place defendant on probation. See *People v Beck* (1993) 17 CA4th 209, 21 CR2d 250 (defendant sentenced to prison); but see *People v Carbajal* (1995) 10 C4th 1114, 1120–1123, 43 CR2d 681 (dicta that authority to order restitution in situations not covered by [Pen C §1202.4](#) derives from court’s discretion to impose probation conditions); *People v Lai* (2006) 138 CA4th 1227, 1246–1249, 42 CR3d 444. See also *People v Percelle* (2005) 126 CA4th 164, 178–180, 23 CR3d 731, discussed in [§83.38](#).

6. [§83.89](#) Restitution in Bad Check Diversion Cases

In counties with a bad check diversion program, the district attorney may enter an agreement with the offender not to prosecute on the condition, inter alia, of full restitution to the victim of the bad check. [Pen C §1001.64](#).

IV. SCRIPT AND FORMS

A. [§83.90](#) Sample Script: Admonition Concerning Restitution Fine

Misdemeanor case:

Do you understand that in this case the court must impose a restitution fine of at least \$100 and no more than \$1000? Do you further understand that if you are granted probation, the sentencing judge will also impose an additional probation revocation restitution fine in the same amount, but this fine will be suspended unless your probation is revoked? If probation is revoked, the fine will be reinstated against you. Do you have any questions regarding these restitution fines?

Felony case:

Do you understand that in this case the court must impose a restitution fine of at least \$200 and no more than \$10,000? Do you further understand that if you are granted probation or sentenced to state prison, in addition to the restitution fine the court determines to be appropriate in your case, the court must impose an *additional* fine in the same amount? This additional fine will be suspended and not imposed *unless* [probation

is revoked/after being paroled, your parole is revoked]. Do you have any questions regarding these restitution fines?

B. [§83.91] Sample Written Form: Admonition Concerning Restitution Fine and Restitution

Misdemeanor case:

I understand that I must pay a restitution fine of no less than \$100 and up to \$1000. If I am placed on probation, the court will impose an additional probation revocation restitution fine in the same amount that will be collected only if my probation is revoked. I also understand that I must pay full restitution to all victims for any losses suffered as a result of the crime(s).

Initials

Felony case:

I understand that I must pay a restitution fine of no less than \$200 and up to \$10,000. If I am placed on probation, the court will impose an additional probation revocation restitution fine in the same amount that will be collected only if my probation is revoked. If I am sentenced to state

Initials

prison, the court will impose an additional parole revocation restitution fine in the same amount that will be collected only if my parole is revoked. I also understand that I must pay full restitution to all victims for any losses suffered as a result of the crime(s).

C. [§83.92] Judicial Council Form: Order for Restitution and Abstract of Judgment

ATTORNEY OR PERSON WITHOUT ATTORNEY (<i>Name, State Bar number, and address</i>): <input type="checkbox"/> Recording requested by and return to: TELEPHONE NO.: _____ FAX NO. (<i>Optional</i>): _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS (<i>Optional</i>): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> ATTORNEY FOR <input type="checkbox"/> JUDGMENT CREDITOR <input type="checkbox"/> ASSIGNEE OF RECORD		
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF STREET ADDRESS: _____ MAILING ADDRESS: _____ CITY AND ZIP CODE: _____ BRANCH NAME: _____		<i>FOR RECORDER'S USE ONLY</i> CASE NUMBER: _____
CASE NAME: _____		<i>FOR COURT USE ONLY</i>
ORDER FOR RESTITUTION AND ABSTRACT OF JUDGMENT (Penal Code, §§ 1202.4(f), 1203.1(i), 1214; Welfare and Institutions Code, § 730.6(h) and (j))		
ORDER FOR RESTITUTION		
1. a. <input type="checkbox"/> On (<i>date</i>): _____ defendant (<i>name</i>): _____ was convicted of a crime that entitles the victim to restitution. b. <input type="checkbox"/> On (<i>date</i>): _____ child (<i>name</i>): _____ was found to be a person described in Welfare and Institutions Code section 602, which entitles the victim to restitution. <input type="checkbox"/> Wardship is terminated. c. <input type="checkbox"/> Parents or guardians jointly and severally liable (<i>name each</i>): _____ d. <input type="checkbox"/> Co-offenders found jointly and severally liable (<i>name each</i>): _____		
2. Evidence was presented that the victim named below suffered losses as a result of defendant's/child's conduct. Defendant/child was informed of his or her right to a judicial determination of the amount of restitution and a. <input type="checkbox"/> a hearing was conducted. b. <input type="checkbox"/> stipulated to the amount of restitution to be ordered. c. <input type="checkbox"/> waived a hearing.		
3. THE COURT ORDERS defendant/child to pay restitution to a. <input type="checkbox"/> the victim (<i>name</i>): _____ in the amount of: \$ _____ b. <input type="checkbox"/> the State Victim Compensation Board, to reimburse payments to the victim from the Restitution Fund, in the amount of: \$ _____ c. <input type="checkbox"/> plus interest at 10 percent per year from the date of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> loss or <input type="checkbox"/> sentencing d. <input type="checkbox"/> plus attorney fees and collection costs in the sum of \$ _____ e. <input type="checkbox"/> plus an administrative fee at 10 percent of the restitution owed (Pen. Code, § 1203.1(i))		
4. The amount of restitution includes a. <input type="checkbox"/> value of property stolen or damaged b. <input type="checkbox"/> medical expenses c. <input type="checkbox"/> lost wages or profits (1) <input type="checkbox"/> incurred by victim due to injury (2) <input type="checkbox"/> of victim's parent(s) or guardian(s) (if victim is a child) incurred while caring for the injured child (3) <input type="checkbox"/> incurred by victim due to time spent as a witness or in assisting police or prosecution (4) <input type="checkbox"/> of victim's parent(s) or guardian(s) (if victim is a child) due to time spent as a witness or in assisting police or prosecution d. <input type="checkbox"/> noneconomic losses (felony violations of Pen. Code, § 288 only) e. <input type="checkbox"/> other (<i>specify</i>): _____		
Date: _____		

