

CT Judicial Branch's Office of Victim Services Celebrates 40 Years of Service

The Connecticut Judicial Branch's Office of Victim Services (OVS) will celebrate 40 years of services to victims of crime at an anniversary celebration on Tuesday, Jan. 8, from 10 a.m. until noon. The event will occur in Room 2D of the Legislative Office Building.

Highlights of the event will include summaries of the various responsibilities of the Office of Victim Services, including compensation to crime victims and advocacy on behalf of crime victims in court. OVS also operates a helpline for crime victims; oversees grants to nonprofit agencies providing services to crime victims; manages the Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners Program; and also manages the Connecticut Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification System.



“Our OVS is among the finest in the nation and has helped thousands of individuals deal with the traumatic aftermath of violent crime,” Chief Court Administrator Patrick L. Carroll III said. “Connecticut is lucky to have such a fine service for crime victims, and the Judicial Branch is proud of the work that OVS does. What is especially commendable is how OVS has evolved over the years to meet the needs of the people they serve.”

Statistics illustrate the important work of OVS:

- Approximately 40,000 compensation applications have been received over the past 40 years;
- Approximately \$84 million in victim compensation has been awarded over the past 40 years;
- Approximately 155,000 victims received support and advocacy during the criminal justice process over the past 40 years;
- Since July 2017, \$134 million was awarded to nonprofit agencies to provide direct services to crime victims;
- The Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners Program launched in 2010, with more than 1,500 responses to participating hospitals;
- The Connecticut Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification System has had approximately 90,000 registrations for notification and provided 650,000 notifications since launching in 2009.

For further information regarding the event or about OVS, please contact the External Affairs Division at 860-757-2270.