**Josh Shapiro**

*Chairman*

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*Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

June 22, 2016

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Upcoming Events

* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://copa.webex.com/mw0401lsp13/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)

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# 2016 National Training Institute

The National Center for Victims of Crime is holding its 2016 National Training Institute, September 19-21, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The National Center for Victims of Crime National Training Institute is a 2 ½ day training which features more than 130 leading experts and 72 skill-building workshops with several key presentations pertaining to a wide range of crime victim issues.

This training offers a chance to network and learn from other professionals in the victims field, as well as connect with victim advocates, counselors, program managers, attorneys, social workers, psychologists, researchers, nurses, volunteers, administrators, clergy, nonprofit managers, system-based service providers, and leaders from across the country.

Click [here](https://victimsofcrime.org/training/national-training-institute/2016-national-training-institute) to register.

For more workshops, information, a full agenda, and registration information, click [here](https://victimsofcrimetrainings.secure-platform.com/a/page/Current/NTI). Please contact Kathleen Wilber at Kwilber@ncvc.org, or 202-467-8744 with any questions.

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# The National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) has announced their 42nd Annual Training Event

The National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) has announced their 42nd Annual Training Event, August 14-17, 2016 at the Westin Peachtree in Atlanta, GA.  Professionals engaged in the victim advocacy and crisis response fields can choose from nearly 120 workshops and plenary sessions designed for those new to the field, experienced professionals, and program managers. Click [here](http://www.trynova.org/2016-nova-training-event/) for more information and to register online.

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# Scholarships Available for 2016 National Victim Service Conferences

The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute (PDAI) is pleased to announce the availability of funding for scholarships to attend eligible national victim service conferences.  This funding is made available through a grant awarded to PDAI by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) for the purpose of subsidizing the costs associated with attending these training conferences.  These costs may include registration fees, per diem (for food), and reasonable transportation and lodging expenses.  The scholarships are only available to victim service professionals to attend any national conference focused on victim service training.  To qualify, the applicant’s entire job focus must be on providing support, information, and assistance to victims.  Any eligible conference must be completed within the 2016 calendar year.  Only one person per agency can receive a scholarship and only after providing a sufficient justification of need.  Recipients are selected based upon the information provided in the application, the number of scholarships previously awarded, and remaining available funding. Click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/wp-content/plugins/civicrm/civicrm/extern/url.php?u=3845&qid=597339) for the Scholarship Application.

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# Discretionary Grant Opportunities Available From The OVC

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) currently has a myriad of funding opportunities for a wide range of victim assistance initiatives. Click [here](http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/Solicitation.aspx) to read more.

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# The Crime Victims Alliance of PA (CVAP) Membership Meeting And Justice Reinvestment Initiative Focus Group

The Crime Victims Alliance of PA (CVAP) is pleased to announce that the CVAP membership has been invited to participate in a focus group sharing experience and expertise and offering input as Pennsylvania re-evaluates its Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI). The JRI is an important and on-going criminal justice reform movement nationally and in Pennsylvania at all levels, and as such significantly impacts not only offenders, but also communities and victims.

In order to guide this next JRI process, a new Justice Reinvestment Working Group has been convened, and includes representatives from the Governor’s Office; agency heads from DOC, PBPP, PCS, OVA and PCCD; representatives from the Judiciary; adult probation and parole; the District Attorneys Association; and the Majority and Minority Chairs of the House and Senate Judiciary Committee.  This bi-partisan and multi-agency working group is partnering with Council of State Government (CSG) Justice Center staff to analyze Pennsylvania’s criminal justice data, develop strategies and solutions based on that data, with an overarching goal of developing and implementing policies and programs (e.g., pre-trial diversion and treatment) that will continue to avert the growth of the Commonwealth’s prison population while ensuring that public safety is not compromised.  The group is seeking to invest in evidence-based programs and innovative practices proven to reduce recidivism rates in the long-run.

They want to hear from YOU, victim service providers, to get a grasp on our concerns, issues, ideas, thoughts etc. about front end diversion. Two staff, Patrick Armstrong and Grace Call, from CSG will be in attendance to run an hour long focus group.  Please consider attending and providing your vital voice on **Monday, July 11th at 1:30pm at the CVAP general membership meeting**.

