



IN-PERSON CONFERENCE

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON PORTLAND HOTEL

Thursday, November 11

6:30 AM-7:00 AM

Waterfront Walk/Run
Check in the App

7:00 AM-8:00 AM

Wellness Session
Halsey Room

Facilitator: The Honorable Judge Victor Reyes (Ret.)

Celebrating our care for the welfare of others and to self-care, through guided meditation, participants will focus on generating self-compassion, reflecting on accomplishments and appreciating limitations. You will learn some simple seated posture tips along with useful breathwork practices that you can use in your daily lives to improve your overall well-being.

7:00 AM-8:00 AM

Recovery Meeting
Hamilton Room

Facilitator: Jennifer Storm

A space for individuals in recovery from substance use seeking to find a space for connection and recovery.

7:00 AM-5:00 PM

Registration
Lloyd Center Ballroom Foyer

7:30 AM-9:00 AM

Continental Breakfast
Multnomah Grille

Welcome Remarks & Keynote
9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Multnomah Room

How We Can Better Serve Military Victims
Keynote Speaker: Lakeydra Houston



Thursday, November 11

CONCURRENT SESSIONS
10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

When Homicide Happens to One of Us: Insights from Co-Victims and Advocates for Working with Loved Ones of Homicide Victims

Broadway/Weidler Rooms

Speakers: Kim Flournoy DiJoseph, Scott Bass

In this engaging, interview-style session, speakers will unpack and demystify the fundamentals of working effectively with loved ones of homicide victims. Kim, a 25+ year veteran of trauma work, talks openly about her firsthand experience around the murder of her mother, bringing to bear both her perspectives as a co-victim and advocate. Scott brings decades of experience working with individuals, families and communities harmed by homicide as an advocate and therapist. Together, they weave the dual perspectives of personal experience and professional understanding to amplify survivor voices and deepen victim advocates' insights into the complexities of co-victimhood. This session will present a person-centered, empowering, practical, and trauma-informed approach to advocate roles in supporting co-victims. Participants will be invited to bring their experience and wisdom to co-create a dynamic and meaningful dialogue.

Practical Steps & Legal Remedies: Strategies to Improve the Criminal Justice Experience for Crime Victims

Hawthorne/Sellwood Rooms

Speaker: Emily Bonistall-Postel, Dorislee Gilbert

In this interactive session, participants will engage in a visualization and empathy-building activity designed to expose how the justice system can add to the trauma already experienced by crime victims, especially for victims of sexual assault, stalking, and intimate partner violence. Participants will then learn practical, feasible steps and legal remedies that will improve the experience for crime victims throughout the justice process. The primary objectives of the session are: (1) to identify where the justice system fails to protect victims' rights and increases the trauma experienced by victims, and (2) to provide real-life remedies, including communication techniques and litigation strategies, to aid prosecutors and victims' attorneys in improving the criminal justice experience for crime victims.

Thursday, November 11

Safeguarding Victims' Rights: Ethical Considerations in Prosecution
Oregon Room

Speaker: Amy Liu

Prosecutors serve a central role in ensuring that criminal laws are enforced while also ensuring that the rights of all participants in criminal justice--including victims of crime--are afforded. Drawing on NCVLI's decades of experience in the arena of victims' rights nationally, this session will address some of the ethical challenges that prosecutors may face when it comes to victims and the assertion or enforcement of their legal rights. This interactive session will use anonymous polls and hypothetical scenarios drawn from real cases that involve circumstances where the interests of prosecutors and those of victims align, as well as circumstances where they diverge. The presenter will facilitate a discussion that highlights some rules of professional conduct and strategies to help prosecutors safeguard victims' rights without compromising their duty to serve the interests of justice.

Luncheon Plenary
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Luncheon Plenary: Collaboration of a Prosecutor, a Victims' Rights Attorney and an Advocate

Multnomah Room

Speakers: Kevin Steele, Jennifer Storm, Meg Garvin

This session will explore ways that this trio can work in complementary ways to ensure the criminal justice system protects the rights and interests of individuals as well as the community, whether rights and interests align or conflict. Unfortunately, all too often crime victims/survivors have only the prosecutor to protect their needs and interests, even though the prosecutor must represent the interests of the state and the larger community. While there are times when this dual role works without conflict, there are also times when the interests of the state conflict with those of the crime victim, and further there are times when a victim simply needs to have their own voice resonate in our courts separate and apart from other actors. The role of the victim advocate is to provide vital emotional support and navigation of the justice process, to help prepare and stand with the victim for the duration of the court process and beyond. Victim advocates are not attorneys, and while they can speak up for the victims' rights and interests there are limits on their advocacy whether they are system-based or community-based. A victims' rights attorney is a key piece of the criminal justice puzzle that has been missing for too long. A victims' rights attorney does not and cannot act on behalf of the state to hold someone accountable but they do have the training, understanding of the law, and appreciation of its application to meaningfully participate in court processes on behalf of a victim and their rights. Each of these three has a distinct role and whether their roles in any particular case align or conflict, each is critical to a crime victim and an effective criminal justice system.



