

Existing law provides that an application for reparations shall be filed in writing with the Crime Victims Reparation Board within one year after the date of the personal injury, death, or catastrophic property loss or within such longer period as the board determines is justified by the circumstances.

New law retains existing law, but provides that an application filed by a dependent or legal representative of a deceased victim of a homicide offense, or filed by a claimant as defined in existing law, shall be filed within five years after the date on which the judgment of conviction becomes final or within five years after the date on which the supreme court denies the defendant's first application for appeal. New law further provides that when the death of the offender occurs prior to a conviction for the homicide offense, the application shall be filed within five years after the date of the death of the offender.

New law requires the judge, during the sentencing for a crime, to inform the victim of the crime of the potential eligibility for an award of reparations and further requires the judge to provide the contact information for the Crime Victims Reparations Board.

Effective August 1, 2012.

(Amends R.S. 46:1804 and 1806(A))