

**Charles Ramsey**

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 *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

October 19, 2022

In this Issue...

* [Attention All RASA/VOJO Programs – Quarterly Reports Due Thursday, October 20th!](#_Attention_All_RASA/VOJO)
* [BJS Releases New Statistics On Victimization Rates](#_BJS_Releases_New)
* [An Evaluation Of Barrier Free Living’s Deaf Services Program](#_An_Evaluation_Of)
* [Elder Abuse Among Latins](#_Elder_Abuse_Among)
* [Grant Will Support Organization’s Work To Mobilize Lawyers To Provide Legal Aid To Victims Of Crime In Underserved Communities](#_Grant_Will_Support)
* [The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2016/2017 Report On Intimate Partner Violence](#_The_National_Intimate)
* [Survey: Crime Victims Want Help, Not Just Punishment](#_Survey:_Crime_Victims)
* [Gun Violence Increases Demand For Kids’ Books On Trauma](#_Gun_Violence_Increases)
* [New Approaches For Gun Violence Reporting In Philadelphia](#_New_Approaches_For)
* [When Men Murder Women](#_When_Men_Murder)
* [How Can Writing And Journaling Support Survivors’ And Advocates Healing And Wellness](#_How_Can_Writing)
* [Week Of Action](#_Week_Of_Action)
* [As Suicides Rise, US Military Seeks To Address Mental Health](#_As_Suicides_Rise,)
* [Report Finds ‘Systemic Abuse’ Embedded In U.S, Women’s Pro Soccer Culture](#_Report_Finds_‘Systemic)

Upcoming Trainings & Events

* [Act 77 and Legal Standing for Victims](#_Act_77_and)
* [Domestic Violence, Firearm Surrender, And Court Monitored Compliance](#_Domestic_Violence,_Firearm)
* [Intimate Partner Stalking](#_What_Judges,_Attorneys,)
* [2022 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice](#_2022_James_E.)
* [Understanding And Confronting CSEC: A Specialized Training For Prosecutors](#_Understanding_And_Confronting)
* [SafeNet’s 2022 Intimate Partner Violence Medical Conference](#_SafeNet’s_2022_Intimate)
* [Honoring 2022 Governor’s Victims Services Pathfinder Award Recipients](#_Honoring_2022_Governor’s)
* [Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings](#_Victims_Compensation_Assistance)

**Employment Opportunities**

* [Crime Victims Council Of The Lehigh Valley – Employment Opportunities](#_Crime_Victims_Council)
* [Women’s Resources Of Monroe County – Employment Opportunities](#_Women’s_Resources_Of)
* [A Woman’s Place – Employment Opportunities](#_A_Woman’s_Place)
* [Safe Berks – Employment Opportunities](#_Safe_Berks_–)
* [Turning Point Of Lehigh Valley – Employment Opportunities](#_Turning_Point_Of)

[Return to top](#_top)

# Attention All RASA/VOJO Programs – Quarterly Reports Due Thursday, October 20th!

Quarterly Program Reports for the 2021-2022 RASA/VOJO Funding Cycle will cover the time period from July 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022 and should be submitted in E-grants no later than Thursday, October 20, 2022.

**Important Information:**

* July 1st through September 30th represents Quarter 3 in the RASA/VOJO funding cycle. When calculating victims served for the quarter, please separate NEW and CONTINUING victims.
* The E-grants system was recently updated to make it easier for grantees to submit Project Modification Requests (PMRs).  One of the specific changes that impacts OVS-funded programs, is the addition of the Personnel PMR (Name Change Only).  With the addition of the Personnel (Name Change Only) PMR, OVS will no longer require the submission of the quarterly personnel spreadsheet.

**Report Reminders:**

Please select “No” when asked to make the report a Final Program Report.

You do not need to enter anything in the “Briefly List Activities Conducted During This Period” Section on the main page of the report.  You may simply enter “Not Applicable” in this section on the main page of the report and save it.

