**Josh Shapiro**

*Chairman*

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*Executive Director*

OVS NewsLetter

February 17, 2016

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Upcoming Events

* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://copa.webex.com/mw0306ld/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6)Compensation Related: Basic, Advanced-Counseling, Transportation Expenses, Restitution and much more!

Credits towards VOCA/RASA/VOJO training requirements are available for all sessions (unless indicated otherwise in the session description). To receive training credits: 1) you must be logged into the session and 2) the WebEx application must be on your computer for the entire duration of the session. As the OVS recognizes that emergencies may arise and you may not be able to attend the entire session, there is no prohibition against attending part of a session (although training credits will not be given in that instance).

* + [Training/Networking Opportunities](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/OVS-Training-Networking-Opportunities.aspx)
	+ [Additional RASA/VOJO/VOCA Approved Training](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/RASA-VOCA-VOJO-Trainings.aspx)
	+ [2016 Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute Victim Services Training](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/2016%20Victim%20Services%20Training%20Save%20The%20Date.pdf)

# OVS Releases 2016 Monitoring Schedule

A copy of the OVS 2016 Monitoring Schedule is now available and has been placed on the PCCD website.  You can access the schedule by clicking [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/2016%20OVS%20Monitoring%20Schedule%20by%20Staff.pdf).  For those VOCA funded programs that are governed by PCADV and/or PCAR standards and DO NOT receive RASA/VOJO funding or serve “Other” crime victims, desk monitorings have also been scheduled and are shown on this list shaded in blue.

How do I know the exact date I will be monitored?  The assigned PCCD staff monitor will be contacting you and together you can decide upon a date that is best for everyone.

What if I am not on the 2016 Monitoring Schedule and require technical assistance?  Technical assistance is available from PCCD staff.  Please contact Daisy Pagan, Victims’ Services Program Supervisor by calling (717) 265-8516 or by email at dpagan@pa.gov.

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# Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Awards

Submissions are now being accepted for the 2016 Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Awards!

A Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award is the most prestigious award that Pennsylvania gives to a victim service professional or program. The award may be presented to one program and up to seven individuals who have made notable contributions to the program for which they work, the community they serve, or the field of victim services.

The Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award process is slightly different on non-conference years. Normally, the awards would be presented at the Pathways Conference. However since the conference will not be held this year, the awards can be presented at an event of the nominator and winner’s preference in their own community.  This will provide an opportunity to have the award winners recognized in their own community where their elected officials, board members, family, friends and peers can easily attend.  The award presentations can be held anytime with the event being as small or large as you would like. It could be held during a local Victims’ Rights Week Event, at an Annual Board Meeting, a special event, a County Commissioners Meeting or a presentation at your office. The nominator is responsible for coordinating the event and notifying PCCD of the date and location. A PCCD staff member or a Victims’ Services Advisory Committee (VSAC) member will attend the event to present the award to the recipient.

The selection process for recipients of the Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award is highly competitive. Therefore, to be considered, each nomination must meet the criteria and eligibility exactly as outlined.

Submitting a Nomination

Pathfinder nominations will be performed via an electronic submission process. Applications can be submitted by clicking [here](https://www.conferenceabstracts.com/cfp2/login.asp?EventKey=GJUUPPMT). Nominations must be submitted by 11:59pm Tuesday, March 8, 2016. We encourage you to review the following documents on criteria and eligibility:

[Nomination Packet Requirements](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Nomination%20Packet%20Requirements%20revised%202016.pdf)

[Criteria and Eligibility for Award Categories](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Criteria%20and%20eligibility%20Revised%20feb%202016.pdf)

[Nomination Packet Checklist](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Nomination%20Packet%20Checklist%20Revised%20Feb%202016.pdf)

For questions regarding the nominations, contact:

Madelyn Roman-Scott

e-mail: mromanscot@pa.gov

Phone: (717) 265-8455

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# VOCA Funding

On February 9, 2016, the Administration released its proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2017. The proposal would release $2 billion from the Crime Victims Fund, one-third less than the $3.042 billion Congress released for FY 2016. In addition, the Administration's proposal would designate a total of $481 million for programs that are not authorized under the VOCA statute, including:

* $326 million transferred to the Office on Violence Against Women;
* $50 million for Vision 21 projects, including $25 million for tribal victim assistance grants;
* $45 million for human trafficking programs; and
* up to 3% or $60 million to the National Institute of Justice and Bureau of Justice Statistics.

