**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

June 21, 2017

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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, 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)

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# 2017 Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award Recipients

The Office of Victims’ Services would like to congratulate the 2017 Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Award Recipients. On behalf of victims of crime and the victim service’s field, we thank Tracey Cook, Jennifer Gettle, Alison Hall, Eric Stiles, Leon Strimel, and the Victim Assistance Canine Program for their innovation, collaboration and unfailing commitment to victims of crime.

* Ms. Tracey Cook received the 2017 **Individual Direct Service Award**.
* Ms. Jennifer Gettle received the 2017 **Allied Professional Award**.
* Ms. Alison Hall received the 2017 **Individual Organizational Capacity Building Award**.
* Mr. Eric Stiles received the 2017 **Survivor Activist Award**.
* Mr. Leon Strimel received the 2017 **Individual Prevention, Education & Outreach Award**.
* The Victim Assistance Canine Program received the 2017 **Program Award**.

To find out additional information about the 2017 award recipients, please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/Governor%27s-Victim-Service-Pathfinder-Awards.aspx) to view our website page featuring the award recipients.

Click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/AboutUs/Pages/PCCD-Presents-Governor-Victim-Service-Pathfinder-Awards.aspx) to view the press release issued by PCCD.

Start thinking about who you can nominate today for the **2018 Governor’s Victim Service Pathfinder Awards!**

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# Friendly Reminder To All VOJO And RASA Programs:  2nd Quarter Program Reports Due July 20, 2017!

The following program reports for the 2nd quarter of the current VOJO and RASA grants will need to be submitted in Egrants **by July 20th**:

**VOJO Program Reports – quarterly report due for the period from April 1 – June 30, 2017**

**RASA Program Reports – quarterly report due for the period from April 1 – June 30, 2017**

Note:  Quarterly fiscal reports for VOJO and RASA grants will also be due in Egrants by July 20, 2017.

If you should have any questions or need assistance completing your program reports, 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.

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

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# ATTENTION ALL VOJO PROGRAMS - Reminder Of VOJO Lapsing Funds

Recipients of 2016 VOJO (VJ) and/or 2016 JRI (JV) funds, denoted on your Award Letter as:

2016 VJ Award Amount $ xx.xx

2016 VJ Project Period 1/1/2017 - 6/30-2017

And/or

2016 JV Award Amount $ xx.xx

2016 JV Project Period 1/1/2017 - 6/30/2017

This is a reminder that VOJO funds not expended or obligated from these funding sources by June 30, 2017 will lapse.

**Any outstanding obligations as of 6/30/2017 should be reported in the Outstanding Subgrantee Obligations column on the fiscal report for the period ending 6/30/2017**.

**It is the responsibility of the subgrantee to monitor these amounts**.

If you have any questions, please contact the Fiscal Contact staff person listed on your VOJO grant.

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# Video To Help Consumers Protect Themselves From Internet Fraud & Theft

The Pennsylvania Department of Banking and Securities has produced a video to help consumers use good cyber security practices to protect themselves from identity theft or fraud over the Internet. The video can be found on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/PABankingAndSecurities) and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLPptG_EW3WhTnLvEmSt3CzHjx6YXFfbyv). Consumers can call the department at 1-800-PA-BANKS or 1-800-600-0007 to ask questions or file complaints about financial transactions, companies, or products. Organizations can email [informed@pa.gov](mailto:informed@pa.gov) to request training or presentations.

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

The following trainings will be held on June 27, 2017.

* Restitution Basics - 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1632178509&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1632178509&internalProgramTicketUnList=null" \t "_blank) to register.
* Myths of Compensation - 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1633235792&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1633235792&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.
* Loss of Earnings Clinic - 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1633235717&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1633235717&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following trainings will be held on July 6, 2017.

* Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic - 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1633235835&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1633235835&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.
* “Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” - 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1633236158&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1633236158&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following trainings will be held on July 19, 2017.

* Counseling Expenses Clinic - 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1633236189&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1633236189&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.
* Basic Compensation - 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1633237155&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1633237155&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following trainings will be held on July 25, 2017.

