

Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Committee
Victim Issues Subcommittee

April 20, 2022 Minutes

Present: Kevin Neary, Valina Carpenter (OPM), Linda Cimino, Mary Kozicki (OVS), Richard Sparaco (BOPP), Jennifer Rossi (MADD), Liza Andrews (CCADV), Lucy Nolan (CT Alliance to End Sexual Violence), Ebonie Suggs (DOC), Natasha Pierre (OVA)

Lucy called the meeting to order at 10:02am

Welcome and Introductions

- Lucy welcomed everyone and members introduced themselves

March & February Amended Meeting Minutes

- Acceptance of March minutes, with amending of Jennifer's name, and February amended minutes moved by Richard Sparaco, seconded by Linda Cimino; unanimously accepted

Statewide Victimization Survey Update – provided by Linda Cimino & Mary Kozicki, OVS

- OVS staff are currently reading transcripts from individual interviews; reviewed interview report including key findings from interviews
 - So far there seems to be some commonality that victims of violent crimes are not aware of available services such as domestic violence, sexual assault, etc.
 - 75% of victims of non-violent crimes immediately went to police vs 67% of victims of violent crime
 - Both types of victims wish there was more follow-up both from law enforcement and advocates
 - Strong need for legal representation
 - Participants suggested a bigger presence on social media to promote knowledge of services
- 5 focus groups completed
- OVS anticipates being in receipt of the draft executive summary by mid- to late May
- Stakeholder report out meeting June 14th @ 2:00pm

Research & Data Update – provided by Kevin Neary, OPM

- OPM is having preliminary discussions with Judicial Branch about including restraining and protective order data in monthly CJPAC data metrics
 - At the very least OPM is hoping this will include the number of orders issued monthly
 - CCADV discussed some additional restraining order data that they have requested the Branch provide, which the Branch has agreed to provide annually

Sentencing Commission – provided by Lucy Nolan

- Are there victim issues that we could ask the Sentencing Commission to study (e.g., victim input, etc.)?
 - Natasha believes victim issues would be considered by collateral consequences subcommittee

- Natasha reported that restorative justice alternatives continue to come up and victims groups need to discuss where we fall on it with respect to adult victims of crime
 - Rich discussed that there are crimes where it works and crimes where it doesn't; still a gap between retribution and rehabilitation and certainly worth looking into
 - Lucy discussed the value of discussing it as an option but ensuring that its use is dictated by the victim; will place topic on May agenda for deeper discussion

2022 Legislative Session

- Liza updated on VOCA gap funding – Appropriations Committee budget proposal includes one-time ARPA allocation of \$14.8 million to Judicial for FY23 to cover anticipated loss of federal VOCA funding; nothing included for FY24

National Crime Victims' Rights Week

- Natasha provided an update – each morning has a victim sharing their story and afternoons include trainings by victim services nonprofits

Member Updates and Announcements

- None

The meeting adjourned at 10:57.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

May 18, 2022
September 21, 2022
November 16, 2022