Thursday, November 11

CONCURRENT SESSIONS
1:30 PM - 2:45PM

Reforming Prosecutorial Immunity

Hawthorne/Sellwood Rooms

Speaker: Tung Yin

Under *Imbler v. Pachtman*, prosecutors have absolute immunity from lawsuits for actions they take as prosecutors. The nationwide protests over Derek Chauvin's killing of George Floyd have opened the door to reform or elimination of the related defense of qualified immunity for police officers in various jurisdictions, but there has been less attention given to absolute immunity. If nothing else, the Jeffrey Epstein debacle has illuminated the need for a cause of action against prosecutors who flaunt the federal Crime Victims' Rights Act.

No Kidding: Navigating Juvenile Courts, Clients and Privacy

Oregon Room

Speaker: Andrea Rufo

Protecting victims' rights is key in all areas of criminal justice, but the juvenile justice system presents a unique set of difficulties, procedures, potential advantages and disadvantages. This session will be divided into two sections. First, it will discuss the specific needs, strategies and concerns for representing victims in juvenile court proceedings which can often prioritize the privacy of the accused juvenile to the detriment of the victim and their rights. Second, it will discuss the specific needs, strategies and concerns when representing a juvenile victim in an adult proceeding including determining who is the client, interaction with unsupportive guardians, protecting records even under mandatory reporting laws, and protecting records of a juvenile that may be held in juvenile court as a result of prior proceedings. The session will focus on how to provide the best advocate counsel representation to victims who intersect with the juvenile court system.



Thursday, November 11

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:30 PM - 2:45PM Cont.

Making Victims' Rights Real Through Legal Services: A Look at Different Models Broadway/Weidler Rooms

Speakers: Terry Campos, Julie Hester, Sarah Ford, Johanna Kononen, Stephanie Richard

The Rights In Systems Enforced (RISE) Project is a national legal service initiative that aims to increase victims' rights assertion and enforcement through funding ten legal clinics (six in 2018 and four in 2020) to represent victims in the aftermath of crime. In this NCVLI-facilitated session, attorneys from three RISE clinics will discuss how their clinics are empowering victims through access to justice. Specifically, the RISE attorneys will share with attendees the key victims' rights issues they have addressed; hurdles they have encountered in accessing justice for victims; and the legal outcomes from their efforts. This session will be interactive, allowing attendees time to ask questions about victims' rights enforcement and the RISE project.

Plenary Session

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

The Future of Victims' Rights Counsel Programs in the Military

Multnomah Room

Speakers Lt. Col. Lauren Shure

Reception

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Reception and End of Day One

Check the App



Friday, November 12

6:30 AM-7:00 AM

Waterfront Walk/Run

Check the App

7:00 AM-8:00 AM

Wellness Session

Halsey Room

Facilitator: The Honorable Judge Victor Reyes (Ret.)

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7:30 AM-9:00 AM

Continental Breakfast

Multnomah Grille

Plenary Session & Awards Ceremony

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Reforming SOL to Ensure Victims' Access to the Courts

Multnomah Room

Speaker: Sarah Klein



Friday, November 12

CONCURRENT SESSIONS
10:15 AM - 11:30 AM

Developing Compassion in the Courtroom

Oregon Room

Speaker: The Honorable Judge Victor Reyes (Ret.)

Exploring the concept of compassion as the way to avoid the empathetic distress that leads to burnout. We will define the different reactions we as humans have to see others in distress and focus on the development of compassion and self-compassion as the means of resolving situations with more wisdom. The session will focus on deploying these tools in the courtroom.

Working Toward Justice for Crime Victims with Disabilities

Hawthorne/Sellwood Rooms

Speakers: Alison Wilkinson, Elizabeth Brownhill

People with disabilities are many multiples of times more likely to be victims of crime than people without disabilities. People with intellectual disabilities may be as much as ten times more likely to experience certain types of crime. Despite the disproportionate number of crime victims with disabilities, they are underrepresented in the criminal justice system. Crimes against them are unreported, under-investigated and rarely prosecuted. This session will examine some of the factors contributing to the high rate of victimization among people with disabilities. Presenters will discuss some of the reasons why crime victims with disabilities are unable to access justice, including societal and systemic barriers. They will then analyze methods that victims and victim service providers may use to better ensure access to justice. The session will include a discussion of the assertion and enforcement of constitutional and statutory victims' rights that are likely to be implicated in the criminal process, including the rights to be heard, to be present, to privacy, and to be treated with fairness and dignity.