* Loss of Support Clinic - 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1633236329&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1633236329&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.
* Transportation Expenses Clinic - 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1633236303&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1633236303&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

DAVE Webex trainings

* 7/12/16 at 9:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/copa/k2/j.php?MTID=t0d91e8959b72b1a95883b383ee7d79d3) to register.
* 9/27/16 at 1:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/copa/k2/j.php?MTID=tef133ecf43d85106dc13453189188af9) 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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# Webinar: Taking Action: Assisting Victims of Financial Fraud

July 11, 12:00pm - 1:30pm ET

More than 30 million Americans are victims of financial fraud every year. Now there is a groundbreaking tool to help victim advocates navigate the many resources available to aid victim recovery. This hour-long webinar will walk you through the accessible, victim-centered approaches at the heart of Taking Action: An Advocate’s Guide to Assisting Victims of Financial Fraud. Hosted by the guide authors The National Center for Victims of Crime and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Investor Education Foundation, this webinar will walk you through strategies for addressing investment fraud, identity theft, mortgage and lending fraud, and mass marketing scams.

Please click [here](https://victimsofcrime.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=victimsofcrime) to register.

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# Training Opportunity: Providing Linguistically Accessible & Responsive Sexual Assault Services

Planning Language Access from a Trauma-Informed Framework

August 22, 9AM-4PM & August 23, 9AM-3PM

The Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center

215 Innovation Blvd

State College, PA 16803

Hotel registration deadline: July 19, 2017

This training is intended for direct service supervisors, executive directors, and leadership who are tasked with planning and implementing language access in their agencies, or those who support staff and volunteers in providing sexual assault direct services. However, any victim service agency staff person or allied professional interested in this topic is welcome to attend. In this two-day intensive training presented by *Casa de Esperanza* and the *National Latin@ Network* is adapted from the *National Latin@ Network’s Language Access Toolkit*, participants will build on their understanding of language accessibility needs from a culturally- responsive and trauma-informed perspective, learn methods to create access in communities with limited resources, and learn out to develop language access plans that are responsive to their communities.

To learn more or to register for this training, please click [here](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PCAR&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=04055ea1-667a-4547-96e3-ce77a2b60494).

For questions about the training, please contact Kayla Houser, Outreach Coordinator, at [knhouser@pcar.org](mailto:knhouser@pcar.org), or 717-728-9740 x 117.

For questions about registration, please contact Erin Levine, Database & Registration Coordinator, at [elevine@pcar.org](mailto:elevine@pcar.org), or 717-728-9740 x 106.

*Pending approval for 11 PCCD training hours.*

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# Westmoreland Drug Court Participants Pitch In At Animal Shelter

There was no dog-walking or cat-petting. Instead, it was hours of moving heavy stones and working up a sweat for about 15 people who volunteered for a less desirable job at the Humane Society of Westmoreland County. Not everyone had landscaping experience, but they did have one thing in common: They are all part of the county's drug court program. Please click [here](http://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/12370488-74/westmoreland-drug-court-participants-pitch-in-at-animal-shelter) to read more.

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# Indicators Of School Crime And Safety: 2016

This annual report, a joint effort by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the National Center for Education Statistics, presents data on crime and safety at school from the perspectives of students, teachers, and principals. It contains 23 indicators of crime and safety at school on topics including victimization at school, teacher injury, bullying and cyber-bullying, school conditions, fights, weapons, availability and student use of drugs and alcohol, student perceptions of personal safety at school, and crime at postsecondary institutions. Data sources include the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), the School Crime Supplement to the NCVS, the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, the School Survey on Crime and Safety, and the School and Staffing Survey. Please click [here](https://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=5926&ed2f26df2d9c416fbddddd2330a778c6=fvadajaxrf-ffamxjgr) to read more.

