

CRIME VICTIMS' SERVICES DIVISION ★ CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS SECTION
TASK FORCE ON VICTIMS' RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT
MEETING MINUTES



Date: Monday, October 26, 2015

Committee: **Task Force on Victims' Rights Enforcement**

Attendees: Rosemary Brewer, Debra Bridges, Juliet Britton, Steve Doell, Matt English, Jeff Kosmicki, Kim Larson, Denise Pena, Michele Roland-Schwartz, Chanpone Sinlapasai-Okamura, John Stein, Terry Thompson, Kristin Wings-Yanez
Guests: Robyn Varner, David Factor, Daniel Parr, Ross Caldwell

Phone Attendees: Brad Berry, Johanna Costa, Thomas Hunt, Ingrid MacFarlane, Ronelle Shankle

Staff Attendees: Shannon Sivell, Helen O'Brien, and Sherree Rodriguez

Introductions and welcome – Helen O'Brien

Minutes - The group reviewed and adopted the July 27, 2015 minutes.

Odyssey/eCourts and Crime Victims' Rights – Daniel Parr/David Factor

Daniel Parr, Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) Communication and Outreach Manager, and David Factor, OJD Staff Counsel, presented a comprehensive overview of the OJD eCourts system. The purpose of this new software is to provide better access, information and outcomes to the judicial system and agencies serving crime victims. Implementation will tentatively be complete in every county by end of June 2016. See Power Point attachment.

Group concerns include victim confidential information security, and eCourts interface with the Juvenile Justice system.

3194 Update focus on 137.633 – Ross Caldwell

Ross Caldwell, Justice Reinvestment Liaison, Criminal Justice Commission (CJC), provided an update on the early release. Currently approximately 25 probationers earn early discharge per month. CJC expects numbers to increase next year. Concerns raised by the Task Force centered upon inconsistency of victim notification between counties in Oregon, which can put victims at risk. Ross will return for the January meeting to provide further updates.

ACTIONS:

- Shannon will address concerns with Steve Berger, incoming president of Oregon Association of Community Corrections Directors.
- Brad may put this on the Oregon District Attorneys Association meeting agenda.

Update on Number and Type of Rights Violations in Oregon – Rosemary Brewer

The Task Force congratulated Rosemary on her new role as Executive Director of Oregon Crime Victims Law Center. Rosemary shared a sampling of 45 cases of victims' rights violations from a few counties this year. The group discussed a possible presentation on victims' rights at future judicial conferences.

Victims' Rights Request Form (VRRF) Language Changes – Helen O'Brien

Helen outlined some recommended changes to the VRRF. The group provided feedback. Helen will invite input from DAVAP directors. The taskforce will revisit this discussion in the next meeting.

Updates and Goals: Task Force and Subcommittees

Immigrant Crime Victims' Rights Subcommittee – Chanpone Sinlapasai

The group congratulated Chanpone on her recent Excellence in Immigration Award. Matt English shared about a clinic conducted in Hood River this fall, with a very successful participation. Multiple agencies collaborated to provide information on immigrant rights, with an emphasis on labor trafficking. The subcommittee goal is to repeat this in about six months.

There have been some problems with immigrants who are victims of violent crimes not having their rights honored through Immigration and Custom Enforcement/ law enforcement communication lapses.

Juvenile Justice Subcommittee – Terry Thompson

The subcommittee has recently conducted a statewide county survey in order to develop a best practice of juvenile crime victims' rights. There are some areas of broad agreement and practice, as well as several gaps. Seantel has created a flowchart of processes in place. The group is working to incorporate suggested areas of agreement into the Best Practice document. Currently there a general lack of knowledge of the system, with no victims' rights training in place. The group is discussing a possible training module at the next OJDDA conference to address this need.

Best Practice – Rosemary Brewer, Johanna Costa, Helen O'Brien

Helen, Rosemary and Johanna are working on a Best Practice paper: Honoring Victims' Right to be Heard at Time of Sentencing.

ACTION: Helen will send out a draft for this group and VAP Directors' review. She will incorporate input into the revision for review at next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00pm.