Friday, November 12

CONCURRENT SESSIONS
10:15 AM - 11:30 AM Cont.

Expansion of Domestic Violence Special Victims' Counsel Representation in the Military - NDAA 2020: The National Guard

Broadway/Weidler

Speaker: Maj Leah Watson

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2020 requires that military victims' rights lawyers known as Special Victims' Counsel (SVC) and Victims' Legal Counsel (VLC) representation to be expanded to include victims of domestic violence, so long as the accused is subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Additionally, the NDAA requires that those serving as SVC/VLC's receive training in domestic violence, and "appropriate training" on the law and policies of the state/territory where the military installation is located to include victims' rights and protective orders. This session will focus on the implication for expanded representation for victims and systems; how the services are meeting the mandate with emphasis on the National Guard and its distinctions; the required additional training for military counsel and how civilian and military entities can work together.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN
11:30 AM - 1:15PM



Friday, November 12

CONCURRENT SESSIONS
1:15 PM - 2:30 PM

Victims' Right to Privacy in the Criminal Legal System

Hawthorne/Sellwood Rooms

Speaker: Riddhi Mukhopadhyay

Victims are often unaware of their privacy rights when engaging with the criminal system. Some rights are automatic while others must be requested. From the initial law enforcement report, all the way to trial and sentencing, victims' rights can often be misunderstood or neglected by the legal system. In this session, we'll answer questions that may come up throughout the process, including "Do I have to give the police my cell phone?" and "Can I request anonymity?" and "The defendant wants my medical records, can they get them?"

Policy Hackathon, Part 1

Oregon Room

Facilitators: Meg Garvin, Terry Campos with Experts: **Evelyn Fortier and Julie Braun**

During this two part session, attendees—working in small group settings—will harness their collective expertise to craft policy solutions on key victims' rights issues. Policy experts will open the session, joining remotely, to share some key strategy considerations and will be on hand to share expertise as requested. The vision is of a rich discussion and robust development of ideas that can help advance victims' rights policy nationally. Friday's closing plenary will include an overview of each developed policy proposal. The proposals will be added to the Conference App and between Friday and the end of the Conference, the entire community attending virtually and in-person will have a chance to vote on which policy initiative we want to advance! Announcement of the winning policy and policy team will take place during the closing plenary. No policy experience necessary – come and learn. Attendees are recommended to attend both sessions.



Friday, November 12

CONCURRENT SESSIONS
1:15 PM - 2:30 PM Cont.

INTERACTIVE PRACTICAL SKILLS ADVOCACY: Creative Chaos

Broadway/Weidler Rooms

Facilitator: Josh Medina

Despite the fact that victims' rights have been the law for decades, prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges and the public are often unfamiliar with the laws. As a result, victims' rights attorneys and advocates are confronted with illogical, disconnected, and far-fetched objections when they assert victims' rights. In the face of these objections, even the most seasoned victims' rights attorneys and advocates find themselves temporarily speechless. In this interactive sessions attorneys and advocates will draw on exercises and approaches from improv to develop and practice effective ways to talk about victims' rights and respond to even the wildest of oppositions. Join this creative chaos and hone your skills! This session is independent of the session of the same name in the next breakout block.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS
2:45 PM - 4:00 PM

Policy Hackathon Part 2

Oregon Room

Facilitators: Terry Campos with Experts: Evelyn Fortier and Julie Braun

This is a continuation of Part 1



Friday, November 12th

CONCURRENT SESSIONS
2:45 PM - 4:00 PM Cont.

INTERACTIVE PRACTICAL SKILLS ADVOCACY: Creative Chaos

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How to Integrate Victims' Voices into Legislative Work

Hawthorne/Sellwood Rooms

Speaker: Jennifer Storm

Meaningful victims' rights policy work must start with crime victims and survivors. How do victim service agencies engage them in a way that is meaningful and not exploitive? How can victim service agencies ensure victims and survivors are at the table but not tokenized? This session will discuss ways that victim service agencies can meaningfully integrate victims and survivors into their policy efforts to create meaningful change in our field. This session will discuss methods of engagement, skill-building concepts and real-life case scenarios of integrating the voice of victims and survivors. Victims' rights must be led by the victims and survivors impacted.



