

**MINUTES**  
**Connecticut Advisory Council for Victims of Crime**  
**November 15, 2022**

The Connecticut Advisory Council for Victims of Crime met via Microsoft Teams.

**Members in Attendance:** Co-Chair Judge Laura F. Baldini, Co-Chair Yvette Young, Nilda R. Havrilla, Amy Lupoli, Irene Mikol, Marc Pelka, Susan Omilian, Lee Ross, Ebonie Suggs, Andrew Woods

**Members Excused or Absent:** Lisa D'Angelo, Bob Garguilo, Beth Hamilton, Jessica Pizzano, Deborah Witkin, Gerrie Wild

**OVS Staff in Attendance:** Linda J. Cimino, James Morgan, Jean M. Weisbrod

**Guest in Attendance:** Leah Haas, Michael Snyder

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome and Announcements

Co-Chair, Judge Laura Baldini, opened the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

Judge Baldini thanked CT-N for their coverage of this meeting and reminded Members that the meeting is being recorded and will be available for viewing on the Judicial Branch YouTube Channel.

Council Members and OVS Staff introduced themselves.

2. Approval of October 4, 2022, Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved as amended.

3. Statutory Charge

Judge Baldini reviewed CGS (§) 54-203(b)(9).

4. Victimization Survey Update

Linda Cimino reported:

The Judicial Branch, on behalf of the Office of Victim Services, entered a contract with Market Decisions Research in 2021 to conduct a state-wide victimization survey.

The goals were to establish a state-wide baseline for crime victimization, understand the barriers that prevent victims from receiving services, and provide a focused understanding of victim's needs.

Phase One deployed 11,990 surveys to residents across the state and 1,230 were completed. Data collected included demographics such as race/ethnicity,

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age, household income, gender, and education attainment and the results were compared to the American Community Survey.

The following statistics regarding victimization were provided:

Occurred in Hartford	16%
Occurred in New Haven	15%
Occurred in their own home	37%
Occurred in friends, relatives, or neighbors' homes	16%
Occurred on the Internet	14%
Occurred on highways or streets	57%

The following statistics regarding the crime experience by respondents were provided:

Identified as being directly or indirectly impacted by violent crime	58%
Identified as being directly or indirectly impacted by non-violent crime	63%
Identified as being directly or indirectly impacted by other crime	17%
Reported direct victimization	85%
Reported indirect victimization	15%

The following statistics regarding violent crime were provided:

Victim of harassment or threats	28%
Victim of domestic violence	25%
Victim of physical assault	24%
Victim of sexual assault	17%
Victim of child sexual abuse	12%

The following statistics regarding non-violent crime were provided:

Victim of vandalism	28%
Victim of identity theft	25%
Victim of larceny or theft	22%

The following statistics regarding other crime were provided:

Victim of DUI	28%
Victim of credit card theft, injustice from police, discrimination due to disability, petty theft, stalking	25%

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The following statistics regarding the number of occurrences of victimization were provided:

Victimized once	43%
Victimized twice	20%
Victimized three times	18%
Ongoing victimization	19%
Ongoing violent crime victimization	33%
Ongoing non-violent crime victimization	4%
Ongoing other crime victimization	1%

Updates on Phase Two and Three will be provided at upcoming meetings.

5. Victim of Crime Act Funding Update

James Morgan reported:

The Director for the Office for Victims of Crime provided a monthly update on the Federal Crime Victims Fund.

The federal fiscal year ended on September 30. Deposits into the Federal Crime Victims Fund for the year totaled \$822 million. This is a 6% increase compared to the previous fiscal year; however, it should also be noted that only \$8 million was collected for the month of September 2022.

The fund balance in the Fund as of September 30 is \$1.499 billion dollars. This is a 25% decrease compared to the previous federal fiscal year.

The President's requested allocation for FFY 2023 is \$1.75 billion, leaving a difference of \$250 million that will need to be covered by FFY 2023 current year revenues.

The federal budget for FFY 2023 is operating under a continuing resolution until mid-December and has not yet been finalized. It is not known if the FFY 2023 requested allocation will be changed based on the current fund balance, or if future budgeting will be impacted.

OVS will keep the Council up to date with the status of the federal crime victim's fund.

6. New Business

Council Members discussed beginning an ongoing conversation regarding data sharing about victimization. They discussed which information is important and ways to collect the data.

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Collaboration

Andrew Woods reported on the Connecticut Commission on Community Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention and how input was being sought to include in a report to be delivered to legislators by December 31, 2022.

He also shared that he would be willing to share the results at the next Council meeting along with an update on the Violence Prevention Services Under Medicaid.

Good news

Linda Cimino reported that Program Manager Rachel McKnight worked closely with three annuity companies to transfer \$140,000 of victim compensation funds that were invested by OVS on behalf of minor victims in the 1970s-1980s to the annuitants.

Yvette invited Council Members to provide a presentation about their agency and their services at future meetings. Amy Lupoli volunteered to present at the February Council meeting.

7. Adjournment

Yvette adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Jean M. Weisbrod, Recorder