JUDICIAL OFFICER

VICTIM TO RECEIVE CERTIFIED COPY FOR FILING WITH COUNTY RECORDER

CASE NAME:	CASE NUMBER
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NOTICE TO VICTIMS

PENAL CODE SECTION 1214 PROVIDES THAT ONCE A DOLLAR AMOUNT OF RESTITUTION HAS BEEN ORDERED, THE ORDER IS THEN ENFORCEABLE AS IF IT WERE A CIVIL JUDGMENT. ALTHOUGH THE CLERK OF THE COURT IS NOT ALLOWED TO GIVE LEGAL ADVICE, YOU ARE ENTITLED TO ALL RESOURCES AVAILABLE UNDER THE LAW TO OBTAIN OTHER INFORMATION TO ASSIST IN ENFORCING THE ORDER.

THIS ORDER DOES NOT EXPIRE UNDER PENAL CODE SECTION 1214(d).

THE VICTIM SHALL FILE A SATISFACTION OF JUDGMENT WITH THE COURT WHENEVER AN ORDER TO PAY RESTITUTION IS SATISFIED, PURSUANT TO PENAL CODE SECTION 1214(d).

APPLICATION FOR ABSTRACT OF JUDGMENT

5. The judgment creditor assignee of record other (*specify*):
applies for an abstract of judgment and represents the following:

a. Judgment debtor's

Name and last known address

b. Driver's license no. [last 4 digits] and state: Unknown

c. Social security no. [last 4 digits]: Unknown

d. Date of birth: Unknown

Date:

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

(SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT OR ATTORNEY)

INFORMATION AND BELIEF

ABSTRACT OF JUDGMENT

6. I certify that the following is a true and correct judgment entered in this action.

[SEAL]

7. Judgment creditor (*name*):
 whose address or whose attorney's address appears on this form above the court's name.

8. Judgment debtor (*full name as it appears in judgment*):

9. Judgment entered on (*date*):

10. Total amount of judgment as entered or last renewed: \$

11. A stay of enforcement was ordered on _____ and is effective until _____.

A stay of enforcement was not ordered.

This abstract of judgment issued on (*date*):

Clerk, by _____, Deputy

NOTICE TO COUNTY RECORDER

THIS ORDER IS ENFORCEABLE AS IF IT WERE A CIVIL JUDGMENT, PURSUANT TO PENAL CODE SECTION 1202.4(l) AND (m), PENAL CODE SECTION 1214, AND WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE SECTION 730.6(i) AND (r), AND FUNCTIONS AS AN ABSTRACT OF JUDGMENT.

D. [§83.93] Judicial Council Form: Defendant's Statement of Assets

NAME OF VICTIM ON WHOSE BEHALF RESTITUTION IS ORDERED:	FOR COURT USE ONLY
NAME OF COURT: STREET ADDRESS: MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: BRANCH NAME:	
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA VS. DEFENDANT:	
DEFENDANT'S STATEMENT OF ASSETS	CASE NUMBER:
It is a misdemeanor to make any willful misstatement of material fact in completing this form (Pen. Code, § 1202.4(f)(4)).	