Friday, November 12

CLOSING PLENARY
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Who is a Victim Under the Crime Victims' Rights Act

Multnomah Room

Speaker: Paul Cassell

This session will look at the foundational issue of who is considered a Victim for purposes of the federal Crime Victims' Rights Act. The presenter will discuss and analyze recent case law in the federal system (as well as some analogous state cases) addressing the issue of who can assert "Victim" rights.

Reception
5:15 PM - 6:00 PM
(Check the app for location)



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

6:30 AM-7:00 AM

Waterfront Walk/Run
Check in App

7:00 AM-8:00 AM

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Continental Breakfast
Multnomah Grille



CONCURRENT SESSIONS
9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Bridging the Gap: Civil and Criminal Victims' Rights Lawyers Partnering to Better Serve Survivors

Hawthorne/Sellwood Rooms

Speaker: Kevin Biniazan

In the aftermath of crime victims may have to navigate civil, criminal or administrative justice systems or all of these. While lawyers develop expertise in one system or the other, to best serve crime victims we must work to ensure that legal expertise does become a silo. Every lawyer serving crime victims must be familiar with complementary justice systems in order to timely spot issues and opportunities; meaningfully counseling of victim-clients requires no less. In this session, the presenter will discuss how tort lawyers and victims' rights lawyers working in criminal justice can become collaborators in this work.

When an Undocumented Child is the Victim: Immigration Landscapes for Victim Advocates

Broadway/Weidler Rooms

Speakers: Marisa Peterson, Melissa Orizondo, Pamela Nickell

This session will give non-immigration advocates an understanding of the different agencies in the immigration landscape of children, and who may be involved when that child is the victim of a crime in the United States. This includes the Office of Refugee Resettlement shelters for unaccompanied children, immigration court, and USCIS. The presenters will provide insight into what seeking a U-Visa involves in order to help victims' rights advocates both inform their clients of their rights and understand the shortcomings.



CONCURRENT SESSIONS
10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Protecting Military Victims' Rights with Language Interpreters

Hawthorne/Sellwood Rooms

Speakers: Captain Irene Liscano, Captain Joline Doedens-Combs

This session will describe a victim's experience throughout the process of litigating a sexual assault or domestic violence case in the military justice system, and the role of Special Victims' Counsel (SVC)/Victims' Legal Counsel (VLC) in that process. Presenters will highlight the need for qualified language interpreters for victims in military investigations and courts-martial. While most state and federal civilian courts have a system to certify and provide qualified court interpreters, the military does not. Linguistic communication barriers can threaten these victims' rights under the Uniform Code of Military Justice if there are no qualified interpreters available to communicate with prosecutors, defense attorneys and their assigned SVC/VLCs. Presenters will also discuss the history of the SVC/VLC programs, fundamentals of language interpreting, the court interpreter certification process, how SVCs/VLCs can obtain an interpreter at different stages of the military justice process, what the current military laws, regulations and case law stipulate for the use of court interpreters, some military and federal case law rulings involving court interpreters, and tips to work with court interpreters, both certified and not certified.

Victims' Rights and Services After the Offender is Sentenced to Prison

Broadway/Weidler Rooms

Speakers: Lydia Newlin, Jeralita "Jeri" Costa

There are myriad issues faced by victims and survivors long after the offender enters prison. Victims' needs and rights continue after the offender is sentenced, through the incarceration period, at the time of community reentry/release planning, and during the parole/community supervision period. In FY 2017, the National Association of Victim Assistance in Corrections (NAVAC) was awarded a 3-year grant by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) to conduct a broad gap analysis of post-conviction victim services provided by corrections and paroling authorities nationwide and to develop overall recommendations to better meet the needs of victims post-conviction. In this session, the NAVAC project team will present the findings and recommendations of the Post-Conviction Victim Services National Gap Assessment and an overview of the varied post-conviction victim services provided by post-conviction agencies. Presenters will facilitate discussion on how to expand collaboration to improve services for victims along the entire criminal justice continuum.



CLOSING PLENARY
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Closing Keynote Luncheon Plenary Session: LGBTQ Victims' Rights: Improving Military & Civilian Response

Multnomah Room

Speaker: Charlotte Clymer

This Concludes Our 2021 Crime Victim Law Conference, thank you!
See you in June 2022.

Don't forget to download the [Whova App](#) for the full conference experience and access to agenda updates, group meet-ups, travel, logistics, Covid Waiver, games, prizes & more.