



Attorney General's Task Force on Victims' Rights Enforcement
Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2025; 1:30 to 2:40 pm
Teams Video Meeting

Attendees: Rachel Berry, Alison Bort, Rosemary Brewer, Johanna Costa, Saydyie DeRosia, Daniel Diamond (for Paul Geark), Matt English, Susana Escobedo, Meg Garvin, Wendy Lang, Hon. Andrew Lavin, D.A. Kate Lynch, Robyn Masella, Helen O'Brien, Sarah Purce, Greg Rios, John Robb, Nathan Shepherd, Stephanie Stocks, Carrie Walker
Absent: Paul Geark, Kimberly Rose, Shannon Sivell, D.A. Nathan Vasquez
Minutes: Sherree Rodriguez

Welcome and Introductions – The group welcomed new members: District Attorney Kate Lynch, of Yamhill County, and District Attorney Nathan Vasquez from Multnomah County, who was unable to be present. In addition, Rachel Berry now represents Disability Rights Oregon, and Sgt. Daniel Diamond is holding space for Oregon State Police until the summer meeting.

Minutes – The minutes from the October 28, 2024, meeting were approved by the group.

PSRB Civil Commitment System update – Alison Bort

~ The Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB) has a robust rules advisory board who are reviewing ORS 426.701-702 regarding extremely dangerous persons with a mental disorder. Currently there are 45 such persons at the Oregon State Hospital in this category. The law is written in such a way as to expose crime victims to frequent hearings, which can be re-traumatizing. They are working on improving victim notifications.

~ District Attorney Victim Assistance Programs (DAVAP) are responsible according to statute, for providing advocacy to victims in this category, which is not always clearly understood. PSRB is working to create a training for the VAPs on this subject. There is one set to go live in February.

~ PSRB is reclassifying a position to provide broader support as a victim liaison with VAPs.

Uniform Trial Court Rules (UTCR) – Helen O'Brien

There are five items to present to the UTCR Committee. John Robb will provide a point of contact to the committee for the group.

NCVLI Conference update – Meg Garvin

The conference is scheduled for May 19-21. There are usually around 300 participants from around the country. Air Force representation will be present.

House Bill (HB) 3443 Bias Crime Training for VAPs & Sanctuary Promise – Johanna Costa

~ In the 2023 legislative session, HB3443 passed with updates for victims of bias crimes and incidents. Legislature determined ODOJ must provide training for VAP advocates to better



serve victims of hate and bias. The training has been created, currently for DAVAP advocates only, and is placed in Workday as the training platform. There are a number of reference materials provided as part of the training that advocates can share with deputy DA's and law enforcement.

~ For the last several months, the Civil Rights Unit has received many requests for training in sanctuary law and the hotline. The sanctuary promise webpage has a [toolkit for community members](#) to learn about sanctuary law. The governor's office has required state agencies to complete training on compliance with Oregon sanctuary law in Workday.

VISOR Update – Saydyie DeRosia

Department of Corrections (DOC) is working on getting the parole board into the victim notification system. The parole board has not completely switched over but are moving in that direction. DOC is in discussions with two other agencies to incorporate their data as well. Other states have or may be switching to same vendor. DOC continues to work with counties to gather their data into VISOR as much quickly as possible. Delays tend to be related to workload issues in the counties.

Subcommittee Updates

Immigrant Crime Victims' Rights – Sarah Purce

~ The group is reviewing and updating the Immigrant Crime Victim Relief Options brochure in 2025.

~ They have a new member from Multnomah County DA's office.

Juvenile Justice – Wendy Lang, Susana Escobedo

~ The Oregon Adolescent Sex Offender Treatment Network has their 40th annual conference on the calendar. The Juvenile Justice subcommittee has been asked to provide a presentation at the conference. They will discuss crime victim rights and the impact of the system on victims. There will be an emphasis for victims and survivors who live in the same household, as the survivors often don't get the same amount of support as a juvenile offender. As a result of a "call to action" when the Juvenile Justice committee provided a victims' right presentation at the Oregon Juvenile Department Directors Association conference, several juvenile departments are currently working on interagency agreements with DA Offices.

~ OYA has hired a second advocate. They are working with other counties to collaborate on a smooth transition from pre-adjudication to post-adjudication. They are working on the notification process.

Post Conviction – Saydyie DeRosia

~ They are working on a best practices document for the Oregon Association of Community Corrections Directors (OACCD).

~ Other work includes a statistics collection agreement and the Lane County Victim Advocacy Expansion and new policy.

~ They sent out a survey to OACCD, regarding what parole officers would like information about related to victim services. 22 of 36 counties responded. They plan to conduct a September training for directors and will choose the top two subjects from the survey to focus on.



~ Advocates who work in community corrections offices are collecting stats about the type and number of services they provide to elevate the need for advocacy within this system.

Best Practice – Helen O'Brien

They are deciding what to focus on; and are considering civil commitments, note taking, or working with victims in sex offender cases.

Bench Card – Kimberly Rose/Helen O'Brien

~ Oregon Judicial Department is expected to release a new SharePoint site on criminal law for judges and court staff, including bench cards and model practices. The victim rights bench card will be published, and it will be updated for consistency with the rest of the site. Judge Lavin will provide feedback.

~ Training is underway for new staff. This will include modules for pre-trial release and criminal law. This project will be completed later this year.

~ Staff in the office of court administrators are working to update the bench book on criminal law. Information about crime victim rights is woven throughout it. It's expected to be completed later this year.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm