**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

June 7, 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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# New Victim Service Program Standards

The Services and Standards Subcommittee of the Victims’ Services Advisory Committee (VSAC) has been tasked with developing standards to cover newly identified services and activities under VOCA.  The attached standard for Civil Legal Services was approved by the PCCD in March 2017, with the exception of *I. D. 3, as it relates to Pro Bono Training,* and *I. F, relating to Program Income.* These two areas were approved at the May 2, 2017 VSAC meeting and will be reviewed for approval at the next Commission Meeting on June 14, 2017.  The OVS is providing programs with this version of the Civil Legal Services standard now with the anticipation of Commission approval of the two areas mentioned above. This standard has also been added to the electronic version of PCCD’s Consolidated Victim Service Program Standards located on PCCD’s website.  [View the standards here (PDF).](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Consolidated%20Victim%20Service%20Program%20Standards%205-16-2017.pdf)

The next standards to be released by the Services and Standards Subcommittee will be “Emergency Shelter”, “Emergency Financial Assistance” and “Relocation.” PCCD will continue to update programs in the field as new standards are developed and approved by VSAC and the Commission.

For questions, you may contact Kathy Buckley at [kabuckley@pa.gov](mailto:kabuckley@pa.gov) or at (717)-265-8724.

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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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# Compensation Corner – Compensation For Drug Endangered Children

For a child who has suffered physical and psychological harm from being exposed to illegal drugs, i.e., meth labs, financial compensation may be able to help drug endangered children and their families.

**Eligible Crime**

The crime must be charged under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act or Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code. These crimes include (but are not limited to):

• The unlawful manufacture of methamphetamine or phencyclidine in a structure where any child under the age of 18 years of age is present or where the manufacturing causes any child under 18 years of age to suffer bodily injury [35 P.S. §780-113(a)(38)]

• Corruption of minors [18 Pa C.S. §6301]

• Recklessly endangering another person [18 Pa C.S. §2705]

• Endangering the welfare of a child [18 Pa C.S. §4304].

**Eligible Expenses**

Medical expenses, which may include hospital and doctor bills, ambulance fees, and medications (or any procedure needed as a direct result of the crime and ordered by a physician, such as a medical assessment/screening, toxicology and blood testing, Hepatitis B/C panel, dental examination, neurological and respiratory status check, developmental and mental health evaluation, and/or medical follow-up appointments).

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# Video Assists Professionals Identify, Prevent Elder Financial Abuse

The Pennsylvania Department of Banking and Securities has produced a video to educate professionals about how to identify the signs of elder financial abuse. The video is available on the department’s [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLPptG_EW3WhTnLvEmSt3CzHjx6YXFfbyv) channel and the department’s [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/PABankingAndSecurities). 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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# Coming Soon!! Grant Funding To Benefit Diverse Pennsylvania Communities

The Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council is preparing to issue several grant Request for Proposals (RFPs) in June 2017. The Council has purposefully taken steps to ensure that Pennsylvanians from diverse populations experiencing oppression and marginalization become allies working on our grants, and benefit from them.

The Pa DD Council has initiated a mandatory requirement to ensure the direct involvement and partnership of people with disabilities who are members of diverse unserved/underserved communities. All of our projects must include collaboration with a targeted diverse unserved/underserved population in Pennsylvania.

By either leading or collaborating on our grants, people from diverse communities and the organizations that support them, will be active partners and allies, working to see their community’s disparities lessened or eradicated. Look to our future grants for opportunities to lead or organize partnerships with others, in work that is important to your community. It is the Pa DD Council’s vision that our work not only benefit Pennsylvania’s with developmental disabilities, but indeed, all people.

Don’t miss this future funding opportunity for your diverse Pennsylvania community. Subscribe to the Pa DD Council’s mailing list at the following website: [www.paddc.org](http://www.paddc.org).

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

The following trainings will be held on June 21, 2017.

* Crime-Scene Cleanup Expenses Clinic - 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1633235642&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1633235642&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.
* Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic - 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1633235781&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1633235781&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

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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# 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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# Lead Me Home Today

Lead Me Home Today is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to providing resources to educate, assist, and support families and friends who are coping with “missing” persons. According to Project Jason, 2,500 people go missing every day and 850,000 go missing annually. Whatever the cause, no one can capture the horror, frustration, and pain that is felt by those who know and love the missing person. The disappearance is often ambiguous, and the precise cause is never established. To learn more about Lead Me Home Today, please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/Lead%20Me%20Home%20Today%20Brochure%201up%20%20(1).pdf), or visit [http://www.leadmehometoday.com](http://www.leadmehometoday.com/).

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# Reflections From The Field On Victim/Survivor Advocacy

Community-based advocacy to address domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking has grown and transformed, especially since the original passage of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) in 1994. What began as more informal, loosely structured efforts to address and combat domestic and sexual violence has emerged into organized and systemic efforts to prevent, intervene, and end domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. At the heart of these efforts are advocates – individuals working within and for various types of organizations, agencies, and systems - who provide vital information, support, and advocacy to those affected by these forms of violence. Community-based advocates within rape crisis centers, domestic violence programs and shelters, on college campuses, within criminal justice agencies, and in culturally-specific and/or population specific organizations and agencies work directly with victims and survivors while also engaging the systems encountered by and impacting victims (i.e., criminal justice, health care, education, housing, and child welfare systems). Please click [here](https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/936746/download) to read more.

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# Restitution Under The Pennsylvania Human Trafficking Statute (Blog by Stark & Stark)

I am concluding my [Pennsylvania Human Trafficking Statute](http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/LI/consCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&ttl=18&div=0&chpt=30) blog series with important information about restitution to victims. Also, as explained below, pursuant to the statute, victims of human trafficking may be eligible for benefits and compensation under the [Crime Victims Act](http://www.ova.pa.gov/AboutOVA/CrimeVictimsRights/Documents/crime_victims_act%5b1%5d.pdf).

