

**Charles Ramsey**

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OVS Newsletter

October 5, 2022

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

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

**Important Information:**

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

**Report Reminders:**

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

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

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

**PCCD Contact Information:**

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

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

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

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# Guns Are Driving Rising Suicide Rates In American Cities

Gun suicide rates in American cities are going up, according to a new analysis of CDC data. The numbers are highest in states with the fewest gun laws.

Please click [here](https://www.governing.com/now/guns-are-driving-rising-suicide-rates-in-american-cities) to read.

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# Violent Victimizations Rose Last Year In Urban Areas

The rate of violent victimization in the U.S. increased from 19.0 to 24.5 victimizations per 1,000 persons in urban areas last year while remaining unchanged in suburban or rural areas, the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics reported [in its annual crime victimization survey.](https://bjs.ojp.gov/library/publications/criminal-victimization-2021)

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

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# A New Blueprint For Expanding Local Antiviolence Efforts

The Brookings Institution essay offers 16 evidence-based policy recommendations that it says may be effective in reducing local violence.

Please click [here](https://www.brookings.edu/essay/a-new-community-safety-blueprint-how-the-federal-government-can-address-violence-and-harm-through-a-public-health-approach/) to read.

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# Justice Department Announces $21.72 Million To Reduce Sexual And Domestic Violence On Campus

The Justice Department recently announced nearly $22 million in upcoming grant awards to address and prevent sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking on college campuses, provide services to youth victims and children exposed to such violence and engage men and boys as allies.

Please click [here](https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-2172-million-reduce-sexual-and-domestic-violence-campus-support) to read.

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# Domestic Violence Awareness Month

From the [National Coalition Against Domestic Violence](https://ncadv.org/2022DVAM) (NCADV), the 2022 DVAM Toolkit offers information and resources you can share with your networks in the month of October and beyond.

Please click [here](https://files.constantcontact.com/febfa643001/bff35b74-8cf0-4312-8778-ff85a72404d1.pdf?rdr=true) to access.

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# I Have The Right

I Have The Right to launched a new website and a nationwide pledge to support student and survivors of sexual assault. [I Have The Right To](https://ihavetherightto.org/about-us/), is the hub for students, parents, and educators looking for information, support, and avenues of action against sexual assault.

Please click [here](https://ihavetherightto.org/sign-the-pledge/) to access.

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# Reforms To Counter Sexual Harassment/Sexual Assault In The Army

The Army recently released a new directive with the stated purpose to implement modifications and recommendations to the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) Program.

Please click here to read.

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# Domestic Violence Awareness Month

In observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2022, the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence, guided by the leadership of the Domestic Violence Awareness Project Advisory Group, is offering a variety of opportunities for engagement this October and beyond. Click [here](https://vawnet.org/sites/default/files/assets/files/NRCDV_DVAP-DVAMFlyer-Sept2022_0.pdf) to learn more.

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# Deaf Awareness Month: Reflecting on Audist Barriers in the Sexual Violence Field

Service providers, advocates, and community partners are aware of the prominent forms of abuse in our society. However, for Deaf/HoH people, there are culturally specific forms of abuse targeted at them with the intent of further isolating them from their loved ones and/or community resources.  Click [here](https://www.thehotline.org/resources/abuse-in-deaf-communities/) to learn more.

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# PCADV Remembers Lives Lost

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence remembers the 112 lives lost to Domestic Violence in Pennsylvania in 2021. Click [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4vh7k7azRg) to watch a video in memory of the victims of domestic violence in PA in 2021.

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# PCADV Releases Annual Fatality Report

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence’s (PCADV) annual Fatality Report has been the single most reliable source for information about domestic violence-related deaths in Pennsylvania for more than 20 years. The report can be found [here](https://www.pcadv.org/resources/fatalities/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=bd2ee10d-44da-4a68-8eef-57ad1171cdfe).

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# Act 77 and Legal Standing for Victims

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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# What Judges, Attorneys, and Prosecutors Need to Know About How VAWA Confidentiality Impacts Discovery in Cases Involving Immigrant Survivors

**October 14, 2022 1:00pm EST**

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) confidentiality offers federal immigration law protections enacted to prevent perpetrators from learning about, interfering with, and obtaining information contained in survivors victim-based applications for immigration relief (VAWA, Battered Spouse Waiver, U and T visa cases). Attendees will receive up-to-date VAWA confidentiality case law; DHS policies, and practice pointers.