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# A Haven From Trauma’s Cruel Grip

The sun was preternaturally bright the day Clare Senchyna’s 26 year-old son Camilo, her only child, was shot and killed in a random act of violence in San Francisco. On that morning two years ago, Ms. Senchyna drew the orange curtains in her bedroom, pulled up her blankets and stayed in bed for much of the next several months. It seemed to her an appropriate response to the end of the world. Her son, an emergency medical technician, had been out celebrating the completion of his paramedic classes when he was murdered across the street from Ms. Senchyna’s favorite yoga studio. A single mom and urgent care nurse practitioner, Ms. Senchyna began drinking heavily, plying herself with sleeping pills, and felt suicidal enough to commit herself to a local hospital before quickly determining that “a psych ward is not a place for grief.” Please click [here](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/31/opinion/a-haven-from-traumas-cruel-grip.html?smprod=nytcore-iphone&smid=nytcore-iphone-share&_r=1) to read more.

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# NCJTC: A Case Study: "We Got Taylor" The Story Of An Abused 3-Year-Old Boy

Wednesday, Jun 21, 2017 - 2:00pm - 3:15pm (EDT)

Review a case study involving a 3-year old child who was physically and emotionally abused by his mother's boyfriend. It was not until he was unable to walk that his mother was forced to take him to the Emergency Department for medical attention. With the work of many dedicated people of multi-disciplines this case was brought to justice. Please click [here](https://ncjtc.fvtc.edu/training/details/TR00004521/TRI0004522/a-case-study-we-got-taylor-the-story-of-an-abused-3-year-old-boy?utm_source=email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2017%20-%20CAN%20-%20May&utm_content=webinar%20learn%20more) to learn more and to register for the webinar.

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

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# ****Scholarships Available For 2017 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 2017 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. Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/2017%20PCCD%20Scholarship%20Application.docx) for the Scholarship Application.

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# 2017 PCAR Statewide Conference: Putting Unity in Community: Registration Is Now Open!!

Registration for the 2017 PCAR Statewide Conference: Putting Unity in Community is open!

The conference is Wednesday, July 19th and Thursday, July 20th at Radisson Hotel Harrisburg in Camp Hill, PA.  Detective Carrie Hull, Program Director of the [You Have Options Program](https://www.reportingoptions.org/), will be the keynote speaker.  The conference will showcase the impact of collaboration among allied professionals, as well as topics on prevention, response, underserved populations and much more.  There will be 10 hours of PCCD Annual Training Hours offered at this year’s conference.

The deadline for conference registration is July 5th and the deadline for hotel registration is June 18th.  To register for the Statewide Conference, please click [here](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PCAR&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=df460e1a-17e4-40a0-9313-df062d1e066d).

For questions about the conference you can contact Tatiana Taborn at [ttaborn@pcar.org](mailto:ttaborn@pcar.org) or 717-728-9740 ext. 162. For questions about registration you can contact Erin Levine at [elevine@pcar.org](mailto:elevine@pcar.org) or 717-728-9740 ext. 106.

We look forward to seeing you in July!

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# ****Combating Witness Intimidation To Improve Victim And Witness Cooperation, Law Enforcement Investigation & Prosecution****

Effectively combating witness intimidation is challenging. Acts of intimidation are often committed in private, or subtly, so that only the intended target recognizes the threat. Some offenders use manipulation rather than heavy-handed overt threats to dissuade victims from testifying against them. Often the intimidation is not even recognized by the victim, let alone law enforcement or the prosecutor. Acts of intimidation are often overlooked in the focus on the "presenting problem"-the crime for which police were summoned. Special efforts must be made to prevent intimidation, recognize and identify it when it occurs, and develop appropriate responses that protect victims and their communities and hold offenders accountable-not only for the underlying crime, but for the attempts to subvert the criminal justice system.

**Combating Witness Intimidation (CWI) Initiative**  
AEquitas, Justice Management Institute (JMI), and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) are partnering to support the implementation of practices that improve victim participation, investigations, and prosecutions by combating witness intimidation. The goal of CWI is to provide technical assistance to up to three (3) local jurisdictions in implementing practices consistent with legal and evidence-based investigative and prosecution practices.

**DEADLINE**  
All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on **July 17, 2017**. Decisions are expected to be made by August 29, 2017. [Click here](http://portal.criticalimpact.com/go/1/9ef81e12dfef98003947229f28c3afba/24349/b43b9985f7375435/27c4c97e9b142f483947229f28c3afba) for more information on how to apply to the competitive solicitation for technical assistance.

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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, July 5, 2017. 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 June 28, 2017.

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)