**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Michael Pennington**

 *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

November 20, 2019

*In this Issue*...

* [**Victims Compensation Online Trainings**](#_PCAR_RFP_for)
* [**ETO: Agency Contact TouchPoint**](#_ETO:__)
* [**Compensation Corner – Claim Assignment Backlog**](#_Compensation_Corner_–_14)
* [**National Crime Victim Rights Week 2020 is April 19-25, 2020**](#_National_Crime_Victim)
* [**Domestic Violence & People with Disabilities**](#_Domestic_Violence_&)
* [**Women’s Mass Incarceration: The Whole Pie 2019**](#_Women’s_Mass_Incarceration:_1)
* [**For Many #MeToo Accusers, Speaking Up Is Just The Beginning**](#_For_Many_#MeToo)
* [**Intimate partner violence and traumatic brain injury: An “invisible” public health epidemic**](#_Intimate_partner_violence)
* [**The Center for Victim Research (CVR) has Released a New Webinar Page**](#_The_Center_for_1)
* [**Black Homicide Victimization in the United States: An Analysis of 2016 Homicide Date**](#_Black_Homicide_Victimization)
* [**National Survey of Victim Service Providers (NSVSP)**](#_National_Survey_of)

*Upcoming Trainings*

* [**OVC TTAC Webinar – Courageous Spirit: The Effects of Historical Trauma on AI/AN Communities**](#_PA_Immigration_Resource_1)
* [**PA Immigration Resource Center Webinar – Hiring, Retaining and Supporting Bilingual Staff at Your Organization**](#_PA_Immigration_Resource)
* [**PDAI Victim Services Trainings**](#_PDAI_Victim_Services_8)

Upcoming Events

* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?nomenu=true&siteurl=pccd&service=6&rnd=0.6668060301536507&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Fpccd.webex.com%2Fec3300%2Feventcenter%2Fprogram%2FprogramDetail.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26internalProgramTicket%3D4832534b00000004f02f8b04a9132f726e6e4ce186c5f64209c4f9e1a94f0342f2c72bee2d69d4a5%26siteurl%3Dpccd%26internalProgramTicketUnList%3D4832534b00000004f02f8b04a9132f726e6e4ce186c5f64209c4f9e1a94f0342f2c72bee2d69d4a5%26cProgViewID%3D1727107%26PRID%3D9c0a5f356b9ee12dc7de27fe147bb352)Compensation Related: Basic Compensation 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)

[Return to top](#_top)

# Victims Compensation Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on November 26, 2019.

Loss of Earnings Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on December 5, 2019.

 Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

 Myths of Compensation - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on December 10, 2019.

“Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Loss of Support Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on December 17, 2019.

Relocation Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Counseling Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following training will be held on January 7, 2020.

Basic Compensation – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on January 15, 2020.

Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Crime Scene Cleanup Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on January 21, 2020.

Loss of Earnings Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following training will be held on January 23, 2020.

Restitution Basics – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

All trainings count towards 1 hour of the required RASA/VOCA/VOJO training hours, except Basic Compensation, which counts towards 2 hours, and DAVE training, which counts towards 2 hours and 15 minutes.

[Return to top](#_top)

# ETO:   Agency Contact TouchPoint

To ensure the correct staff members are receiving ETO related emails, the ETO Team developed a TouchPoint in January 2019 titled “***Agency Contact TouchPoint.”***  Every agency’s ETO Site Manager is required to complete this General TouchPoint titled ***“Agency Contact TouchPoint”*** as soon as possible and then to update it on an as needed basis by EDITING the TouchPoint.  If an email address changes or the contact person for your agency changes, it will be your responsibility to update this TouchPoint to ensure PCCD has the most accurate information.

To complete the ***Agency Contact TouchPoint***:

Log into ETO and go to the left-hand side navigation bar

Select TOUCHPOINTS > VIEW GENERAL TOUCHPOINTS > and select TAKE NEW TOUCHPOINT.

At the top of the drop-down list, you will see ***AGENCY CONTACT TOUCHPOINT***.

Complete the data fields by providing the names and email addresses of the Site Managers at your agency that are responsible of obtaining and disseminating ETO related information.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Compensation Corner – Claim Assignment Backlog

The Victims Compensation Assistance Program is committed to helping ease the financial burden that crime imposes on victims.

At this time, the Program is experiencing a backlog of claims to be assigned due to the high number of claims received and staff turnover.  There will be a delay in acknowledging and processing compensation claims submitted to the Victims Compensation Assistance Program.  We apologize for this inconvenience and we sincerely regret the distress this may cause.  We are working very hard to remedy the situation.  Currently, claims are being assigned within approximately 50 days of receipt.  Additionally, as a result of this backlog, we have been sending letters to claimants who self-filed claims, advising of the delay in acknowledging their claims.