(Attach additional sheets if the space provided below for any item is not sufficient.)

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- 1. a. Name: f. Driver license number:
- b. AKA: State of issuance:
- c. Date of birth: g. Home address:
- d. Social security number: h. Home telephone no.:
- e. Marital status: i. Employer's telephone no.:

EMPLOYMENT

- 2. What are your sources of income and occupation? (Provide job title and name of division or office in which you work.)
- 3. a. Name and address of your business or employer (include address of your payroll or human resources department, if different):
- b. If not employed, names and addresses of all sources of income (specify):
- 4. How often are you paid (for example, daily, weekly, biweekly, monthly)? (specify):
- 5. What is your gross pay each pay period? \$
- 6. What is your take-home pay each pay period? \$
- 7. If your spouse earns any income, give the name of your spouse, the name and address of the business or employer, job title, and division or office (specify):
- 8. Other sources of income (specify):

CASH, BANK DEPOSITS

- 9. How much money do you have in cash? \$
- 10. How much other money do you have in banks, savings and loans, credit unions, and other financial institutions either in your own name or jointly (list):

	<u>Name and address of financial institution</u>	<u>Account number</u>	<u>Individual or joint</u>	<u>Balance</u>
a.				\$
b.				\$
c.				\$

PROPERTY

- 11. List all automobiles, other vehicles, and boats owned in your name or jointly:
- | | <u>Make and year</u> | <u>Value</u> | <u>Legal owner if different from registered owner</u> | <u>Amount owed</u> |
|----|----------------------|--------------|---|--------------------|
| a. | | \$ | | \$ |
| b. | | \$ | | \$ |
| c. | | \$ | | \$ |

(Continued on reverse)

CR-115 [New July 1, 2000]

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA vs. DEFENDANT	CASE NUMBER:
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12. List all real estate owned in your name or jointly:

	<u>Address of real estate</u>	<u>Fair market value</u>	<u>Amount owed</u>
a.		\$	\$
b.		\$	\$

OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY (Do not list household furniture and furnishings, appliances, or clothing.)

13. List anything of value not listed above owned in your name or jointly (continue on attached sheet if necessary):

	<u>Description</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Address where property is located</u>
a.		\$	
b.		\$	
c.		\$	

ASSETS

14. List all other assets, including stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and other securities (specify):

15. Is anyone holding assets for you? Yes. No. If yes, describe the assets and give the name and address of the person or entity holding each asset (specify):

16. Except for attorney fees in this matter and ordinary and routine household expenses, have you disposed of or transferred any assets since your arrest on this matter? Yes. No. If yes, give the name and address of each person or entity who received any asset and describe each asset (specify):

DEBTS

17. Loans (give details):

18. Taxes (give details):

19. Support arrearages (attach copies of orders and statements):

20. Credit cards (give creditor's name and address and the account number):

21. Other debts (specify):

Date:

_____ ▶ _____
 (TYPE OR PRINT NAME) (SIGNATURE)

I, (name): , a certified interpreter, having been duly sworn, truly translated this form to the defendant in the (specify language): language. The defendant indicated that he/she understood the contents of the form and he/she completed the form.

Date:

_____ ▶ _____
 (TYPE OR PRINT NAME) (SIGNATURE)

E. [**\$83.94**] Judicial Council Form: Information Regarding Income Deduction Order

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF STREET ADDRESS: MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: BRANCH NAME:	FOR COURT USE ONLY
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA v. DEFENDANT:	
INFORMATION REGARDING INCOME DEDUCTION ORDER (Pen. Code, § 1202.42)	CASE NUMBER:

1. The court has found that you have the ability to pay restitution and has ordered you to pay restitution in the amount of
 - a. \$ plus percent interest from the date of the order and fees of \$ to all victims
 - b. as listed in the probation report, dated (*specify*):
 - c. listed in the sentencing minute order, dated (*specify*):
 Payment must be made as ordered at the hearing.

