**Charles Ramsey**

*Chairman*

**Derin** **Myers**

*Acting* *Executive Director*

OVS Newsletter

December 6, 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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# Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute: Employment Opportunity

The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute (PDAI) is seeking a Victim/Witness Training Consultant. This Consultant facilitates the training of victim service providers, both Office of the District Attorney-based and community-based, across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This position description shall not be deemed to be all-inclusive and is subject to change. This is a consultant position. Fee commensurate with experience. For more information, please click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/job-openings/).

If interested, please submit a cover letter, resume and fee requirements by **Monday, December 11, 2017** to:

Richard Long

Executive Director, Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association

2929 North Front Street

Harrisburg, PA 17110

Or via email to rlong@pdaa.org

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# National Center For Victims Of Crime: Employment Opportunity

The National Center for Victims of Crime is seeking a Program Director for its Center for Victim Research. The Program Director will be a dynamic champion of quality response to crime victims, with an interest in promoting the use of research, data, and evaluation by victim service providers. The ideal candidate will be well-connected with the victim advocacy community and have experience with project management. For more information, please click [here](https://victimsofcrime.org/about-us/employment-opportunities#directorCVR).

(Please note: If the link does not open on your browser, please visit <http://victimsofcrime.org/>, click on About Us, and Employment Opportunities.)

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# Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute: Employment Opportunity

The Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute (PDAI) is seeking a consultant to provide oversight to the Pennsylvania Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (PA SAVIN) program.  PA SAVIN provides crime victims and other interested individuals with free, confidential notification regarding an offender’s release, transfer or escape.  This consultant will work exclusively on the county jail-related portion of PA SAVIN.  The contract period will be January 1, 2018-December 31, 2018.  The consulting fee is negotiable based upon experience and capabilities.  This is an ongoing project anticipated to require consultant services beyond 2018. For more information, please click [here](http://www.pdaa.org/job-openings/).

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# Office On Violence Against Women: Apply For Grants For Underserved Populations

This solicitation supports outreach to and services for individuals in underserved populations who are survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Underserved populations face challenges created by lack of availability of culturally relevant services and by marginalization due to geographic location, religion, sexual orientation, gender identify, racial and ethnic identity, or special needs.

Grants funds may be used for a range of activities, such as:

* Develop and implement population-specific outreach materials and victim services
* Increase the ability of organizations to provide outreach and services for underserved populations
* Train and educate community partners and criminal justice professionals

**Register by: January 5, 2017**

**Apply by: January 26, 2017**

Please click [here](https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1012081/download) for the full solicitation.

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# Center For Victim Research: Research-to-Practice (R2P) Fellowship

The Center for Victim Research team is pleased to announce a new effort to encourage collaboration between crime victim researchers and service providers—the **Research-to-Practice (R2P) Fellowship**:

[https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/fellowship-rfp-for-ovc.pdf](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.urban.org%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Ffellowship-rfp-for-ovc.pdf&data=02%7C01%7Cvmcmahon%40pa.gov%7Cc46482b261744494c37108d52ac428cd%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C1%7C636461944352336439&sdata=TK7AJE4cIGmHkrF10srcUgKn2379gaDrVPbm2PvijWI%3D&reserved=0)

This program is part of the newCenter for Victim Research(CVR) funded through the Office for Victims of Crime’s *Vision 21* initiative. CVR is designed to serve as a **one-stop shop** for victim service providers, researchers, and policymakers to connect and share knowledge to increase access to victim research and data and the relevance of research and data collection to victim services nationwide.

The funded R2P Fellowships are intended to establish and/or enhance local- and tribal-level partnerships among victim service providers and researchers and, ultimately, strengthen the evidence base on crime victim services.

We hope you will take advantage of this exciting opportunity. Please forward this announcement to colleagues or subgrantees who might be interested.