In addition, the proposal estimates $85 million for Office of Justice Programs management and administrative costs, leaving $1.4 billion for programs specified under the VOCA statute, compared to the estimated $2.6 billion allocated for these programs in FY 16.

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# ****Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings****

The following trainings will be held on February 17, 2016.

Relocation Expenses Clinic (with Recent Updates) – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confViewID=3561668985&theAction=detail&confId=3561668985&internalProgramTicketUnList=null&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa) to register.

Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic – 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.  [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confViewID=3561669614&theAction=detail&confId=3561669614&internalProgramTicketUnList=null&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa) to register.

The following trainings will be held on March 1, 2016.

DAVE Webex – 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw0401lsp13/mywebex/default.do?service=7&main_url=%2Ftc0601lsp13%2Ftrainingcenter%2Fdefault.do%3Fsiteurl%3Dcopa%26main_url%3D%252Ftc0601lsp13%252Fe.do%253FAT%253DMI%2526%2526Host%253DQUhTSwAAAAKjUtw1QujrBWJUVC39F11xBK5yRxIbo_JJVFWcy_) to register.

The following trainings will be held on March 2, 2016.

Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confViewID=3561671102&theAction=detail&confId=3561671102&internalProgramTicketUnList=null&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa) to register.

Myths of Compensation -1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confViewID=3561671478&theAction=detail&confId=3561671478&internalProgramTicketUnList=null&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa) to register.

All trainings count towards 1 hour of the required RASA/VOCA/VOJO training hours, except Basic Compensation which counts towards 2 and DAVE training which counts towards 2.15.

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# PDAI Victim Services Training News

Register Now!

Serving Victims Through the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy

Wednesday, March 23, 2016 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

The Center for Victims, 5916 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

To register or obtain more information please click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/?page=CiviCRM&q=civicrm/event/info&id=313&reset=1).

April 2016 Foundational Academy

Wednesday, April 20 through Friday, April. 22, 2016

Atherton Hotel in State College, PA

To register or obtain more information please click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/?page=CiviCRM&q=civicrm/event/info&id=309&reset=1).

If you have questions, please contact Donna Hull, Victim Services Training/ SAVIN Consultant at 484-947-4837 or donna@dhullconsulting.com.

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# 24th Annual Crime Victims’ Rights Rally

Crime Victims’ Rights Week is being honored April 10-16, 2016. This year’s theme is “Serving Victims. Building Trust. Restoring Hope.” The Crime Victims Alliance of PA will be honoring victims and raising awareness of the rights and interests of crime victims on Monday, April 11th at the Harrisburg State Capitol. This event will be held at 11AM in the Capitol Rotunda. You will hear from victims, survivors, a District Attorney, Pennsylvania’s Victim Advocate and others. All are welcomed to attend.

There will also be tables set up with information from state agencies that provide assistance to victims. If you are an agency that works with victims and would like a table at this year’s Rally please contact Monica Iskric at msiskr@ship.edu by March 25th.

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# OVA Crime Victims' Rights Post-Rally Session

Monday April 11, 2016; 12:30 PM

Room 16E Capitol Building Harrisburg PA.

This event takes place immediately following the Crime Victims Alliance of Pennsylvania Sponsored Rally held in the Capitol Rotunda at 11:00AM

WHERE ARE MY SEX OFFENDERS NOW? PENNSYLVANIA’S INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO SORNA.

This session will provide an overview of the innovative partnership with the Office of Victim Advocate and the PA State Police to provide timely and sensitive notification to crime victims when a sexually violent predator is identified by the courts and falls under the Adam Walsh Act. This partnership has significantly increased the number of victims in PA who are now empowered with tools to assist in their safety.

Please RSVP your attendance to Renee Bressler at rebressler@pa.gov.  A pizza lunch will be provided for those attending the post-rally session. The lunch is sponsored by the House Democratic Caucus.