2. The court has entered an income deduction order for your employer to deduct: \$ from your pay each pay period.
 - a. The order applies to current and subsequent employers and all periods of employment.
 - b. A copy of the income deduction order will be served on each of your employers and payers.
 - c. Enforcement of the income deduction order may only be contested on the ground of mistake of fact regarding the amount owed or a showing of good cause for nonpayment.
 - d. You are required to notify the Clerk of the Court *within 7 days* of a change in your address, a change in any of your employers, or a change in the address in any of your employers.
 - e. **This income deduction order will be enforced under Penal Code section 1202.42(b) only if you fail to pay the restitution as ordered at the hearing.**
 - f. Upon receipt of notice that you have failed to pay the restitution ordered at the hearing:
 - (1) The court or its agent will request that you provide evidence that timely payments have been made or provide information establishing good cause for the failure. *If you fail to provide the evidence or fail to establish good cause within 5 days of the request, you will receive notice that the order will be enforced, and the court will serve the income deduction order on each of your employers.*
 - (2) *Within 15 days* of being informed that the stay will be lifted, you may apply for a hearing to contest enforcement of the income deduction order on the ground of mistake of fact regarding the amount of restitution owed or on the ground that you have good cause for the nonpayment. Upon the timely request for a hearing, the income deduction order will not be enforced until the hearing is held and a determination is made on whether the enforcement of the income deduction order is proper.

F. [§83.95] Judicial Council Form: Order for Income Deduction

<p>SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF</p> <p>STREET ADDRESS: MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: BRANCH NAME:</p>	<p><i>FOR COURT USE ONLY</i></p>
<p>PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA v. DEFENDANT:</p>	
<p>ORDER FOR INCOME DEDUCTION (Pen. Code, § 1202.42)</p>	<p>CASE NUMBER:</p>

To: Employer:

Address:

Phone:

- The court has found that the defendant has the ability to pay restitution under Penal Code section 1202.42 and has ordered that he or she pay restitution of \$ plus 10% interest.
- You are ordered to withhold a portion of the earnings of the defendant in this action (*name*): (last 4 digits of social security number (*specify*):), each pay period.
- You are ordered to deduct: \$ from the above named employee's pay each period and forward funds to the

Clerk of the above entitled court Other (*specify*):

- This order will terminate upon payment in full or further order of this court.

Date:

<p>SEAL</p>	<p>CLERK'S CERTIFICATE</p> <p>The foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of the original on file in this office.</p> <p>CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT</p> <p>Date: _____ By _____, Deputy</p>
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PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA v. DEFENDANT	CASE NUMBER:
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Notice to Employer re: Order for Income Deduction (Pen. Code, § 1202.42)

1. You are required to deduct the amount specified in the *Order for Income Deduction* from the employee's income and to pay that amount to the clerk of the above entitled court or its agent.
2. The order is to be implemented no later than the first payment date that occurs more than 14 days after the date of service of the order.
3. *Within two days after each payment date*, forward the amount deducted and a statement about whether the amount totally or partially satisfies the periodic amount specified in the income deduction order.
4. If you fail to deduct the proper amount from the employee's income, you are liable for the amount you should have deducted, plus costs, interest, and reasonable attorney fees.
5. You may collect up to five dollars (\$5) against the employee's income to reimburse you for administrative costs for the first deduction and up to one dollar (\$1) for each deduction thereafter.
6. This order and notice are binding until further notice by the court or until you no longer provide income to the employee.
7. When you no longer provide income to the employee, you must notify the clerk of the above entitled court and provide the employee's last known address and the name and address of the employee's new employer, if known. If you violate this provision, you are subject to a civil penalty not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for the first violation or five hundred dollars (\$500) for any subsequent violation.
8. You must not discharge, refuse to employ, or take disciplinary action against the employee because of an income deduction order. If you violate this provision, you are subject to a civil penalty not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for the first violation or five hundred dollars (\$500) for any subsequent violation.
9. If you receive income deduction orders for two or more employees sent by the same court, you may combine the amounts that are to be paid in a single payment, but you must identify the portion of the payment that is attributable to each employee.
10. If you receive two or more income deduction orders against the same employee, you must contact the above entitled court for further instructions.

G. [§83.96] Sample Written Form: Order to Probation Department in Regard to Collection of Restitution

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF _____

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE
OF CALIFORNIA,

Case No. _____

Plaintiff

ORDER TO THE PROBATION
DEPARTMENT IN REGARD TO
COLLECTION OF RESTITUTION
PAYMENTS

vs

_____,
Defendant

TO: _____ County Probation Department
_____ Office

THE COURT ORDERS:

If the Probation Department receives information that Defendant _____ (“Defendant”) has not made his or her monthly victim restitution payments as ordered, the Probation Department will request Defendant to provide evidence indicating that timely payments have been made or provide information establishing good cause for the failure. If Defendant fails to provide the Probation Department with the evidence or fails to establish good cause within five days of the request, the Probation Department will immediately inform Defendant in writing that the Stay of Income Deduction Order will be lifted. At the same time the Probation Department will inform the Clerk of the Court in writing that the Income Deduction Order must be served pursuant to [Penal Code §1202.42\(f\)](#), following a 15-day period, because the Defendant has failed to make restitution payments as ordered. The Defendant may apply for a hearing to contest the lifting of the stay.

