**Josh Shapiro**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

October 26, 2016

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Upcoming Events

* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/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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# Meet The Office Of Victim Services Director

Valerie Barbin McMahon has been appointed as the new director of our Office of Victim Services. Ms. McMahon began her career working in the Philadelphia's District Attorney's Office as an Assistant District Attorney. She routinely prosecuted non- jury and jury felony cases, working with community groups, victim advocates and the police department to protect the rights of the public and victims. Following her work in the Philadelphia District Attorney’s office, she was employed by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General in the Drug Prosecution and Forfeiture Unit, the Special Litigation Unit and the Financial Enforcement Unit. She also previously served as Senior Counsel for the Department of Revenue and was trained and served as a mediator for the Office of General Counsel. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Akron and her Juris Doctor degree from the Dickinson School of Law. Ms. McMahon joined OVS on October 17, 2016.

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# October Is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

 The National Resource Center on Domestic Violence has some great resources to help you promote this month! Please click [here](http://www.nrcdv.org/dvam/) for more information.

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# PCADV: 40th Anniversary Conference

Four decades of providing **lifesaving services** to victims and their children, **educating** stakeholders, changing systems through advocacy and **policymaking** at all levels of government is monumental! Join us for a celebration worthy of our history – as we take a look back over the last 40 years to gain a deeper understanding of who we were then, where we are now, and what we envision for the future.

* Honor our roots in the women’s and civil rights movements.
* Celebrate some of the excellent work in communities across this Commonwealth to ensure that the highest quality trauma-informed services are available to any victim who makes the brave choice to reach out for assistance.
* Pledge your commitment to ending domestic violence for the next generation.
* Stand with us as we look, with excitement and anticipation, to what lies ahead for the Coalition and its network of community-based programs.

Don’t miss the opportunity to hear from activist and author **Gloria Steinem**, our featured speaker during the 40th Anniversary Luncheon on Thursday, November 3. Your paid registration includes one ticket to this exciting and inspiring event.

**When & Where:**

November 2-4, 2016
Marriott Lancaster at Penn Square

**Conference Registration and Fees:**
The registration fee is $150/person for the full conference, includes access to all plenary and workshop sessions, the conference app, the 40th Anniversary Luncheon and all other meals and breaks provided during the 3-day event.
A reduced registration fee of $120/person is available to anyone who wishes to attend any one or two days of the conference, includes access to the plenary and workshop sessions, the conference app, and meals and breaks on any one or two days selected for attendance.

**Registration is a 2-step process:**
1. Complete the registration form, and
2. Pay with PayPal or your credit card.

*\*\*Registrants are responsible to make their own hotel reservations.*

For more information, please click [here](http://40anniv.pcadv.org/index.html#about).

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# The YWCA Of Lancaster Is Hosting an Anti-Racism Analysis Event

This 2.5-day intensive workshop will arm participants with a foundational analysis of the systemic and institutional power of racism. Led by a team of local facilitators from Roots of Justice and YWCA Lancaster, participants will come away with a common language and understanding for communicating with others about racism and its manifestations. Participants will also develop working tools to identify and begin to dismantle racism within their respective institutions and organizations.

November 2-4, 2016

Wednesday and Thursday; breakfast at 8am, training 8:30am-5pm

Friday; breakfast at 8am, training 8:30am-1:30pm

A light breakfast will be provided, beginning at 8am each morning. Lunch, light snacks and beverages will also be provided each day.

Please click [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/anti-racism-analysis-tickets-26931500844) to register.

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# 2017 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week Community Awareness Projects

The webinar held last week that described the 2017 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week Community Awareness Projects (CAP) initiative, sponsored by the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators with support from the USDOJ Office for Victim of Crime, is archived [here](http://navaa.org/cap/). CAP will reimburse up to 60 communities $5000 each to support victim/survivor and community awareness activities during 2017 NCVRW, April 2-8.  The deadline to submit applications to NAVAA, also available at this web page, is **Wednesday, October 26, 2016.**

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# MECP: The Intersections Between International Child Abduction And Domestic Violence

The Missing and Exploited Children's Support Program (MECP) invites you to participate in the final webinar in its three-part webinar series titled "The Intersections between International Child Abduction and Domestic Violence."  Dr. Noelle Hunter will lead the webinar discussion on promising practices, reform, and more. You can register for this free webinar, scheduled for **Thursday, October 27, from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm**, by clicking [here](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2253438463190255361).