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# OVC: Workplace Violence Fact Sheet

Workplace violence is defined as violence or the threat of violence directed at someone on duty or at work. Following a series of high-profile events, workplace violence has been recognized as an organizational, community, and societal issue. While workplace violence ranges from physical assault to robbery to homicide, the most common form of workplace violence is simple assault. Simple assault is defined by the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) as an attack, without a weapon, that results in no or minor injuries (i.e., cuts, scratches, black eyes, or any injury requiring less than two days in the hospital). Compared to violence outside the workplace, workplace violence is fairly rare; however, given the amount of time that Americans spend at work, it is an important subset of crime. Please click [here](https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2017/images/en_artwork/Fact_Sheets/2017NCVRW_WorkplaceViolence_508.pdf) to learn more.

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# Compensation Corner – Doctor Certification For Loss Of Earnings

The Program can consider up to two weeks of loss of earnings immediately after the crime without a doctor certification.  Beyond two weeks we must have certification of the dates of disability and that is as a result of the crime.   Previously the Program could only accept certification for loss of earnings from a medical doctor, psychiatrist, psychologist, or a dentist.  The Program can now accept certification for loss of earnings from a physician assistant or a certified registered nurse practitioner.

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

The following training will be held on December 12, 2017

Restitution Basics - 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/ec3100/eventcenter/enroll/join.do?confId=1632179769&theAction=detail&path=program_detail&siteurl=copa&confViewID=1632179769&internalProgramTicketUnList=null) to register.

Loss of Earnings Clinic – 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic - 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

The following trainings will be held on December 20, 2017

Relocation Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

Crime Scene Cleanup Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

The following trainings will be held on January 4, 2018

Myths of Compensation - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

Counseling Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

The following trainings will be held on January 17, 2018 

 Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

 Transportation Crime Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

The following trainings will be held on January 30, 2018

Basic Compensation - 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

Loss of Support Clinic - 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Click here](https://copa.webex.com/mw3100/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=copa&service=6) to register.

The following DAVE training will be held on December 6, 2017

* DAVE Webex - 1:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. [Click here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcopa.webex.com%2Fcopa%2Fk2%2Fj.php%3FMTID%3Dt734bf02b3a4a9da6eec96191569f7c80&data=02%7C01%7Cdpotter%40pa.gov%7Cddfbfc736bb94a14840308d515824a6e%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636438571699024284&sdata=hZ%2B865FISTuBMSsIlVjDl0G9rgc4D66YmvYeyVCn7Lg%3D&reserved=0) 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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# The Marshall Project: We Are Witnesses

The impact of America’s punishment policies is often measured in numbers: there are now 2.2 million people in our jails and prisons; one in a hundred and fifteen adults is confined behind bars; our inmate population is 4 times larger than it was in 1980. We Are Witnesses, a collection of short videos, offers a very different sort of calculation: the human cost of locking up so many citizens for so many years. The project comprises 19 videos, each between two and six minutes long. Taken together, they present a rare 360-degree portrait of the state of crime and punishment in the United States.

We Are Witnesses eschews politicians and professors in favor of other kinds of experts: people who have had firsthand experience with the criminal justice system. Two police officers, a prison guard, two judges, two parents of a murder victim, four ex-prisoners—each one stares straight at the camera, recounting his or her story. Created and produced by The Marshall Project, a newsroom covering the criminal justice system, We Are Witnesses delivers first-person testimonials that are intimate, honest, and revelatory

Please click [here](https://www.themarshallproject.org/witnesses?utm_source=The+Marshall+Project+Newsletter&utm_campaign=4377ce4bbf-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_10_26&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5e02cdad9d-4377ce4bbf-132745401) to learn more.

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# She Didn’t Fight Back: 5 (Misguided) Reasons People Doubt Sexual Misconduct Victims

She took decades to come forward. She can’t remember exactly what happened. She sent friendly text messages to the same man she says assaulted her. She didn’t fight back. There are all sorts of reasons women who report sexual misconduct, from unwanted advances by their bosses to groping or forced sex acts, are not believed, and with a steady drumbeat of new reports making headlines, the country is hearing a lot of them. But some of the most commonly raised causes for doubt, like a long delay in reporting or a foggy recall of events, are the very hallmarks that experts say they would expect to see after a sexual assault. Please click [here](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/30/us/sexual-harassment-weinstein-women.html) to read more.