Dated: _____

Judge of the Superior Court

V. [§83.97] INFORMATION ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Authority

Under California law (Govt C §§13950–13966), qualified victims of crime may receive financial assistance from the California Victim Compensation Program (Program) for losses resulting from a crime when these losses cannot be reimbursed by other sources. The California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board (Board) administers the Program.

Losses That May Be Covered

- Medical/Dental
- Mental Health Counseling
- Wage/Income
- Financial Support
- Funeral/Burial
- Job Retraining
- Child Care
- Relocation
- Residential Security
- Retrofitting of Residence and/or Vehicle
- Crime Scene Cleanup

Losses That Are Not Covered

Personal property losses, including cash, are not eligible for reimbursement under the Program. The Program also cannot reimburse applicants for expenses related to the prosecution of an alleged perpetrator or compensate applicants for “pain and suffering.”

Losses not covered by the Program, however, may be recoverable either through court-ordered restitution as a part of a convicted perpetrator’s criminal sentence or through the enforcement of a judgment obtained in a civil lawsuit against the alleged perpetrator.

Who Is Eligible?

- A victim who was injured or died as a result of a crime.
- A derivative victim who was not directly injured or killed as a result of a crime but who, at the time of the crime,
 - was the parent, grandparent, sibling, spouse, child or grandchild of the victim; or

- was living in the household of the victim; or
- had lived with the victim for at least two years in a relationship similar to a parent, grandparent, sibling, spouse, child, or grandchild of the victim; or
- was another family member of the victim, including, but not limited to, the victim's fiancé or fiancée *and* witnessed the crime; or
- was not the primary caretaker of a minor victim, but is now the primary caretaker.

In addition, when a victim dies as a result of a crime, the Program may reimburse any individual who voluntarily, and without anticipation of personal gain, pays or assumes the obligation to pay medical and/or funeral/burial expenses. When a crime occurs in a residence, the Program may reimburse any individual who voluntarily, and without anticipation of personal gain, pays or assumes the obligation to pay the reasonable crime scene cleanup expenses.

Who Is Not Eligible?

- Persons who commit the crime.
- Persons who contribute to or take part in the events leading to the crime.
- Persons who failed to reasonably cooperate with law enforcement in the apprehension and conviction of the criminal committing the crime.
- Persons who do not cooperate with the staff of the Board and/or the Victim/Witness Assistance Center in the verification of the claim.

Additionally, no person who is convicted of a felony may be compensated for any losses incurred during probation, parole, or incarceration. Once that person has been discharged from probation or has been released from a correctional institution and has been discharged from parole, any crime-related losses that were not incurred during probation, parole, or incarceration may be considered for compensation. The Program is required to award compensation to a person seeking reimbursement for the funeral/burial expenses of a victim who died as a result of the crime without respect to any felony status of the victim.

These Requirements Must Be Met

Except as provided in [Govt C §13956](#), a person shall be eligible for compensation when all the following requirements are met:

- The person for whom compensation is being sought is a victim, derivative victim, or a person who is entitled to reimbursement for funeral, burial, or crime scene cleanup expenses.
- Either
 - the crime occurred within the State of California, whether or not the victim was a resident of California during the time period that the Board determines that federal funds are available, or
 - whether or not the crime occurred in California, the victim was a resident of California, a member of the military stationed in California, or a family member living with a member of the military stationed in California.
- If compensation is being sought for a derivative victim regardless of whether they are a resident of California or not, they must meet the definition of derivative victim.
- The victim or derivative victim must reasonably cooperate with law enforcement in the apprehension and conviction of the criminal committing the crime.
- The victim or the applicant, if other than the victim, must cooperate with the staff of the Board and/or the Victim/Witness Assistance Center in the verification of the claim.
- All other sources of reimbursement must be used first.

Felony Convictions

The law prohibits Program-reimbursable expenses incurred by a victim or derivative victim who was also convicted of a felony on or after January 1, 1989, if those expenses were incurred during probation, parole, or incarceration. However, the Program is required to award compensation to a person seeking reimbursement for the funeral/burial expenses of a victim who died as a result of the crime without respect to any felony status of the victim.