Please click [here](https://vawnet.org/events/what-judges-attorneys-and-prosecutors-need-know-about-how-vawa-confidentiality-impacts) to register.

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# Context Is A Key: Recognizing And Responding To Stalking

**October 17, 2022 2:00pm – 3:30pm EST**

Stalking is criminal, traumatic, dangerous and often misunderstood. This webinar provides an introduction to the crime of stalking, focusing on the definition, prevalence, dynamics, behaviors, and intersections with other victimizations (including intimate partner violence). This recurring webinar is offered quarterly to provide foundational knowledge on the crime of stalking.

Please click [here](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_FJxOBqfkTgqciC75A4lBbw) to register.

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# Transforming the Gender-Based Violence Movement: Increasing BIPOC Representation and Actualizing Accountability Project Launch

**October 18, 2022 at 1:00pm EST**

This is your personal invitation to join NRCDV for the “official” launch of the Transforming the Gender-Based Violence Movement: Increasing BIPOC Representation and Actualizing Accountability Project, led by Arlene Vassell, NRCDV’s Vice President of Programs, Prevention and Social Change and Dr. Nkiru Nnawulezi, Associate Professor of Psychology, University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Click [here](https://vawnet.org/events/transforming-gender-based-violence-movement-increasing-bipoc-representation-and-actualizing) to register.

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# Domestic Violence Murder Suicides

**Wednesday, October 19, at 1:00 pm EST**

Murder-suicide incidents account for a disproportionate rate of domestic violence-related deaths nationwide, however services for survivors are limited and rare. After nearly a decade of studying the homicide-suicide connection in fatal incidents of abuse, the State of Georgia has implemented services unique to this population of often overlooked survivors. This workshop will highlight data on murder-suicide, discuss the close ties between domestic violence-related homicide and suicide for the purpose of bolstering prevention efforts, explore the unique needs of survivors, and provide an overview of supportive interventions being cultivated in Georgia and a roadmap for similar implementation in attendees’ home communities

Please click [here](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mEAOedvJR_mxb5UhBRCEOw) to register

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# Intimate Partner Stalking

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

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

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

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# 2022 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice

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

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# Understanding And Confronting CSEC: A Specialized Training For Prosecutors

November 9, 2022 9:00am – 1:00pm

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

Breakfast provided. CLEs pending.

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

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# Victims Compensation Assistance Program Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on October 12, 2022.

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

The following trainings will be held on October 18, 2022.

* Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Loss of Earnings Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

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

All trainings count towards 1 hour of the required RASA/VOCA/VOJO training hours, except Basic Compensation which counts towards 2 and DAVE training which counts towards 2.25.

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

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# Women’s Resources Of Monroe County – Employment Opportunities

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

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# A Woman’s Place – Employment Opportunities

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

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# Safe Berks – Employment Opportunities

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

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# Turning Point Of Lehigh Valley – Employment Opportunities

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

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# Northeast Victim Service – Employment Opportunities

Please click [here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.linkedin.com%2Fjobs%2Fview%2F3223785858%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cledorsey%40pa.gov%7C08df5d69f53b4c1223b508da80910e9e%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637963658492514285%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=eyThhcBmjGRTednCr3gdz8UDfZUrU5aQZgXz7SaLuTU%3D&reserved=0) to see current employment opportunities.

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# Blackburn Center – Employment Opportunities

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

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The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **October 19, 2022**.  If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Lea Dorsey at ledorsey@pa.gov  by Wednesday, **October 12, 2022**.

You have signed up to receive the OVS Newsletter from the Office of Victims' Services.  This newsletter will be sent to you on a biweekly basis via email.  If your email address changes or you would like to be removed from the OVS Newsletter distribution list, please contact Lea Dorsey at (717) 265-8733 or via email at ledorsey@pa.gov.

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Pennsylvania’s [Office of Victims’ Services](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/default.aspx)  |  3101 North Front Street  |  Harrisburg, PA  17110 |

(717) 783-0551

[www.pccd.pa.gov](http://www.pccd.pa.gov)

**PA Crime Victims Website**

[www.pcv.pccd.pa.gov](http://www.pcv.pccd.pa.gov)

**Twitter:** [@PaCrimeCom](https://twitter.com/PaCrimeComm)m.