The Human Trafficking Statute provides that the following items may be included in an order of restitution:

1. For the period during which the victim of human trafficking was engaged in involuntary servitude, the greater of the following:

* The value of the victim’s time during the period of involuntary servitude as guaranteed under the minimum wage and overtime provisions of the laws of this Commonwealth.
* The gross income or value to the defendant of the services of the victim.
* The amount the victim was promised or the amount an individual in the position of the victim would have reasonably expected to earn. This clause shall not apply to the amount an individual would have reasonably expected to earn in an illegal activity.

1. The return of property of the victim of human trafficking, cost of damage to the property or the replacement value of the property if taken, destroyed or damaged beyond repair as a result of human trafficking.

In addition, certain assets of individuals, entities, or organizations engaged in planning or perpetrating, supporting, or concealing an act in violation of the statute shall be subject to forfeiture and sale. After payment of expenses of the proceedings for forfeiture and sale, and reimbursement to law enforcement agencies, the balance of the proceeds shall be distributed as follows:

* Thirty percent to the office of the prosecuting attorney to be used to investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases.
* Seventy percent to the [Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Pages/Default.aspx), one-half of which shall be used to fund grant programs and one-half to be used by the Office of Victims’ Services to provide services to victims of human trafficking as set forth in the Crime Victims Act.

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# Enhancing Law Enforcement Response To Children Exposed To Violence

The “Enhancing Police Responses to Children Exposed to Violence” toolkit is designed to equip law enforcement professionals with trauma-informed, developmentally-appropriate tools to identify and minimize threats to child safety, foster closer engagement between law enforcement and youth, and maximize both officer safety and positive outcomes for children and families. The toolkit contains protocols, checklists, and other field-tested and research-informed resources. Please click [here](http://www.theiacp.org/children-exposed-to-violence?ed2f26df2d9c416fbddddd2330a778c6=ydpbpmbvzf-yqpjvzmw) to learn more.

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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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# Answering The Call To Service: The Mark Hudson Story

*“While the devastating effects of domestic violence have gained greater awareness in recent years, the understanding and awareness of men as victims is often misunderstood”*

This short documentary takes a close look at how the life of Mark Hudson, a 26-year old police officer and fire fighter, was tragically cut short as a result of domestic violence and how domestic violence affects too many men in our communities. To watch, please click [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9wVaMAStUYs).

The Lutheran Settlement House is happy to provide organizations with the videos and/or come talk to groups about men who experience IPV. If you are interested, please reach out to Toby Fraser at [tfraser@lutheransettlement.org](mailto:tfraser@lutheransettlement.org).

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# 2017 Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network VOCA Grantee Training

Wednesday, June 7, 2017 8:00am – 5:15pm  
Thursday, June 8, 2017 8:00am – 3:15pm

The Harrisburg Crowne Plaza  
23 South Second Street

Harrisburg, PA 17101

Please plan to join us on June 7 & 8, 2017 for the 2017 Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network VOCA Grantee Training. This training is targeted to all new VOCA Grantees but we welcome all of the Domestic Violence Advocates Community of PA. This training will fulfill the requirements of the 10 hour mandatory VOCA Grantee training but is not just relevant for VOCA Grantees. It was developed in consultation with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. The training agenda will include sessions on:

* Trauma Informed Advocacy.
* Vicarious Trauma to providers of services.
* Confidentiality and Mandated Reporting, Identifying Conflicts of Interest, Referrals and Competent Representation.
* Unique Features of Representing Child and Elderly Victims of Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Including Child Advocacy Centers. The Intersection of Civil Legal Proceedings and Child Protective Services Law.
* Immigration/U-Visas/Language Access/Interpreters, Being Culturally Informed, Including the LGBTQ Community.
* Current Developments in the PFA Law, Strangulation Bill, and Court Decisions Impacting Representation in PFA and PVSI cases, Addressing Temporary Protection Orders In Light of Court Requirements of Due Process. This session will also include discussion of VOCA restrictions on activities including accessibility and off-site delivery.
* A general session on Representing Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.
* Victim-Centered Services In the Context of Petitions Being Filed Directly by the Victim, Sometimes with Advocacy by Shelters, Followed by Appearance of Lawyers, Working from Pleadings Already Filed, and Indirect Criminal Contempt.
* Access to Court Records and Presenting Special Evidence in Court (Rules of Evidence/Social Media).
* Counseling the Client As A Whole, Strategies Regarding PFA Cases and Related Relief Including Custody, Support, Retaining Utility Services, Housing, and Damages/Special Rights for Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

*At least 2 Ethics hours and 8 Substantive CLE Credits will be offered (At no cost to attendees)*

Please click [here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ee07v3vd6d03ca3e&llr=7mhlfkqab) to register online.

For questions contact Kelly Bock Yeckley at [kbockyeckley@palegalaid.net](mailto:kbockyeckley@palegalaid.net) or 717-236-9486, ext. 201.

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# PDAI Training News

**Serving LGBTQ Victims**

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

Butler County Library

218 N. McKean Street

Butler, PA 15129

Presenter: Dr. Kelly Clark from the Q Center at Binghamton University  
Cost: $25.00  
Pizza will be provided for lunch at this training and scholarships are available.

To register for this training, please click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/supporting-lgbtq-victims/).

For information on additional trainings provided by PDAI, please click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/2017-Victim-Services-Training-Save-The-Date.pdf).

The registration fee for one-day trainings is $25.00. No food or beverages will be provided at one-day trainings unless otherwise posted.

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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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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, June 21, 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 14, 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)