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# The Underestimated Cost Of The Opioid Crisis

The opioid drug problem has reached crisis levels in the United States—in 2015, over 33,000 Americans died of a drug overdose involving opioids. CEA finds that previous estimates of the economic cost of the opioid crisis greatly understate it by undervaluing the most important component of the loss—fatalities resulting from overdoses. This paper estimates the economic cost of these deaths using conventional economic estimates for valuing life routinely used by U.S. Federal agencies. It also adjusts for underreporting of opioids in overdose deaths, includes heroin-related fatalities, and incorporates nonfatal costs of opioid misuse. CEA estimates that in 2015, the economic cost of the opioid crisis was $504.0 billion, or 2.8 percent of GDP that year. This is over six times larger than the most recently estimated economic cost of the epidemic. Please click [here](https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/images/The%20Underestimated%20Cost%20of%20the%20Opioid%20Crisis.pdf) to read more.

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# OVW Justice For Families Grant Application Now Available!

The Office on Violence Against Women supports activities that improve the capacity of communities and courts to respond to families impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking, including cases involving allegations of child sexual abuse.

Eligible activities for the Justice for Families solicitation include court-based and court-related programs; supervised visitation and safe exchange by and between parents; training and technical assistance for people who work with families in the court system; civil legal services; provision of resources in juvenile court matters; and development or promotion of legislation, model codes, policies, and best practices.

**Deadlines:**

November 29: Letter of registration due

December 20: Application due

Please click [here](https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1008606/download#Justice%20for%20Families) to download the solicitation.

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# HAVIN Presents David Markel: The Forensics Experiential Trauma Interview

Dave completed his CID-HQE appointment in 2014 and currently offers investigative training and consulting through his own business, Markel Consulting, LLC. Dave is one of the foremost experts in training the Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview ©, a true trauma –informed interview and investigation approach based in the neuro-science of human trauma reactions and best-practice approaches to victim memory and post-assault behaviors.

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Belmont Complex

415 Butler Rd

Kittanning, PA 16201

Registration and Continental Breakfast 7:30 AM—8:00 AM

Training 8:00 AM—4:00 PM (*Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be provided)*

**Topics to be Covered**

* Overview of trauma and the brain
* Forensic Experiential Interview techniques that empower and calm victims, so that they are able to provide more accurate, coherent and consistent narrative
* Develop and apply the interview techniques through participation in a series of scenarios
* Employ the information learned to improve domestic and sexual violence and stalking investigations

**Who should attend?**

* Law Enforcement
* Prosecutors
* Victim Advocates
* Campus Conduct Administrators
* SART Members
* Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners
* Title IX Investigators
* Social Workers
* Caseworkers
* 911 Staff
* Teachers
* Corrections Personnel
* Forensic Interviewers
* Mental Health Professionals
* Medical Providers

Please complete one registration form per participant and forward to: Jen Wingard at jwingard@havinpa.org, or fax to 724-543-7410. You may access the registration form [here](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Documents/David%20Markel%20brochure.pdf).

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# Upcoming Training Opportunities Through PCADV

“Responding to Human Trafficking: Laws, Language and Links”

Human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery that is occurring throughout Pennsylvania.  This training is designed to assist professionals working in the justice system to identify victims of human trafficking, increase knowledge of legal protections for human trafficking victims, understand how language access impacts victims seeking assistance through the courts, and become familiar with both the laws governing languages access as well as the court’s roles and responsibilities for language access.  Court administrators, PFA office staff, judges, prosecutors, children’s advocates, domestic violence and sexual assault advocates and victim/witness coordinators are encouraged to attend.  Location and registration information are below:

**December 12, 2017**

1 pm – 4 pm

Holiday Inn I-78 Lehigh Valley

7736 Adrienne Drive

Breningsville, PA 18031

Please click [here](http://iforms.pcadv.net/pods/handleEventRegistration.php?id=YQAJZ4OT7MDS) to register online.

