**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

December 20, 2018

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Upcoming Events

* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6)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)

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# SAVE THE DATE! Victim/Witness Services Foundational Academy

February 11-13, 2018

The Sheraton Pittsburgh at Station Square

Pittsburgh, PA

Registration opened December 10, 2018. The last day to register is January 18, 2019.

Please click [here](https://www.pdaa.org/pdai-training-calendar/) to register.

**Please note the following changes for the 2019 Foundational Academies:** This year there will be 4 regional academies: Pittsburgh, State College, Center City Philadelphia, and Harrisburg. Because these academies are scheduled to be more convenient to attendees by cutting down the traveling distance, no overnight accommodations will be provided for the Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Harrisburg academies. A continental breakfast and two break snacks will be provided.

Additional tentative dates are as follows:

* State College, April 24th – 26th
* Philadelphia, July 8th – 10th
* Harrisburg, October 9th – 11th

Registration will open approximately 10 weeks prior to the week of the Academy. Priority will be given to those advocates for whom Foundational Academy training is mandatory.

For more information, please contact Amelia Smulktis, Restitution & Victim/Witness Training Consultant, at [AJS@restitutionconsulting.com](mailto:AJS@restitutionconsulting.com), or 717.333.2319.

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# OVS Needs Your Help: Help Us Help Them

**OVS will be launching its new website for Human Trafficking in the near future. There will be a link on the PCCD website and the site will be hosted on the PA Crime Victims website, so that it will be accessible through our Crime Victims App. This website will be continually updated with new resources.**

As designated by ACT 105, the Office of Victim Services is creating an online website for human trafficking victims and for the victim service providers who offer them assistance. The human trafficking service provider directory, the legal directory, and the resource repository will include information for survivors of labor and sex trafficking, as well as resources for both providers and survivors.

Act 105 specifies that PCCD should compile a directory of services and benefits available to survivors, a directory of legal service providers and a directory of victim service providers specifying the services that each organization offers.

Please email all recommendations for inclusion in the victim service provider and legal assistance providers directories and any printed materials, webinars, recommended training or other recommended resource guides to Heather Hewitt at [hhewitt@pa.gov](mailto:hhewitt@pa.gov). Please specify whether your recommendation addresses either labor or sex trafficking, or both.

The services can include, but are not limited to:

* Housing
* Advocacy
* Food/Clothing
* Legal Assistance
* Mental Health Care
* Immigration Assistance
* Education/Employment
* Drug & Alcohol Treatment
* Interpretation/Translation Services
* Culturally Specific Programs
* Individual/Group Counseling
* Other specialized services

We would like to provide the most comprehensive information available and depend on you to help us accomplish this goal.

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# OVC Funding Opportunities

Please click [here](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/Solicitation.aspx?utm_source=newsfromovc&utm_medium=email&utm_content=ovc_solicitation_rollup_5.30.2018&utm_campaign=solicitation_2018) to view all opportunities.

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# VOCA Reports Due January 15, 2019

VOCA report quarterly submission into EGrants is due on Monday, January 15th. This quarterly report is for the period of October 1 – December 31, 2018.

To help VOCA funded agencies with the submission process, two VOCA Report WebEx trainings will be provided on Friday, January 4, 2019. A separate training will be held for ETO Case Management Users and ETO Aggregate Users. (Please be sure to register for the correct training.) *It is strongly recommended that at least one person from each agency participates.* Trainings will also be recorded for future viewing. Register in advance to receive training materials via email prior to the start of the training.