**It is very important to submit your program report in E-grants by the due date of October 20, 2022**.  PCCD applies a risk level to each sub-grantee.  One of the factors that impacts an agency’s risk level is delinquent quarterly reports.  RASA and VOJO Reports submitted later than October 20, 2022 may adversely impact the agency’s risk level.  If, for any reason, you are unable to enter your report data and submit the report by the due date, please contact our office to let us know so we may instruct you on how to proceed in order to avoid your report being delinquent.

**PCCD Contact Information:**

If you should have any questions or need assistance completing your quarterly program reports, please contact Heather Cureau at hcureau@pa.gov or (717) 265-8712, or Maria Katulis at Mkatulis@pa.gov or (717) 265-8741.

Quarterly fiscal reports for RASA and VOJO grants will also be due in E-grants by October 20, 2022.  If you have any fiscal report questions, please contact the fiscal staff person listed on your grant for assistance.

If you need technical assistance with E-grants, you may contact the E-grants Support Line at (717) 787-5887 or RA-eGrantsSupport@pa.gov.

[Return to top](#_top)

# BJS Releases New Statistics On Victimization Rates

This report presents official estimates of criminal victimizations reported and not reported to police from BJS’s National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS).

Please click [here](https://bjs.ojp.gov/library/publications/criminal-victimization-2021) to read.

[Return to top](#_top)

# An Evaluation Of Barrier Free Living’s Deaf Services Program

Research indicates deaf people report experiencing victimization at higher rates, but a lack of accessible resources and trauma-informed services for American Sign Language speakers makes it difficult for deaf people to report crimes and access support. In response to these issues, the District Attorney of New York County provided funding to support Barrier Free Living’s Deaf Services (DS) program, with the goal of increasing access to direct services for domestic violence survivors who are deaf and increasing local stakeholders’ awareness of deaf survivors’ needs.

Please click [here](https://www.urban.org/research/publication/evaluation-barrier-free-livings-deaf-services-program) to read.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Elder Abuse Among Latins

Get a quick look at elder abuse among Latins through this Factsheet by Esperanza United.

Please click [here](https://esperanzaunited.org/en/knowledge-base/blogs/factsheet-elder-abuse-among-latins/) to read.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Grant Will Support Organization’s Work To Mobilize Lawyers To Provide Legal Aid To Victims Of Crime In Underserved Communities

Equal Justice Works recently was awarded a $5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime, to launch the Crime Victims Advocacy Program (CVAP), a two- year legal Fellowship program.

Please click [here](https://www.equaljusticeworks.org/news/equal-justice-works-receives-a-grant-from-ovc/) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2016/2017 Report On Intimate Partner Violence

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) just released a new report,[The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2016/2017 Report on Intimate Partner Violence](https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/nisvs/NISVSReportonIPV_2022.pdf). This report  highlights the most recent findings from the th[e National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Surivey (NISVS)](https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/datasources/nisvs/index.html) specifically around experiences of intimate partner violence.

Please click [here](https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/new-research-national-intimate-partner-and-sexual-violence-survey-20162017-report-intimate) to read.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Survey: Crime Victims Want Help, Not Just Punishment

The justice system is too punitive toward offenders and too neglectful of crime victims’ needs, according to a new [national survey of victims](https://allianceforsafetyandjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Alliance-for-Safety-and-Justice-Crime-Survivors-Speak-September-2022.pdf).

Please click [here](https://www.ncja.org/crimeandjusticenews/survey-crime-victims-want-help-not-just-punishment) to read.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Gun Violence Increases Demand For Kids’ Books On Trauma

The demand for children’s books that address traumatic events such as school shootings has been growing steadily. Educators say children’s books can play a role in helping kids cope with anxiety and depression, which has increased among many young Americans.

Please click [here](https://apnews.com/article/gun-violence-entertainment-shootings-0e1694116023f1d2120eaee1901024da) to read.

[Return to top](#_top)

# New Approaches For Gun Violence Reporting In Philadelphia

Recently Philadelphia TV news journalist, community leaders and other experts came together and held a [workshop](https://www.pcgvr.org/) to advance the most ethical, empathic and impactful coverage of gun violence.