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# Attention All RASA And VOJO Programs: New Program Reporting Requirements Trainings

As you know, the Rights and Services Act (RASA) and Victims of Juvenile Offenders (VOJO) funding streams were combined into one funding announcement entitled RASA/VOJO 2017-2018 (2016). OVS staff are currently reviewing your submitted applications for these two year projects, which have a start date of January 1, 2017 and an end date of December 31, 2018. These grants have new program reporting requirements as described in the RASA/VOJO 2017-2018 (2016) Funding Announcement.

**OVS staff will be holding WebEx trainings to provide instruction and answer questions regarding these new program reporting requirements.** **The same WebEx Training will be offered on two different dates:**

* **Thursday, December 8, 2016 from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm**
* **Friday, December 9, 2016 from 10:00 am – 11:00 am**

If you wish to participate in either RASA/VOJO New Program Reporting WebEx, please register by clicking [here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) and completing the registration form.

If you have any questions, please contact Vicki McCloskey at vmccloskey@pa.gov or (717) 265-8746 or Maria Katulis at mkatulis@pa.gov or (717) 265-8741.

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

The following trainings will be held on November 8, 2016.

Loss of Earnings Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976972551&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976972551&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

Loss of Support Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976972835&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976972835&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following trainings will be held on November 17, 2016.

Transportation Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976973093&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976973093&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976973394&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976973394&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following trainings will be held on November 21, 2016.

Restitution Basics – 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2973856912&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2973856912&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) 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=2976973607&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976973607&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

Relocation Expenses Clinic – 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976974145&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976974145&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following training will be held on November 29, 2016.

Counseling Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976974325&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976974325&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following training will be held on December 1, 2016.

Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976975509&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976975509&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following trainings will be held on December 6, 2016.

“Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation” – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976975929&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976975929&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

Crime Scene Cleanup Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976976384&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976976384&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

Basic Compensation – 1:00 p.m. –2:00 p.m.  [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976977806&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976977806&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following training will be held on December 12, 2016.

Stolen Benefit Cash Expense Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976976712&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976976712&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following training will be held on December 15, 2016.

Loss of Support Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976977049&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976977049&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

The following trainings will be held on December 20, 2016.

Loss of Earnings Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976977503&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976977503&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

Counseling Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=2976977327&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=2976977327&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) 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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# Compensation Corner – Attorney Fees

A private attorney who assists a claimant in the actual filing and processing of a claim is eligible for no more than $75.00 per hour. Under no circumstances may the award to the attorney exceed 15% of the total award to the victim. If a claim is not awarded, the attorney will not be paid by VCAP, nor can the attorney bill the victim or the claimant.

The victim or claimant can never be billed by an attorney for assisting in the filing of a claim. This not only includes when a claim is not awarded, but also if the attorney charges an amount higher that than paid by VCAP.

Attorney fees are in addition to the award the claimant received and are not included as part of the $35,000 maximum. Therefore, an award a claimant will receive or be eligible for will not be reduced by payment of attorney’s fees.

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# The Darker Side Of Social Networking

This course of instruction covers the essentials every law enforcement officer and member of the judiciary needs to know about Social Networking whether they use it or not. Many individuals are not aware of what a great investigative/intelligence tool it is. Information regarding investigative leads, relationships, communications, photographs, location, etc. is all available and many times is open source. However, Social Networking has also created a number of problems for the Law Enforcement especially in matters of officer safety. Criminal organizations have been caught using officer’s avatars and social networking bios to develop their own intelligence networks. Family members have unintentionally posted photos and postings about an officer that could jeopardize their status in undercover investigations. In addition, without being properly educated many officers find themselves in violation of departmental policies or directives because of comments posted on a social networking site.