**ETO Case Management Users: Friday, January 4th @ 9:30AM.** Register through this link:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | <https://copa.webex.com/copa/onstage/g.php?MTID=eea2a91bd859fb9c6acbcdf79b9fa4b61> |

**ETO Aggregate Users: Friday, January 4th @ 2:30PM.** Register through this link:

<https://copa.webex.com/copa/onstage/g.php?MTID=e9515103117e69157f9e6a999462087e0>

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# ETO Agency Contacts

To receive ETO related emails, the ETO Team is developing an email distribution list. Every agency’s ETO Site Manager is required to complete the new General TouchPoint titled “Agency Contact TouchPoint” as soon as possible and then to update it on an as needed basis. 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 right-hand side navigation bar and 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 for obtaining and disseminating ETO related information.

If you require assistance, please contact the ETO Technical Assistance Team at: [RA-CD-OVS-ETO@pa.gov](mailto:RA-CD-OVS-ETO@pa.gov).

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# ****Stalking Prevention, Awareness, and Resource Center (SPARC)****

January 2019 marks the fifteenth National Stalking Awareness Month (NSAM), an annual call to action to recognize and respond to the serious crime of stalking. [Click here](https://www.stalkingawareness.org/) to see the new resources available to help support survivors, hold offender accountable, educate your community on stalking and promote awareness.

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# Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on January 8, 2019.

* Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa) to register.
* Loss of Support Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa) to register.

The following training will be held on January 16, 2019

* DAVE WebEx – 1:00 p.m. Click [here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?service=7&nomenu=true&main_url=%2Ftc3200%2Ftrainingcenter%2FLoading.do%3Fsiteurl%3Dcopa%26UID%3D-99999999%26RT%3DMiMxMQ%253D%253D%26siteurl%3Dcopa%26apiname%3Dj.php%26MTID%3Dt54bf9c7aea8f82951ba28801fd6edb10%26FM%3D1%26rnd%3D5975612063%26servicename%3DTC%26ED%3D755387532%26needFilter%3Dfalse&siteurl=copa) to register

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

* Crime Scene Cleanup Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa) to register.
* Transportation Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa) to register.

The following trainings will be held on January 23, 2019.

* Loss of Earnings Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa) to register.
* Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa) to register.

The following trainings will be held on January 31, 2019.

* Basic Compensation - 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa) to register.
* “Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” - 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa) to register.

The following trainings will be held on February 4, 2019.

* Relocation Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa) to register.
* Counseling Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa) to register.

The following trainings will be held on February 19, 2019.

* Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa) to register.
* Myths of Compensation - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa) to register.
* *All trainings count towards 1 hour of the required RASA/VOCA/VOJO training hours, with the exception of Basic Compensation (2 training hours) and DAVE training (2.25 hours).*

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# Compensation Corner

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 taking the steps necessary to remedy the situation.  Currently, claims are being assigned within approximately 45 days of receipt.

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# Call For Proposals: KCIT’s Conscious Resiliency Conference – September 30-October 1, 2019

KCIT is asking for proposals that focus on community or individual crisis intervention, spiritual care, victim services, resiliency, best practices in the field, or self-care. Sessions will be 75 minutes.   
  
Deadline for submission is **March 25, 2019**.  If you are selected, you will be notified by **April 25, 2019**.  
  
At that time, you will need to submit your resume and any changes to the objectives by **May 28, 2019** to be submitted for CEUs.  
  
PowerPoints and handouts to be given to participants will be due by **September 2, 2019**.

Please click [here](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KCITConference2019RFP) to learn more.

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# Beyond The Breakthrough: 2019 National Sexual Assault Conference Call For Workshop Proposals

August 21-23, 2019

Marriott Philadelphia Downtown

Philadelphia, PA  
  
The **National Sexual Assault Conference** (NSAC) is an annual conference that brings together over 1,000 people to share information, advance learning opportunities, and support professional growth to those who work to address the needs of survivors of sexual harassment, assault, and abuse, to raise awareness about these issues, and to prevent them from happening.

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center are excited to announce a call for workshop proposals for the 2019 National Sexual Assault Conference, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at the Marriott Philadelphia Downtown. The theme of the conference is “Beyond the Breakthrough.”

Please click [here](http://endingsvtogether.pcar.org/site/MessageViewer?em_id=1520.0) to learn more.