Please click [here](https://www.ncja.org/crimeandjusticenews/new-approaches-for-gun-violence-reporting-in-philadelphia) to read.

[Return to top](#_top)

# How Can Writing And Journaling Support Survivors’ And Advocates Healing And Wellness

From the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV): In line with our Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) theme and ongoing commitment, we believe that journaling is a powerful tool for survivors and advocates.

Please click [here](https://vawnet.org/news/how-can-writing-and-journaling-support-survivors-and-advocates-healing-and-wellness) to read more.

[Return to top](#_top)

# When Men Murder Women

When Men Murder Women is an annual study released by the Violence Policy Center for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. State by state, the study details the circumstances of all reported homicides of women by men in single-victim/single-offender incidents, from 2020 homicide data. The study also ranks the states based on their rate of females killed by males. This research is used by state and local advocates to educate the public and policymakers on the realities of domestic violence and promote effective solutions to protect women and children from abusers.

Please click [here](https://vpc.org/when-men-murder-women/) to read.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Week Of Action

Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) 2022, **Week of Action is October 17-23, 2022** is designed to engage advocates, partners, and the public in starting a national conversation and [**check out our toolkit!**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mmspXlk8pxzcLORtijyii7A1v4zc8XBkGvpgE0qCXjM/edit?usp=sharing)

Please click [here](https://nnedv.org/content/week-action-2022/) to access the schedule

[Return to top](#_top)

# As Suicides Rise, US Military Seeks To Address Mental Health

According to Defense Department data, suicides among active- duty service members increased by more than 40% between 2015 and 2020.

Please click [here](https://apnews.com/article/health-philanthropy-mental-army-government-and-politics-b7599549f12f53adc51f9ab8388fc873) to read.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Report Finds ‘Systemic Abuse’ Embedded In U.S, Women’s Pro Soccer Culture

U.S. Soccer’s independent investigation says players’ misconduct allegations against coaches were repeatedly ignored in the National Women’s Soccer League.

Please click [here](https://www.ncja.org/crimeandjusticenews/women-s-soccer-probe) to read.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Act 77 and Legal Standing for Victims

On July 11, 2022, Governor Wolf signed into law [Act 77 of 2022](https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/li/uconsCheck.cfm?yr=2022&sessInd=0&act=77). A crucial piece of this legislation makes explicit that crime victims will have legal standing at the statutory level as of September 8, 2022 (effective date of the Act).  By making “legal standing” for victims explicit, Act 77 fills a gap in Pennsylvania’s Crime Victims’ Act by recognizing crime victims’ ability to claim their rights under the Victims Bill of Rights, including when those rights are overlooked or violated.  The recognition of legal standing is a significant and positive change for Pennsylvania’s crime victims.

Three specific virtual trainings are being held to help attorneys and victim advocates understand how legal standing for crime victims affects their role as they work with victims.  Presenters for the trainings will be Meg Garvin, MA, JD, MsT Executive Director and Clinical Professor of Law, Terry Campos, JD and Rebecca Khalil, JD from the [National Crime Victim Law Institute](https://law.lclark.edu/centers/national_crime_victim_law_institute/). Professor Garvin is one of the nation’s experts on crime victim’s rights.

**\*\***Please note the target audience for each training

**Making Victims’ Rights Meaningful: The Role of Advocates after Act 77 of 2022**

* **Target Audience:** Advocates (system-based and community-based)
* **Date of Training:** Monday, November 14th
* **Time:** 12:00-1:30pm
* **Registration:** [The Role of Advocates after Act of 2022 Registration](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QSiOQSgB1U2bbEf8Wpob3qqhfxc0L8dJr_W0QDKxno5UQU5aRDdSWVVQM05CVlVBRVVEVjlIQklLMC4u)