CVAP seeks to unite crime victims, survivors, advocates and activists to collectively ensure that the issues affecting victims of crime are addressed. If you would like to become a member of the alliance please contact the membership chair, Liz Gavin at egavin@yorkcountypa.gov

Committees will meet 11am-12noon July 11th; feel free to join a committee meeting to learn more about the work being done and if you would like to serve.  After a 30 minute lunch break the membership meeting will begin at 12:30 followed by the JRI Focus Group at 1:30pm.

Mark your calendars for bi-monthly Committee meetings, General Membership meetings and training dates remaining for 2016:

* Monday, September 12, 2016
* Monday, November 14, 2016

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

The following trainings will be held on June 27, 2016.

Counseling Expenses Clinic – 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&siteurl=copa&confId=3579697251&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic -10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&siteurl=copa&confId=3579697807&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following trainings will be held on June 29, 2016.

DAVE Training - 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 pm. Click [here](https://copa.webex.com/copa/k2/j.php?MTID=t750c769e90930682d29787a45558b045) to register.

The following trainings will be held on July 7, 2016.

Transportation Expenses Clinic – 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&siteurl=copa&confId=3579698093&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

Basic Compensation -10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&siteurl=copa&confId=3579698946&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following trainings will be held on July 19, 2016.

Loss of Support Clinic – 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&siteurl=copa&confId=3579698394&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

Loss of Earnings Clinic -10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec0701lsp13/eventcenter/enroll/register.do?formId=0&formType=0&loadFlag=1&siteurl=copa&confId=3579698722&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) 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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# [Helping Victims Of Mass Violence And Terrorism: Planning, Response, Recovery, And Resources](http://www.ovc.gov/pubs/mvt-toolkit/index.html%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

This month, the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC) will launch a new multimedia web training series to introduce the web-based toolkit [*Helping Victims of Mass Violence and Terrorism: Planning, Response, Recovery, and Resources*](http://www.ovc.gov/pubs/mvt-toolkit/index.html) to civic, government, and business sectors that are interested in developing a comprehensive victim assistance plan. Lessons learned from past incidents indicate that with advanced planning (including establishing victim assistance protocols), and developing and maintaining multidisciplinary partnerships, communities are better prepared to engage a holistic approach to victim assistance to ensure that each victim's needs are met. The web training will provide an in-depth overview of partnerships, planning, response, and recovery.

Please click [here](https://www.ovcttac.gov/eBlast/fileupload/eblastfiles/get_file.cfm?file=MV_eblast_051216_web1.html) to register for the web-based training event that aligns most closely with your geographic region. (If you are unable to attend the training event scheduled for your geographic region, please register for one of the other events.)

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# Free Training Offered by Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR)

**Supporting Sexual Assault Survivors With Developmental Disabilities** - This multidisciplinary, skilled based training will provide a framework for understanding the challenges sexual assault survivors with autism and intellectual disabilities face when navigating the criminal justice and victim services systems. From reporting the assault to staff and then police, emergency department medical services, rape crisis advocates from first contact (emergency room, hotline, or scheduled appointment) through the judiciary process.

**August 9, 2016**
**9:30am-3:30pm**
**Giant Community Center, Camp Hill**
**3301 E Trindle Road, Camp Hill, PA 17011**
**717-724-1166**

**Please click** [here](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PCAR&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=1ad11bba-6235-4137-87c9-2e655ddc9646) **to register online.**

**Deadline: August 2, 2016**

**Engaging Latin@ Communities To End Gender Based Violence –** This knowledge exchange will focus on sharing Fuerza Unida (Strength United), a community engagement strategy utilized by Casa de Esperanza to engage with, and enhance the leadership of Latin@ communities as agents of change.  Fuerza Unida encourages individuals to think critically about their approach to community engagement and the process that will be most effective for their organizations and communities.

**July 26, 2016**
**9:00AM-4:00PM**
**Radisson Hotel Harrisburg**
**1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, PA 17011**
**717-763-7117**

**Presenter: Heidi Notario-Smull, M.A.**

**Please click** [here](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PCAR&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=d0dd4dd5-b39e-4b1e-a4c1-69c4b689c5d5) **to register online.**

**Deadline: July 18, 2016**

**Serving Immigrant Victims Of Sexual Violence: A Holistic Approach –** Sexual violence is a familiar occurrence in the lives of many immigrants—victim rights advocates, lawyers, crisis counselors, healthcare providers, and law enforcement officers have become increasingly aware of sexual assault occurring against immigrant community members. In this discussion-oriented workshop of the Victims Rights Law Center, participants will learn about the ways in which immigrants are particularly vulnerable to sexual assault and why a holistic approach is essential for advocates and others serving victims of sexual violence within immigrant communities.