Filing Deadlines

An application for compensation must be filed within one year of the date of the crime, one year after the victim attains 18 years of age, or within one year of the time the victim or derivative victim knew or in the exercise of ordinary diligence could have discovered that an injury or death had been sustained as a direct result of crime, whichever is later.

The board may for good cause grant an extension of these time periods. The factors to be considered in finding good cause are set forth in [Govt C §13953\(b\)](#).

Filing Assistance

Victim/Witness Assistance Centers are located throughout the state. These centers have staff who are trained to help victims apply for compensation under the Program.

Applicants may also be helped by a private attorney. [Government Code §13957.7\(g\)](#) provides that the Board shall pay private attorneys' fees of 10 percent of the approved award up to a maximum of \$500. The attorneys' fees are not deducted from the applicant's award and are paid separately from the approved award. The law also prohibits attorneys from charging, demanding, receiving, or collecting any amount for their services except as may be awarded by the Board.

Emergency Awards

If the victim has an urgent unreimbursed loss of wages or income, emergency medical treatment expenses, funeral/burial expenses, crime scene cleanup expenses, and/or relocation expenses as a direct result of a crime, he or she may be eligible for an emergency award. The amount of an emergency award depends on the immediate needs of the victim or derivative victim subject to the rates and limitations established by the Board.

Applications for emergency awards are processed within 30 calendar days after the application is accepted as complete.

If the victim receives an emergency award but is later found ineligible to receive any part of it, he or she must repay the amount received in error.

Verification and Hearing on the Application

Applications filed with the Program are reviewed to determine eligibility. After completion of this review, the victim will be advised by mail of what recommendation the staff made to the Board on the application. If the victim disagrees with the staff recommendation, appeal rights will also be provided.

An applicant for an emergency award is not entitled to a hearing to contest the denial of the emergency award. Denial of an emergency award, however, shall not prevent further consideration of an application for a regular award and does not affect the applicant's right to a hearing if the staff recommends a denial of a regular award.

Program Pays Last

The Victim Compensation Program is the "payer of last resort." If the victim has any other sources of reimbursement available for crime-related losses, he or she must use these available sources before becoming eligible for payments from the Program. If the victim receives other

reimbursements after obtaining benefits from the program, he or she must repay the Program. Other reimbursement sources the victim may have available include, but are not limited to, medical, dental, or auto insurance, public program benefits, workers' compensation benefits, court-ordered restitution, or civil lawsuit recovery.

By using all other sources of reimbursement, the victim enables the Program to help other deserving victims who have no other source of reimbursement for their losses.

If the victim fails to disclose available sources of reimbursement, the claim may be denied by the Board for lack of cooperation. If this happens, the victim may have to repay any amount the Program has already paid to the victim or on his or her behalf.

General Payment Limitations

The total of all reimbursements to a victim cannot exceed the maximum Program benefit of \$70,000.

There are also several specific payment limitations governing particular benefits under the Program for loss of wages or income, loss of support, medical expenses, outpatient mental health counseling expenses, residential security expenses, relocation expenses, residential and/or vehicle retrofitting expenses, and funeral/burial expenses.

An applicant who has incurred expenses that exceed the Program's rates/limitations may not be eligible for reimbursement beyond the Program's maximum benefit levels.

State law requires a provider who accepts the Program's payment to consider it as payment in full and prohibits the provider from taking further payment from the person who received the services. This limitation does not apply to reimbursement of funeral/burial expenses.

An applicant's eligibility for Program benefits does not guarantee payment for services rendered.

VI. [§83.98] INFORMATION ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION RESTITUTION COLLECTION PROGRAM

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) has authority to collect restitution fines and restitution orders from both adults and juveniles housed in an adult institution. [Pen C §2085.5](#).

The CDCR is currently deducting 50 percent from prison wages and/or trust account deposits according to [15 Cal Code Regs §3097](#).

When a prisoner has both a restitution fine and a restitution order from the sentencing court, the CDCR shall collect the restitution order first under [Pen C §2085.5\(b\)](#). [Pen C §2085.5\(g\)](#).

No parolee or inmate may reside in another state unless all restitution orders have been paid in full. [Pen C §11177.2](#).

Restitution obligations shall be considered when recommending a parolee for early discharge or when conducting an annual review. [15 Cal Code Regs §3501](#).

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