

Contact:

Julie Hester, Project Director Meg Garvin, Executive Director National Crime Victim Law Institute 503,768,6819 ncvli@lclark.edu

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Three Rural Locations Will Help Increase Legal Services To Crime Victims

The National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI) was awarded a cooperative agreement from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), to increase access to legal services for rural crime victims leveraging innovative, technological approaches combined with training, outreach and community partnerships. A core aspect of the project includes NCVLI subgranting to three direct service locations in rural communities. Following a competitive selection process, during which NCVLI received applications from 21 states, NCVLI is excited to announce the following three sites have been selected: (1) the Family Violence Institute at Northern Arizona University will operate in Santa Cruz County, Arizona; (2) Montana Legal Services Association will operate in the state of Montana; and (3) South Carolina Victim Assistance Network will operate in seven southeastern counties of that state.

"This project is truly exciting both because each site will uniquely leverage technology to help victims in their communities and because together we can advance the intersection of law and technology to improve victim services," said Meg Garvin, Executive Director of NCVLI.

It is anticipated that the sites will begin serving victims under their Projects in the fall of 2019. Stay up to date on their progress by visiting the Project webpage.

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Founded in 2000, the <u>National Crime Victim Law Institute</u> is a national resource for crime victim lawyers and advocates to support the assertion and enforcement of victims' rights in criminal and civil processes. NCVLI continues to be the only national organization whose mission is focused on enforcement of victims' rights in the courts.