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# PDAI Victim Services Trainings

**Crossing Bridges – A Juvenile Justice Training**

February 25, 2019

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Giant Community Center

2300 Linglestown Road

Harrisburg, PA 17110

Restorative justice is a term commonly used in conjunction with the juvenile justice system. Restorative Practices (the social science behind restorative justice) are designed to address harm, repair relationships and meet the needs of all parties involved. During this one-day training we will explore the continuum of practices that can be used within the context of the criminal/juvenile justice system to build restorative justice opportunities that serve both victims and offenders as well as the communities that surround them. Participants will have the opportunity to discern the similarities and differences of a continuum of restorative practices through role play and storytelling. Training participants will also explore how they can implement restorative practices in their personal and professional lives.

At the conclusion of this one-day training, participants will:

* Articulate the goals and foundational theories upon which restorative practices are built;
* Identify restorative justice best practices; and
* Recognize the value of restorative justice services for crime victims, communities and offenders.

Please click [here](http://www.ciclt.net/sn/events/e_signup.aspx?ClientCode=pdaa&E_ID=500111&RegType=ATT) to register.

*\*This training qualifies for 6 training hours through PCCD.*

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# Keystone Crisis Intervention Team: Death Notification Trainings

Death Notification can be part of anyone's job. It is not a fun task, but one that is so important to the survivors' healing. In this training, you will learn best practices in Death Notification as well as possible reactions by survivors and how to help.

March 7, 2019 (*snow date March 8th*)

9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Luzerne County Community College

1333 S. Prospect Street

Nanticoke, PA 18643

Please click [here](https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07efl5jdsoe3ce3966&oseq=&c=&ch=) to register. Training is provided free of cost.

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# Registration Now Open: 2019 International Conference On Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence And Increasing Access

April 22-25, 2019

Manchester Grand Hyatt

San Diego, CA

Our annual conferences focus on sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking, human trafficking and elder abuse. We consistently bring together law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, victim advocates, judges, parole and probation officers, rape crisis workers, health care professionals, faith community members, educators, researchers and others in this three-day conference highlighting promising practices and emerging issues to effectively respond to these crimes in all of our communities.

With three full days of training offering 6 general sessions, a choice of 67 workshops and over 100 presenters, you are sure to learn something you can bring home and apply on the job. Moreover, with over 2,100 professionals expected to attend, you can anticipate countless opportunities to meet, rejuvenate and share ideas with other colleagues.

Don’t forget to sign up for one of our optional Post Conference Tracks. The 2019 Post Conference sessions will provide attendees an opportunity to participate in a full day course focused on either *Human Trafficking: Identification & Trauma Informed Response Best Practices,* or a course on *Self-Care in High Intensity Work.*

Please click [here](http://www.cvent.com/events/international-conference-on-sexual-assault-intimate-partner-violence-and-increasing-access/event-summary-3014a410ca1c4646ab3f6ca0ac31a3bb.aspx) to learn more and to register.

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# KCIT Basic Crisis Response Trainings – Application Now Open

**April 23-26, 2019**

Uniontown, PA

This 25-hour training helps participants learn about crisis reactions after a trauma. Upon completion of this training, interested participants can apply to become KCIT volunteers. If you have any questions, please contact KCIT at [info@kcitpa.org](mailto:info@kcitpa.org).

Please click [here](http://snip.ly/r3dxp0/#http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07efp9d0wa07a2daf9&llr=6nqn8gdab) to register.

The deadline for applications is **March 22, 2019**.  All applicants will be notified by April 1, 2019 if they were accepted into the training.

*\*This training qualifies for 25 training hours through PCCD.*

**June 3-6, 2019**

Gettysburg, PA

This 25-hour training helps participants learn about crisis reactions after a trauma. Upon completion of this training, interested participants can apply to become KCIT volunteers. If you have any questions, please contact KCIT at [info@kcitpa.org](mailto:info@kcitpa.org).