Every jurisdiction in this country -- including Pennsylvania -- has provided victims of crime legal rights in the criminal and juvenile justice systems for decades. These legal rights include the rights to privacy, protection, and fairness. Sadly, when these rights are not protected victims experience re-victimization, which can have tremendous negative impacts on the victim’s mental and physical health and on the functioning of our justice systems. When victims’ rights are protected and their voices are heard, both victims and the justice system benefit: victims can experience more empowerment while the justice system operates more effectively. With passage of Act 77 of 2022, victims now have a clearer path to assert and seek enforcement of their rights in courts. This is often called “standing” – but what is standing? And what is the role of advocates in protecting those rights? Presenters will provide an overview of victims’ rights assertion and enforcement, and through hypothetical scenarios help advocates ensure rights are protected.

**Victims’ Rights and Legal Standing-Understanding Act 77 of 2022**

* **Target Audience:** Attorneys and Legal Advocates
* **Date of Training**: Tuesday, November 15th
* **Time:** 12-2:30pm
* **Registration:** [Understanding Act 77 of 2022 Registration](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QSiOQSgB1U2bbEf8Wpob3qqhfxc0L8dJr_W0QDKxno5UNUxQTjZESDFBNDZWTUlCS1JXQjJTMFBZRi4u)

With passage of Act 77 of 2022, victims in Pennsylvania now have a clear path to assert and seek enforcement of their rights in juvenile/criminal court. But what does that look like? Presenters will share lessons from jurisdictions across the country that have passed similar laws. Presenters will describe what it looks like when victims with standing in juvenile/criminal courts assert and seek enforcement of their rights. The session will review the existing rights of crime victims in Pennsylvania, explore common legal challenges to victims’ rights assertion, and successful legal strategies to overcome those challenges.

**Victims’ Rights Litigation After Act 77 of 2022**

* **Target Audience**: Attorneys and Legal Advocates

*\*\*participants should have taken Victims’ Rights and Legal Standing-Understanding Act 77 training or have basic knowledge of rights enforcement training.*

* **Date of Training:** Wednesday, November 16th
* **Time:** 12-2:30pm
* **Register:** [Victims’ Rights Litigation After Act 77 of 2022 Registration](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QSiOQSgB1U2bbEf8Wpob3qqhfxc0L8dJr_W0QDKxno5UMkRRRVZMOE1TNzUyRFVWUEY4RVJONDM2RS4u)

Drawing on lessons from jurisdictions across the country, this session will offer practical strategies and guidance on the practice of rights enforcement as a result of the successful passage of Act 77 of 2022. Using case scenarios, the training will help attendees identify trauma-informed legal strategies for representing victims regarding assertion and enforcement of their rights in trial and appellate courts.  The session will include consideration of creating an effective trial court record to allow for effective, precedent-setting appellate review.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Domestic Violence, Firearm Surrender, And Court Monitored Compliance

**Date: October 24, 2022 Time: 2:30 ET**

Presented by the Center for Court Innovation and the Firearms Technical Assistance Project, this webinar will discuss the major components of effective firearm surrender programs with examples from successful models used.   The webinar will also provide participants opportunities to share their own successes and challenges with firearms surrender in both civil and criminal domestic violence courts.

**Please click** [**here**](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_71zeK0u_St6OoSu2CiADEA) **to register.**

[Return to top](#_top)

# Intimate Partner Stalking

**October 27, 2022 2:00pm - 3:30pm EST**

Recognizing and responding to stalking within abusive relationships is critical and urgent. Though abusive intimate partners who stalk are also more likely to be sexually violent, physically violent, and/or commit homicide than those who do not stalk, stalking victimization is often overlooked within abusive relationships. In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM), this webinar highlights the significant connections between stalking and intimate partner violence and provides strategies to screen for stalking, safety plan, and hold offenders accountable.

Please click [here](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IFKqLFDESye6WrAU0vyT8w) to register.