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# PCAR: Upcoming Training Opportunities Geared For Prosecutors

**Providing Context: Introducing Expert Testimony in Sexual Assault Cases**

Thursday, December 14th, 2017

1:00pm - 2:30pm

FREE WEBINAR

The public has deeply-rooted perceptions about sexual violence and about how victims of sexual assault should behave. The realities of sexual violence are quite different. Experienced professionals, familiar with the dynamics of sexual violence, understand that victims have individual responses to trauma. Without the benefit of a proper explanation, however, jurors may wrongly interpret a victim’s actions during and after an assault as reasons not to believe the victim’s testimony. In 2012, Pennsylvania law changed to permit expert testimony to explain victim behavior in sexual violence cases to assist the jury to make an informed decision based on the evidence, viewed in its proper context. Since statutory reforms have permitted such testimony to be utilized, the question becomes: what’s next for victim dynamic expert testimony in Pennsylvania?

To learn more or to register for this event, please click [here](https://netforum.avectra.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PCAR&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=89e7cef4-007d-4e07-86a5-1fbdc0433dbf).

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# NCJTC: Creating Restorative Justice and Restorative Practice Pathways In Schools, Justice Systems, and Communities: A View From Indigenous And Western Lenses

January 17, 2017

11:00a.m. – 12:30p.m.

Apply different models and their uses in schools, justice systems, and communities. Please click [here](https://ncjtc.fvtc.edu/training/details/TR00000617/TRI0005585/restorative-justice-restorative-practices-webinar-series) to register.

For questions, please contact (855)866-2582 or info@ncjtc.org.

*Each webinar has been approved for 1.5 hours of PCCD Annual Training.*

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# 2018 PCAR State Conference: Call for Workshop Proposals

It is time to submit Workshop Proposals for the 2018 PCAR Statewide Conference! The conference will be held at the Radisson Hotel Harrisburg on July 18th and 19th.

The 2018 theme, Beyond Barriers, is dedicated to advocates and allied professionals who are going above and beyond to reach the underserved. From alternative school prevention programs to curriculums on reaching LGBTQ survivors, your peers around the state are eager to learn how you and your agency are reaching beyond the barriers to address sexual assault. Workshop topics of all varieties and subjects are welcome.

If you are interested in submitting a workshop proposal please click [here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.surveymonkey.com%2Fr%2F2018PCAR&data=02%7C01%7Chhewitt%40pa.gov%7C7e39f593c08a4f82fe6c08d52b73e673%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C1%7C0%7C636462699153391832&sdata=8PcciMwhZH09nNNbQcrI%2F86tf7wm9BbQ3I5l7bAfg0A%3D&reserved=0). The deadline for submissions is **Friday; January 19th, 2018 by 5 pm**. Presenters will receive free registration towards the conference.

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# Community Crisis Response: Compassion, Quality, Responsiveness Conference

Registration is now open for the Community Crisis Response: Compassion, Quality, Responsiveness Conference presented by KCIT. The event is open to anyone with an interest in community crisis response!

May 2nd - 4th, 2018

Ramada Conference and Golf Hotel
1450 S. Atherton Street
State College, PA 16801

**Topics to include:** Grief Trajectory, LGBTQ and Trauma, Vicarious Trauma, ACEs, Disaster Spiritual Care, Autism Spectrum Disorder and Crisis Intervention, Institutionalized Trauma, Body based Interventions, Lessons learned and teaching moments in a crisis.

**Keynotes to include:** Kristina Anderson, a survivor of the Virginia Tech shooting and Frank DeAngelis, principal of Columbine High School at the time of the shooting.

To learn more and to register for this event, please click [here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=6nqn8gdab&oeidk=a07ee943wcp1b1cd611).

Sponsors and Exhibitors wanted—email info@kcitpa.org for more information.

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# Save The Date: 2018 PLAN VOCA Grantee

Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network, Inc. has scheduled the 2018 PLAN VOCA Grantee training for May 23 & 24, 2018 at the Hilton Harrisburg.  Please mark your calendars.

This training will fulfill the PCCD 10-hour CLE annual training requirement for VOCA funded legal staff and is also relevant for any family law practitioners. It will be CLE eligible and there will be no charge.

More information will be forthcoming next year!

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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 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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# The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, December 20, 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 by December 13, 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.

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)