

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION
Victim Issues Subcommittee Draft Minutes

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

10:00am – 11:30am

OPM, 450 Capitol Avenue, Conference Rm 2A, Hartford, CT 06106

Microsoft Teams option available

Meeting facilitators: Liza Andrews Bridget Koestner

Participants: Barbara (Barbie), Curatolo, Linda Cimino, Gerrie Wild, Jessica Pizzano, Mary Kozicki, Gretchen Marin, Emily Burnett, Andre Simons, Marc Pelka, Valina Carpenter, Kevin Neary, BOPP Chairperson Jennifer Zaccagnini, Stephanie Stacy, and Bob Garguilo

1. Welcome, Introductions, Approval of March Minutes (10:00 – 10:05)

- Introduction of Jennifer Zaccagnini, Chairperson of the Board of Pardons and Paroles.
- Approval of March Meeting Minutes (motion made by Liza Andrews and seconded by Marc Pelka)

2. Statewide Victimization Survey Update (10:05 – 10:10)

- Work is continuing on the development of fact sheets contained discrete analysis from the victimization survey.
- A full report containing the analysis is being drafted that is expected to paint a detailed picture of population surveyed.

3. Data Workgroup Update (10:10 – 10:15)

- The group, which has met on a biweekly basis, is assessing data availability, including developing a survey to help understand the current landscape.

4. 2023 Legislative Issues and Updates (10:15 – 11:30)

- State funding request re: reduced VOCA funding
 - OVC reports:
 - VOCA fund balance:
<https://ovc.ojp.gov/about/crime-victims-fund/fy-2007-2023-cvf-balance.pdf>
 - VOCA fund deposits:
<https://ovc.ojp.gov/about/crime-victims-fund/fy-2007-2023-cvf-annual-receipts.pdf>
- Participants provided policy updates:
 - The impact of federal VOCA funding reduction on states, including Connecticut.
 - Expansion of funding in the Appropriations Committee’s proposed budget to help fill Connecticut’s expected VOCA funding gap and to expand GPS monitoring for people with domestic violence charges or convictions.
 - Other discussion.

5. Trends in Criminal Cases (10:30-10:50)

- Victim notification during criminal court proceedings, particularly when a plea agreement is negotiated and finalized.
- Efforts, current and planned, to engage court officials and other stakeholders on victim needs and opportunities to provide increased support to victims.
- Discussion of other participants to invite to future subcommittee discussions of trends in criminal case proceedings.

6. Programmatic Updates (10:50-11:05)

- Members provide updates on their agencies, organizations, or programs.
- Discussion

7. Discussion/Review of Available Grants (11:05-11:20)

- OPM CJPPD shared that:
 - The Byrne JAG funding opportunity is open and accepting applications.
 - A STOP (Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Consultation Committee meeting is happening soon.
 - It is seeking to provide more information to stakeholders regarding federal grant opportunities (including inviting federal program staff to present at the March CJPAC meetings and posting information on its website) including discretionary programs.
 - It recently accepted Byrne SCIP funds and is drafting a program and budget plan.

8. Member Updates and Announcements (11:20-11:30)

- April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month - [statewide events](#)
- Victims' Rights Week is April 23-29 - OVA paint night events on [4/26](#) and [4/29](#)

9. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned (motion made by Marc Pelka and seconded by Liza Andrews) at 11:02 am.