Please click [here](https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eflt62cvc15ea8ef&oseq=&c=&ch=) to register.

The deadline for applications is **May 3, 2019**.  All applicants will be notified by May 6, 2019 if they were accepted into the training.

*\*Training has been approved for 25 PCCD credits. Application for 25 CEU’s from the PA Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors is pending.*

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# OVW’s Fiscal Year 2019 Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking

Funds are now available to address transition housing assistance. The funds may be used for a range of activities including providing transitional housing, short-term housing assistance, and support services for victims and their dependents who are fleeing a situation of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence., or stalking to locate and secure permanent housing, secure employment, and integrate into a community. Click [here](https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1120606/download) to learn more.

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# Reminder to All 2017-2018 RASA and VOJO Programs – FINAL Program Reports Due January 18th!

FINAL Program Reports for RASA/VOJO grants that end on December 31, 2018 will be due by January 20, 2019 (please note, January 20th is a Sunday, so you’ll want to be sure your reports are submitted in Egrants by Friday, January 18, 2019, to ensure they are not considered delinquent).  The 8th quarter (FINAL) program reports should be submitted as follows:

VOJO Program Reports – report due for the quarterly period from October 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018 of current VOJO grants.

RASA Program Reports – report due for the quarterly period from October 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018 of current RASA grants.

Since these are the FINAL program reports for the 2017-2018 RASA and VOJO grants, please be sure to select ‘Yes’ for Final Report on the Main Summary Page of your program report, and then click the ‘Save’ button.  When you do this, you’ll see that Egrants will generate a ‘Final Report’ Section’ in the report which you will need to complete.

Also, in addition to completing the usual quarterly program report sections (Clients Served, Victimization Types, Demographics and Services) for RASA and VOJO, you will need to complete the ‘Other Standard Questions’ Section and the ‘Annual Training Certification’ Section.  When responding to the questions in the ‘Annual Training Certification’, ‘Other Standard Questions’, and ‘Final Report Sections’, please be sure to take the entire calendar year of 2018 into consideration as this is the year-end report and we ask that you please respond to the questions by reflecting on all of 2018.  All other sections in the report should have information entered that is based on the statistics the program kept for the 8th (FINAL) quarter.

NOTE:  FINAL fiscal reports for RASA and VOJO grants will also be due in Egrants by January 20, 2019 (please submit by January 18th).

Please contact Vicki McCloskey at [vmccloskey@pa.gov](mailto:vmccloskey@pa.gov) or (717) 265-8746, or Maria Katulis at [mkatulis@pa.gov](mailto:mkatulis@pa.gov) or (717) 265-8741 if you have any questions or need assistance regarding your RASA and VOJO 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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# Recap of Changes to RASA/VOJO Reporting Requirements for 2019 – 2020

This is an FYI to programs which will be receiving 2019 – 2020 RASA/VOJO grants which begin January 1, 2019.  The following information is being sent via email to Project Directors, Fiscal Officers and Primary Contacts for 2019 – 2020 RASA/VOJO grants.  These grant officers have been asked to forward the email to all staff who are involved in the tracking and/or reporting of RASA/VOJO program information.

The 2019 – 2020 RASA/VOJO Funding Announcement may have faded from your memory after submitting your applications, but it did contain notice of some changes in reporting requirements. Here is a reminder of the changes to integrate into your RASA/VOJO tracking and reporting beginning January 1, 2019:

1.   Everybody provided with RASA/VOJO services will fall into one reporting category called “Victims” which will include victims, witnesses, family members, etc.  You will no longer need to differentiate between victims and significant others beginning with the 1/1/19 – 3/31/19 quarterly report.

2.   The “Of the …” questions which have previously been included under the Victimization Types sections in RASA/VOJO quarterly program reports will be removed beginning with the 1/1/19 – 3/31/19 report.