[Return to top](#_top)

# National Crime Victim Rights Week 2020 is April 19-25, 2020

The National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrations (NAVAA) has opened a request for proposal for Community Awareness Projects (CAP).  Application information can be found at [https://navaa.org/](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnavaa.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7CKAbuckley%40pa.gov%7Cc20afd9b51bf4c6e73d108d7676609de%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C1%7C637091560256456611&sdata=7oi8VMKn7g9LvtbL4f3BfxTSDoEBFIs7z9XiapPp3hI%3D&reserved=0).  A training webinar was held and the recording is located at [https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/2202797182121156097](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fregister.gotowebinar.com%2Frecording%2F2202797182121156097&data=02%7C01%7CKAbuckley%40pa.gov%7Cc20afd9b51bf4c6e73d108d7676609de%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C1%7C637091560256456611&sdata=1QsZtrNWLLIRJDzFHpG4rbdNHrmbesQFebQiC5cyaW8%3D&reserved=0).  **The grant application is due at 11.59 p.m. on November 22, 2019.**

[Return to top](#_top)

# Domestic Violence & People with Disabilities

This National Domestic Violence Hotline article explores the many intersections of domestic violence with people with disabilities. Click [here](https://www.thehotline.org/is-this-abuse/domestic-violence-disabilities-2/) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Women’s Mass Incarceration: The Whole Pie 2019

The Prison Policy Initiative published “Women’s Incarceration: The Whole Pie, 2019” which offers a snapshot of justice-involved women and girls, many of whom have significant histories of trauma and abuse. Click [here](https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/pie2019women.html) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# For Many #MeToo Accusers, Speaking Up Is Just The Beginning

Dina Lee Almeida says that three years ago, the CEO of a TV distribution firm for which she produced shows grabbed her and propositioned her for sex. As he became more aggressive, she complained to the company's lawyer. Nothing happened. Later, she says, the CEO pressured her to sign what amounted to a confidentiality agreement. "I absolutely refused; I would never, ever sign that," Almeida says. Click [here](https://www.npr.org/2019/11/05/772223109/for-many-metoo-accusers-speaking-up-is-just-the-beginning) to read more of Dina’s story.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Intimate partner violence and traumatic brain injury: An “invisible” public health epidemic

We need to understand that an estimated one in three women experience some type of physical or sexual partner violence in their lifetimes. IPV is not a rare event, and it traverses all socioeconomic boundaries. It is the number one cause of homicide for women and the number one cause of violence to women. For many reasons, including the stigma of being abused, many women hide their IPV — so the chances that we all know personally at least a few people who have sustained IPV are quite high.  Read more [here](https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/intimate-partner-violence-and-traumatic-brain-injury-an-invisible-public-health-epidemic-2018121315529).

[Return to top](#_top)

# The Center for Victim Research (CVR) has Released a New Webinar Page

The Center for Victim Research (CVR) has released a new webinar page, where you'll find all of their recorded webinars in one place, together with slides and supplemental materials. You can even request certificates for viewing on the page. [Check it out now!](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fvictimresearch.us10.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Ddb5de61499b6cf77db23bb1ca%26id%3D98ef929b79%26e%3D4860e2058b&data=02%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C413fdaf0faca4112147808d7689c6684%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C1%7C637092893264303948&sdata=17OlzHIEXfsVZ6eugiYStrBHW9x1eOyUyDx8Ohat%2BBk%3D&reserved=0)

[Return to top](#_top)

# Black Homicide Victimization in the United States: An Analysis of 2016 Homicide Date

The devastation homicide inflicts on black teens and adults is a national crisis, yet it is all too often ignored outside of affected communities. This study examines the problem of black homicide victimization at the state level by analyzing unpublished Supplementary Homicide Report (SHR) data for black homicide victimization submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The information used for this report is for the year 2016 and is the most recent data available. This is the first analysis of the 2016 data on black homicide victims to offer breakdowns of cases in the 10 states with the highest black homicide victimization rates and the first to rank the states by the rate of black homicide victims. Click [here](http://vpc.org/studies/blackhomicide19.pdf) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# National Survey of Victim Service Providers (NSVSP)

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), with support from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), is currently fielding the first-ever [National Survey of Victim Service Providers (NSVSP)](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bjs.gov%2Fcontent%2Fnsvsp.cfm&data=02%7C01%7Cnnovotnygo%40pa.gov%7C126f622df6cb4475edeb08d76c34f724%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637096847135760910&sdata=UlRcGfrYZO6r29w7uNFsZO%2BfMw0CudOQzYyk2cfRl40%3D&reserved=0). The NSVSP is the more detailed follow-up survey to the [National Census of Victim Service Providers](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bjs.gov%2Findex.cfm%3Fty%3Ddcdetail%26iid%3D508&data=02%7C01%7Cnnovotnygo%40pa.gov%7C126f622df6cb4475edeb08d76c34f724%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637096847135760910&sdata=9hq9pxOES77zC0MFOXXZdIgHOdsNnP%2BvwGXyU%2FOlzTw%3D&reserved=0) the field responded to in 2017.  The NSVSP will assist funders and policymakers in better understanding the work and needs of victim service providers. It will also provide important information for practitioners about the different ways they are structured, organized, and resourced to carry out their mission.