**August 17, 2016**
**8:30AM-3:30PM**
**Radisson Hotel Harrisburg**
**1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, PA 17011**
Presenter: Nency Salamoun

Please click [here](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PCAR&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=23a83419-1705-4527-afed-1e745c1c7b01) to register online.

**Deadline: August 3, 2016**

For questions about **registration**, please contact Erin Levine, Database and Training Assistant, at elevine@pcar.org or 717-728-9740 x 106.

For questions about **the training**, please contact Kayla Houser, Outreach Coordinator, at knhouser@pcar.org or 717-728-9740 x 117.

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# Free Webinar Series Through The Office On Violence Against Women

Preventing sexual assault requires collaboration between a range of disciplines with a variety of perspectives, including victim advocates and sex offender management professionals, such as specialized offense-specific treatment providers and supervision officers. The Department of Justice’s Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is supporting a partnership between four organizations – the Center for Sex Offender Management (CSOM), the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC), the Resource Sharing Project (RSP), and the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) – on a novel initiative to enhance such collaboration. The project includes training, technical assistance, written resources, and a series of webinars that include:

Introduction to Sex Offender Treatment and Supervision

Friday, June 24, 2016, 1-2:30 ET

Please click [here](http://www.nsvrc.org/calendar/23693) to register.

Promising Examples of Collaboration Between Sexual Assault Victim Advocates and Sex Offender Management Practitioners

Friday, July 22, 2016, 1-2:30 ET

Please click [here](http://www.nsvrc.org/calendar/23694) to register.

This upcoming webinar series – the final set in this initiative – is designed to address the questions, information needs, and interests expressed by victim advocates, survivor service providers, offender treatment providers and supervision officers, and others over the course of this initiative. Don’t miss out on this opportunity. Registration is required. For inquiries regarding this webinar series, please contact Leilah Gilligan at lgilligan@cepp.com.

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# Free Webinar: ****Digital Evidence**** - ****Successfully Identifying And Acquiring Electronic Evidence To Combat The CSI Effect****

**Date/Time**

Tuesday, July 12th

90 Minutes

2:00 PM ET

**Course Description**

Given the common delays in reporting crimes of sexual assault and other forms of gender-based violence, traditional forms of corroboration such as medical and physical evidence may be limited or non-existent in some cases. Law enforcement must be open to other types of evidence that can be used to support their investigations. For example, electronic evidence is an avenue that law enforcement can often successfully utilize in both stranger and non-stranger investigations. Tapping into the digital life of the offender; crafting search warrants for cell phones, computers, tablets, social media and conducting pre-text (one party consent) communications are just a few of the ways to successfully combat the *CSI* effect. This presentation will include examples of sanitized search warrants used in actual cases to advance an investigation.

**Course Objectives**

* Recognize the different **types** of digital media that might be available (preservation letters, video, phone records, phone texts, cell phone tower information, social media)
* Understand how to legally seize electronic evidence by utilizing warrants that include requests to not just seize, but examine any evidence obtained as a result of a search warrant
* Develop a theme for the pretext communication and discuss what mode of communication might work best (e.g., phone calls, texting, email)

To register, please click [here](https://www.evawintl.org/WebinarRegistration.aspx?webinarid=1023).

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# Reminder To All VOJO And RASA Programs: Program Reports Due By July 20, 2016

The following program reports will need to be submitted in Egrants **by July 20, 2016**:

**VOJO Program Reports – periodic report for the six month period from January 1 – June 30, 2016 of current VOJO grants**

**RASA Program Reports – periodic report for the six month period from January 1 – June 30, 2016 of current RASA grants**

NOTE: Fiscal reports for VOJO and RASA grants will also be due in Egrants by July 20, 2016.

Please contact Vicki McCloskey at Vmccloskey@pa.gov or (717) 265-8746 if you have any questions or need assistance regarding your VOJO or RASA Program Reports.

For fiscal-related questions, please contact the fiscal staff member listed on your grant. If you need technical assistance with Egrants, please contact the Egrants Support Line at (717) 787-5887.

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# Language Access Survey

The Vera Institute of Justice, in partnership with the Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence, Advocacy Services for Abused Deaf Victims, the National Latin@ Network, and the National Center for Victims of Crime, is conducting a survey on language access. We would like to ask you to complete the survey. The purpose of this survey is to better understand the capacity of victim service providers and allied professionals, such as law enforcement, to provide language access for victims with limited English proficiency and Deaf victims. The survey results will be used to inform the development of a language access training for victim service providers and allied professionals.The survey will take about 10 minutes to complete.