This class will introduce the attendees to the basic elements of a social network and cover the following topics:

* Social Networking - a fundamental shift in the way society communicates.
* Just how large is it and how quickly has it grown?
* What are the attributes & elements of a Social Network?
* What are some of the more popular Social Networks?
* What is Geo-tagging and how does it work?
* What can I learn from photos that are posted? What can be learned about me and my family?
* Using Social Networking data as an investigative tool.
* Authenticating the information
* Sexting, Sextortion & Cyber Bullying
* Safety Issues
* Basic Pitfalls
* Counter Surveillance!
* How are Defense Counsels’ using the information?
* How do I set security?
* Other ways to protect yourself & your family!

November 18, 2016

Travelodge Bedford

Bedford, PA

December 1, 2016

Bedford County Courthouse

Bedford, PA

Please click [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/2016-Social%20Networking%20LE%20Course%20Description%20%282%29.pdf) to learn more and to register for this course.

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# Training Announcement: Pennsylvania Protection Orders: Two Acts, One Goal

Protecting victims and their families is the goal of protection orders under both the Protection From Abuse (PFA) and the Protection for Victims of Sexual Violence and Intimidation (PSVI) Acts. Although there are two acts, there are actually three types of protection orders: PFA, SVP, and PFI - each with its own forms, court processes, and PFAD procedures. This training focuses on the important differences in:

• Who is eligible for an order

• What kinds of protections are available

• What qualifying relationships do the parties need

• Where can an individual file for an order

• How to list a minor victim in the caption of an order

• Whether the judge may order firearms surrender

Rachel Haynes Pinsker, JD, PCADV Legal Services Manager, and Karen Galbraith, LSW, PCAR Training Projects Coordinator, will explore the Acts’ complexities, one year after the PSVI Act’s implementation. Steve Griffith, PCADV PFAD Technical Support Technician, will guide you through troubleshooting the various PFAD forms.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:**

Court administrators, PFA office staff, PFAD clerks, judges, prosecutors, children’s advocates, domestic violence advocates, and victim-witness advocates. Ideal for professionals working in the justice system whose role is to provide assistance to individuals coming to the courts for protection. Understanding how protection orders really work can make the job of victim protection and offender accountability easier.

**DATES & LOCATIONS:**

November 16, Holiday Inn Allentown I-78 (Lehigh Valley), 1 pm – 4 pm

7736 Adrienne Drive, Breinigsville, PA 18031, (610) 391-1000

Please click [here](http://iforms.pcadv.net/pods/eventregister.php?id=2T7FM179VAX5FIEMAH3IG3) to register.

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# Keystone Crisis Intervention Team’s Advanced Training

Join us in learning more about special topics in relation to working with those who have experienced a trauma. Keystone Crisis Intervention Team (KCIT) provides group crisis intervention services to communities who have experienced criminal crises.

**December 1: Spiritual Care, and Children and Trauma**

During Spiritual Care you will gain an introductory understanding to Disaster Spiritual Care and how to listen for questions about spirituality while working with trauma victims. During Children and Trauma, learn how traumatic experiences affect brain development and differences in specific development stages.

To register, please click [here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ecttlffme602394a&llr=6nqn8gdab).

**December 2: Ethics, Crisis in the Workplace, and Resiliency**

Start the day by learning more about Ethical Standards for Crisis Responders. In Crisis in the Workplace, you will review elements of a crisis response work plan, policy or procedure that can help you initiate discussion at your business or agency today. End the day with learning how to build resiliency in yourself and encourage it in others.

To register, please click [here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ectz6qlcee42cf50&llr=6nqn8gdab).