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# Victim/Community Awareness Curriculum Facilitators Training

Wednesday, March 2, 2016 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Thursday, March 3, 2016 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Friday, March 4, 2016 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Participants must complete all three days to earn a certificate.

PCCD Approved Hours: 17.5

Chester County Justice Center

Domestic Relations Training Room, 3rd Floor

201 West Market Street

West Chester, PA 19380

To register, contact Charis Fisher, Juvenile Court Victim/Witness Project Coordinator, at 610-344-6720 or cfisher@chesco.org.

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# An Unbelievable Story of Rape

An 18-year-old said she was attacked at knifepoint. Then she said she made it up. That’s where the story begins. Click [here](https://www.propublica.org/article/false-rape-accusations-an-unbelievable-story) to read more.

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# Joe Biden On Violence Against Women: 'We Have To Change The Culture'

Addressing business leaders, Biden noted that economic progress is not possible unless women feel secure. Click [here](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/joe-biden-womens-rights-davos_us_56a01f22e4b0d8cc1098b33b) to read more.

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# What Abuse Survivors Don't Know: 10 Life-Changing Truths

[Here](https://onmogul.com/stories/what-abuse-survivors-don-t-know-10-life-changing-truths) are ten life-changing truths abuse survivors should embrace in their journey to healing, though it may appear challenging to do so.

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# Did Obsession Turn John Wayne Strawser into a Killer?

A murder in small-town West Virginia, a murder on Interstate 81 in Pennsylvania and the woman who tied the two together. Click [here](http://www.pennlive.com/projects/2016/john-wayne-strawser/#incart_big-photo) to read more.

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# 10% of Female US College Students Experienced Sexual Assault in 2015

New study found that 4% of students had been raped during that academic year and more than 5% had encountered sexual battery. Click [here](http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/jan/21/college-campus-sexual-assault-report-2015-university-students-rape?utm_content=buffer9e13c&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer) to read more.

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# Two Years Later: Assessing Campus Climate Remains a Key Part of Changing Campus Culture

Two years ago, the White House established the Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault. Click [here](https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2016/01/28/two-years-later-assessing-campus-climate-remains-key-part-changing-campus-culture) to see what's happened since then.

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# Healing Complex Trauma, Part II: The Path to Integration

Complex [trauma](http://www.goodtherapy.org/learn-about-therapy/issues/ptsd) represents an expected response to ongoing and extreme interpersonal threats, revealing in its process the capacity of a core “[Self](http://www.goodtherapy.org/blog/psychpedia/self)” to preserve what matters most, even when it means separating from it. Part I of this article framed multiple selves as a natural adaptation to systems in which we must “fit” by placing parts of Self in storage, giving examples of potential self-containment strategies. Part II now moves toward reintegration of what was necessarily preserved while navigating the tunnel of childhood. Click [here](http://www.goodtherapy.org/blog/healing-complex-trauma-part-ii-path-to-integration-0126164) to read Part II.

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# Invisible Boys: Inside the Push to Help Unseen Victims of the Sex Trade

Most victim-advocacy work has focused on the crime's prevalent image: girls and young women forced into prostitution. But researchers are starting to upend that model, uncovering signs that many more boys are trapped in the illegal sex industry than previously believed. Click [here](http://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/invisible-boys-inside-push-help-unseen-victims-sex-trade-n503921) to read more.

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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, March 2, 2016. If you would like any training events, fund raisers or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Stacie Brendlinger at sbrendling@pa.gov by Wednesday, February 24, 2016.

You have signed up to receive the OVS Newsletter from the Office of Victims' Services. This newsletter will be sent to you on a biweekly basis via email. If your email address changes or you would like to be removed from the OVS Newsletter distribution list, please contact Stacie Brendlinger at (717) 265-8722 or via email at sbrendling@pa.gov.

Pennsylvania’s [Office of Victims’ Services](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/default.aspx)  | 3101 North Front Street | Harrisburg, PA 17110 | (717) 783-0551

[www.pccd.pa.gov](http://www.pccd.pa.gov)

**PA Crime Victims Website**

[www.pcv.pccd.pa.gov](http://www.pcv.pccd.pa.gov)

**Twitter:** [@PaCrimmCom](https://twitter.com/PaCrimeComm)