[Return to top](#_top)

# 2022 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

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| **cid:182fe1ec09811bfad144*****Back and Better: Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice’s Journey of Introspection and Improvement*****cid:182fe1ec0987605c1152****November 2–4, 2022 at the Hilton Harrisburg****Be prepared for an interactive, engaging, IN-PERSON event with plenary speakers, educational workshops, professional caucuses, resources day, networking opportunities, and much more!**Registration is now OPEN!**To register, please visit** [**www.jcjcjems.pa.gov**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.jcjcjems.pa.gov%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7C79d19facd0674718421a08da8cdcb8cc%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637977177238967297%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Ct66QGdO%2FGp9XabU8y5C39dPKquyGQVlDxdQvjh7EdA%3D&reserved=0)**Login or create an account to complete the registration process.****Email confirmation will be provided following registration.** **The James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice is a wonderful venue to gain valuable skills and make lasting connections with juvenile justice stakeholders.****We look forward to seeing you at the Hilton Harrisburg November 2–4, 2022!**Pennsylvania Continuing Judicial Education (CJE) and Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits will be awarded for attending approved conference events. National Association of Social Workers (NASW-PA) will award Continuing Education (CE) credits for completion of approved workshops. Logo, company name  Description automatically generated |

[Return to top](#_top)

# Understanding And Confronting CSEC: A Specialized Training For Prosecutors

November 9, 2022 9:00am – 1:00pm

Participants will enhance their knowledge of what is CSEC, how to effectively engage child victims, and more. This no-cost training is offered as a joint presentation by Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center and PennCAC and will be an in-person event located in State College.

Breakfast provided. CLEs pending.

Please click [here](https://penncac.coalitionmanager.org/eventmanager/trainingevent/details/291) to register.

[Return to top](#_top)

# SafeNet’s 2022 Intimate Partner Violence Medical Conference

Thursday November 10, 2022

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Ambassador Conference Center

7794 Peach Street

Erie, PA 16509

Please click [here](https://www.safeneterie.org/the-silent-secret/) to register.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Honoring 2022 Governor’s Victims Services Pathfinder Award Recipients

Join the Office of Victims Services on **November 17, 2022** at **2:00 p.m.** as we honor the 2022 Governor’s Victims Services Pathfinder Award recipients during a virtual awards ceremony.  Mr. John Delaney, Esq., Chair of the Victims Services Advisory Committee will be our Master of Ceremonies and the event will include a keynote address by Ms. Karen Widdoss, 2021 Governor’s Victims Services Pathfinder Award Recipient for Survivor/Activist.

No need to register in advance, please join us the day of the event via Microsoft Teams

Please [Click here to join the meeting](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3Ameeting_YTM4YTdmNjYtY2U2Yy00ZDBkLTg5ZDAtNGQ5MTFkN2MxOTgy%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22418e2841-0128-4dd5-9b6c-47fc5a9a1bde%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22c443f3ec-15aa-4475-a492-b90690e84332%22%7d)

# Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on October 25, 2022.

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

The following trainings will be held on November 2, 2022.

* Medical Expenses Clinic – 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 November 9, 2022.

* Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Transportation Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on November 15, 2022.

* Relocation Expenses 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 7, 2022.

* “Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Counseling Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on December 13, 2022.

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

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 2.25.

Please click [here](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=pccd&service=6) to register.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Crime Victims Council Of The Lehigh Valley – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://cvclv.org/employment/) to see current employment opportunities.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Women’s Resources Of Monroe County – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://www.wrmonroe.org/who-we-are/employment-opportunities/) to see current employment opportunities.

[Return to top](#_top)

# A Woman’s Place – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://awomansplace.org/get-involved/) to see current employment opportunities.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Safe Berks – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://recruiting.paylocity.com/recruiting/jobs/Details/1088748/Safe-Berks/Staff-Attorney) to see current employment opportunities.

[Return to top](#_top)

# Turning Point Of Lehigh Valley – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://www.turningpointlv.org/home/employment-and-contract-opportunities/) to see current employment opportunities.

[Return to top](#_top)

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The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **November 2, 2022**.  If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Lea Dorsey at ledorsey@pa.gov  by Wednesday, **October 26, 2022**.

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 Lea Dorsey at (717) 265-8733 or via email at ledorsey@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.