3.   A list of Victimization Types to be tracked/reported was included in the 2019 – 2020 RASA/VOJO Funding Announcement.  Please note that a victimization type has since been added (“Other: Property Crime”) based upon program feedback.  As a reminder, the Victimization Types sections in RASA/VOJO quarterly reports ask for the number of victimizations by type for Victims served in the reporting period.

We will be emailing updated versions of the optional Excel and Access tracking/reporting tools within the next week.   These updated tools will include the above changes.  If you use a different tool for RASA/VOJO tracking and reporting, and have already updated your system to include the changes above as described in the funding announcement, please add the Victimization Type of “Other: Property Crime” (since this was recently added to the Victimization Types list).

If you have any questions about this email or RASA/VOJO reporting in general, please contact Vicki McCloskey at [vmccloskey@pa.gov](mailto:vmccloskey@pa.gov) or (717) 265-8746 or Maria Katulis at [mkatulis@pa.gov](mailto:mkatulis@pa.gov) or (717) 265-8741.  Thank you.

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# LGBTQ+ Individual and Crisis

Presented by the Keystone Crisis Intervention Team

This webinar will provide information that will allow the learner to leave feeling more competent providing crisis intervention and trauma-informed services to LGBTQ+ individuals. We will provide information on development, gender development, and LGBTQ+ development. Then we will discuss psycho-education regarding trauma and how it impacts our brains and bodies, while focusing on secondary trauma that LGBTQ+ individuals may experience. We will discuss symptoms of trauma through a lens that focuses on how these symptoms may show in LGBTQ+ individuals. This workshop with look at themes that come with trauma and crisis situations, such as victim blaming and working with different community systems to understand the experiences LGBTQ+ individuals may have. Finally, we will provide a practical application and best practice piece so participants can walk away with new skills to use.

To register, please click [here](http://snip.ly/0eb2k7#https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6971938754731131649).

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# Trauma and Mental Health Considerations in a Child Sex Trafficking Response

February 6, 2019

2:00 – 3:30pm

During the webinar, you will receive an overview of trauma and its effects on the victims of sex trafficking, including the impact on brain development and behavior. You will learn specific strategies for mitigating the effects of trauma as well as therapeutic modalities to treat victims in the clinical setting. All members of the multidisciplinary team are invited to attend. Click [here](https://ncjtc.fvtc.edu/training/details/TR00008243/TRI0008244/trauma-and-mental-health-considerations-in-a-child-sex-trafficking-response) to register.

This training is approved for 1.5 hours of PCCD Annual Training Hours.

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# Overlapping Issues: Domestic & Sexual Violence, Mental Health, Trauma & Substance Use

Many persons with substance use disorders have multiple vulnerabilities. Professionals must know the correlations, implications, and ramifications of these intersections. Clients have often experienced traumas, including domestic violence or sexual assault. Survivors of these crimes also experience trauma reactions such as depression, anxiety, and PTSD. Some have pre-existing conditions, while others develop them as a result of the traumas. Many have turned to addictive substances to cope with ongoing abuse or traumatic memories of prior abuses. Best practices require competency to address substance use disorders and these vulnerabilities. This webinar will discuss overlapping concerns and hope to address them in partnership with victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Click [here](https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/recordingView?webinarKey=803158452978436610&registrantEmail=julieowens%40outlook.com) for the webinar.

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# Fairness for Crime Victims Act

This bill is being reintroduced by Senator Toomey. The bill is to curtail the use of changes in mandatory programs affecting the Crime Victims Fund to inflate spending.

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# Program Highlights

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 Heather Hewitt at [hhewitt@pa.gov](mailto:hhewitt@pa.gov).

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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, January 2, 2018. If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Heather Hewitt at [hhewitt@pa.gov](mailto:hhewitt@pa.gov) by Wednesday, December 26, 2018.

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](mailto: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)