Giant Community Center at Linglestown

2300 Linglestown Road Harrisburg, PA 17110

$50 per day

FREE for KCIT members (contact Michelle for code)

For more information on KCIT, please visit <http://www.kcitpa.org/> or email info@kcitpa.org

*This training has applied for approval by the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors for CEUs.*

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# Preventing Domestic Violence Is Everyone’s Business

One of the greatest joys of working on a university campus is being surrounded by young adults full of ambition and promise. One of the greatest heartbreaks is knowing that many of them have been or will be the victims of one of the most serious public health issues of our time—domestic violence. We see the occasional headlines about a celebrity or sports hero accused of hurting or being hurt by a loved one. But the true scope of this public health epidemic is staggering. According to the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6308a1.htm), nearly 29 million U.S. women and 16 million U.S. men have experienced severe physical violence at the hands of an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime. And most of these experiences occur before the age of 25. Please click [here](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/preventing-domestic-violence-is-everyones-business_us_57fcfda5e4b090dec0e71d5c?section=us_women) to read more.

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# New Pew Survey Shows Use of Electronic Offender-Tracking Devices Expands Sharply

The number of accused and convicted criminal offenders in the United States monitored with ankle bracelets and other electronic tracking devices has more than doubled over the past 10 years, according to a survey by my colleagues at the Public Safety Performance Project of The Pew Charitable Trusts.  The survey counted the number of active global positioning system (GPS) and radio-frequency (RF) units reported by the companies that manufacture and operate them, providing the most complete picture to-date of the prevalence of these technologies in the nation’s justice system. The results show:

More than 125,000 people on pretrial supervision, probation or parole were tracked with the devices on a single day in 2015, up nearly 140 percent from the 53,000 reported on the same day in 2005. A sharp increase in the use of GPS technology accounted for all of the growth, more than offsetting a 25 percent decline in the use of RF systems. Despite the overall expansion of electronic tracking, the technology remains relatively rare in U.S. corrections. Please click [here](http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/issue-briefs/2016/09/use-of-electronic-offender-tracking-devices-expands-sharply) to read more.

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# [Pretrial Policy: What States Are Doing To Protect Victims](http://www.ncsl.org/blog/2016/04/25/pretrial-policy-what-states-are-doing-to-protect-victims.aspx)

Recent pretrial legislative actions have focused on risk-based decision making to enhance public safety and reduce unnecessary detention. In cases involving domestic violence and other violent acts, state legislation has included policies designed to enhance protections for potentially vulnerable victims during the pretrial stage of a criminal case. Four major trends have emerged from these new policies. Please click [here](http://www.ncsl.org/blog/2016/04/25/pretrial-policy-what-states-are-doing-to-protect-victims.aspx) to read more.

The National Conference of State Legislators recently published an online video that addresses strategies to protect victims during the pretrial phases of their cases. You can view the video [here](http://www.ncsl.org/research/civil-and-criminal-justice/pretrial-policy-what-states-are-doing-to-protect-victims.aspx).

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# Recognizing Sheriffs’ Offices

**Applications are now being accepted for the 2017 *NSA Crime Victim Services Award*.** The National Sheriffs’ Association (NSA) annually recognizes a Sheriff’s Office that has demonstrated outstanding achievement in support of victims with this award, generously sponsored by Appriss, Inc. Presentation of the 2017 award will be during a plenary session at NSA’s upcoming Annual Conference, June 23-28, 2017, in Reno, NV. The Sheriff and Victim Services Coordinator of the recipient Office will receive an all-expense paid trip to the entire Conference. Applications for the award must be received by NSA no later than December 9th. Please click [here](http://www.sheriffs.org/about-nsa/crime-victim-services-award) for more information.

**The deadline for receipt of nominations by NSA is November 9, 2016.** Nominations should be no more than 10 pages in length, including attachments. Mail nominations to the attention of Tim Woods at NSA (1450 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314). For further information, contact Tim Woods at 703.838.5317 or twoods@sheriffs.org .

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# Scholarships Available for 2016 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 2016 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. Click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/wp-content/plugins/civicrm/civicrm/extern/url.php?u=3845&qid=597339) for the Scholarship Application.

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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, November 9, 2016. If you would like any training events, fund raisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Heather Hewitt at hhewitt@pa.gov by November 2, 2016.

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.

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)