Please support the NSVSP if you were selected. Selected organizations received an invitation in May and since then received reminders by phone and email. The collection will end **November 22nd**. In this final week of data collection, a significant way to show your support is by encouraging selected organizations who have responded to submit their survey by **November 22nd**.  Attached is drafted language for outreach for your convenience.

[Return to top](#_top)

# OVC TTAC Webinar – Courageous Spirit: The Effects of Historical Trauma on AI/AN Communities

The Office for Victims of Crime Training & Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC) is offering an upcoming webinar. This session will identify the historical and traditional ways that domestic and sexual violence were addressed in American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities prior to colonization and how historical experiences persist to have residual trauma in the community. Recommendations will be provided to improve advocacy for native communities that have been affected by domestic and sexual violence.

Click [here](https://www.ovcttac.gov/views/TrainingMaterials/dspWebinars.cfm) to register.

[Return to top](#_top)

# PA Immigration Resource Center Webinar – Hiring, Retaining and Supporting Bilingual Staff at Your Organization

On Wednesday, December 11, 2019, PIRC is offering a webinar aimed at mainstream DV/SA organizational management, which highlights the importance of hiring bilingual/bicultural staff, offers concrete strategies for recruiting, hiring and retaining bilingual/bicultural personnel and provides information on how to effectively supervise bilingual/bicultural staff by: listening, understanding work load of bilingual/bicultural staff, addressing vicarious trauma, encouraging growth, and supporting leadership. This webinar will underscore the importance of language access planning to ensure meaningful language access for individuals with Limited English Proficiency that is proactive, sustainable and draws from multiple strategies (direct services in language, qualified interpretation and meaningful collaborations) while it ensures appropriate role boundaries between bilingual staff and interpreters.

Presenter’s Bio: Paula Gomez Stordy is Senior Director of National Training and TA of Casa de Esperanza, the National Latin@ Network for Healthy Families and Communities. She has more than 25 years of experience working in social services, of which 17 years were in non-profit management. She oversees national training and technical assistance to mainstream and culturally specific organizations across the country overseeing federal contracts and supervising staff. Paula has served in leadership positions within various institutions including courts, hospitals, shelters and community-based programs to enhance the safety, health and inclusion of individuals and families. As a consultant, she supported organizations with fundraising, board development, mentoring and training. Paula has served as an Adjunct Professor at Merrimack College teaching Social Justice: Theory and Practice where she conducted research on the leadership of women of color. Paula was born in Boston to Chilean parents and has lived in various cities and towns in Massachusetts and Chile.

Click [here](https://events-na1.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/2297520381/en/events/event/shared/default_template_simple/event_registration.html?connect-session=na1breeztc6qvropnv6h9dfs&sco-id=3343070970&_charset_=utf-8) to register.

[Return to top](#_top)

# PDAI Victim Services Trainings

Victim/Witness Legislation Q&A

Date: December 16, 2019

Time: 9:00AM – 11:00AM

Do you have any questions regarding Victim/Witness Legislation passed in 2019 but are unsure who to ask? Are you confused about the most recent ruling regarding Marsy's Law? Greg Rowe, the Director of Legislation and Policy for the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association, will be online during this session to answer all of your questions. Greg was the Chief of the Legislation and Policy Unit in the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office and, in that capacity, served as the legislative liaison for the PDAA.  Greg has been extensively involved in many important legislative initiatives, including enactment of Pennsylvania’s strangulation law and reforms to the Wiretap Law. Click [here](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=pccd&service=6) to register.

This training has been approved for two PCCD Annual Training Hours.

2020 Foundational Academies

State College – April

Pittsburgh Area – July (back-up: August)

King of Prussia – October (back-up: November)

2021 Foundational Academies

State College only

Registration opens at [www.pdaa.org](http://www.pdaa.org) under the PDAI’s Training Calendar. Contact the Training Consultant, Amy Smulktis at AJS@restitutionconsulting.com, for more details or if interested in a scholarship. Trainings qualify for PCCD-approved training hours.

To receive the quarterly *Restitution & Victim/Witness Training Newsletter* which includes important updates regarding Foundational Academy, Topical Trainings, and restitution, please email Amy Smulktis.

[Return to top](#_top)

# If your program is offering new or extended services, or implementing new initiatives that you would like to highlight, please submit your news article to Stacie Brendlinger at sbrendling@pa.gov.

The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **November 20, 2019**. If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Stacie Brendlinger at sbrendling@pa.gov by Wednesday, **November 13, 2019**.

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.

[Return to top](#_top)

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:** [@PaCrimeCom](https://twitter.com/PaCrimeComm)m.