Please click [here](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LanguageAccessTJ) to complete the survey.

If you have any questions, please contact Leni Dworkis at (202) 465-8923 or ldworkis@vera.org.

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# 2016 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Crime and Victimization Fact Sheets

The 2016 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Crime and Victimization Fact Sheets are available online in both English and Spanish. These re-envisioned fact sheets include statistics, basic facts and trends, and compelling graphics to help you raise awareness of victims’ issues throughout the year. The information presented in the Crime and Victimization Fact Sheets reflects the findings in the sources cited for each topic. The fact sheets use best available data as of January 2016. The latest Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) study, [Criminal Victimization, 2014](http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=5367), is available online at [www.bjs.gov](http://www.bjs.gov/). The latest FBI statistics, [Crime in the United States, 2014](https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2014/crime-in-the-u.s.-2014/cius-home), and additional statistical tables are available online at [www.fbi.gov](https://www.fbi.gov/). Please click [here](http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2016/Fact-Sheets.html) to view the Fact Sheets.

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# Nominations for the 2017 National Crime Victims' Service Awards

Nominations for the 2017 National Crime Victims' Service Awards will be accepted from May 1 to July 31, 2016. Click [here](https://ovcncvrw.ncjrs.gov/awards/default.html?e%20d2f26df2d9c416fbddddd2330a778c6=wrpcwgfcfd-wdpgfect) for more information.

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# A Tribal Probation Officers Guide To Working With Victims

The work of tribal probation officers (TPOs) is essential in promoting individual and community safety. Victims and survivors are members of the tribal community whose lives are often irrevocably harmed and changed by crime. They are often called upon as witnesses for tribal and criminal justice proceedings, and can sometimes provide important information that is useful to both the case and to effective offender supervision in the community. While victims are not the primary client for you as a tribal probation officer, you are in a unique position to provide them with critical information and link them with services. This bulletin is designed to provide TPOs with a brief overview of victims’ rights, tips to help coordinate and improve the delivery of victim services, and information about the varied services available to victims of crime. Please click [here](http://www.appa-net.org/eweb/docs/appa/pubs/TPOGWWV.pdf) to read more.

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# Fact Sheet: Promising Victim Related Practices In Probation & Parole

In order to effectively assist victims and survivors of crime, it is essential for probation and parole agencies to forge ongoing collaborative initiatives and partnerships with victim assistance agencies and with other entities that share a commitment to crime victims’ rights and services. Over the past 2 decades, many strong partnerships have emerged to promote victims’ rights and improve victim assistance in the post-sentencing phases of criminal and juvenile cases. These partnerships essentially help community corrections agencies to identify, assess, and address victims’ needs throughout probation and parole processes. Please click [here](https://www.appa-net.org/eWeb/docs/APPA/pubs/PVRPPP-FACTSHEET-2.pdf) to read more.

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# Healing Works: A Project Of Common Justice

Common Justice has announced the official launch of [HealingWorks](http://www.healingworks.org/), its national learning collaborative for people working with young men of color harmed by violence and trauma.  HealingWorks’ goal is to unite the individuals and organizations that do this critical work, providing mechanisms to share and explore practices, increase resources, and elevate the leadership of those who have paved the way. Please click [here](http://www.healingworks.org/) to read more.

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# VictimConnect Resource Center

If you or someone you know is a victim of any crime, contact the VictimConnect Resource Center by phone and text at 1-855-4VICTIM (1-855-484-2846) and through chat at [www.chat.victimconnect.org](http://www.chat.victimconnect.org).  The VictimConnect Resource Center is a resource for victims of all crime to learn about their rights and options—confidentially and compassionately.  VictimConnect can be accessed anywhere in the United States through a traditional telephone-based helpline and innovative text and online chat services Monday through Friday. Services are available in English and Spanish and interpreters for more than 200 languages can be accessed. Victim assistance specialists help people who reach out find appropriate national, local, or online resources.  Please click [here](http://victimconnect.org/) for more information.

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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, July 6, 2016. If you would like any training events, fund raisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Heather Hewitt at hhewitt@pa.gov by Wednesday, June 29, 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 Heather Hewitt at (717) 265-8730 or via email at hhewitt@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)