

Accessing Information:

OVC Resource Center And Other Services

VICTIMS' RESOURCES IN THE INFORMATION AGE

The development of new information technologies -- most notably the growth of the Internet -- has dramatically changed the way in which information on crime victims' issues is being made available to researchers, advocates, and practitioners. As recently as a dozen years ago, the availability of this information was greatly limited by the lack of centralized collection and distribution. Moreover, the form of the information was generally limited to paper documents that required considerable effort to locate and obtain. Today, however, victims and victim service providers can instantly access an enormous store of information specific to the entire range of their personal and professional concerns -- information that includes statistics; model programs and protocols; grant funding sources; and local, state and national referrals to professional organizations in the victim-serving community. Importantly, this information is available wherever and whenever it is needed -- in homes, shelters and offices; in the middle of a trial; or in the middle of the night. For victims and victim service providers, this new information access begins with the Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center and the National Criminal Justice Reference Service.

Established in accordance with recommendations of the 1982 President's Task Force on Victims of Crime, the United States Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) serves as the chief advocate for our nation's crime victims, promoting fundamental rights and comprehensive services for victims of crime throughout the United States. OVC's information clearinghouse, the Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center (OVCRC), a component of the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS), is on the forefront of these new information technologies, and is aggressively using them, as well as the NCJRS Catalog of publications and videotapes, to deliver timely and relevant information to the victim-serving community. Since coming "online" in 1994, NCJRS and OVCRC have developed a variety of online services to benefit the victim assistance professional -- World Wide Web page; Justice Information (*JUSTINFO*) Electronic Newsletter; and E-Mail Information and Help Line. Together with other electronic access features -- including telephone and online document ordering, and fax-on-demand -- NCJRS and OVCRC have truly made a "quantum leap" forward in fulfilling their mission of "bringing the right information to the right people . . . right now."

ACCESSING NCJRS AND OVCRC ONLINE

NCJRS Online can be accessed in the following ways:

NCJRS World Wide Web Homepage

The homepage provides NCJRS information, as well as links to other criminal justice resources from around the world. The NCJRS Web page provides information about NCJRS and OJP agencies; grant-funding opportunities; full-text publications; key-word searching of NCJRS publications; access to the NCJRS Abstracts Database; the current *NCJRS Catalog*; and a topical index. The address for the NCJRS Homepage is <<http://www.ncjrs.org>>.

Justice Information (JUSTINFO) Electronic Newsletter

This free, online newsletter is distributed to your Internet e-mail address on the 1st and 15th of each month. JUSTINFO contains information concerning a wide variety of subjects, including news from all Office of Justice Programs (OJP) agencies and the Office of National Drug Control Policy; criminal justice resources on the Internet; criminal justice funding and program information; and announcements about new NCJRS products and services. To subscribe, send an e-mail to <listproc@ncjrs.org> with the message *subscribe justinfo your name*.

E-Mail: Information and Help

Users requiring technical assistance or having specific questions on criminal and juvenile justice topics can **send** an e-mail to <askncjrs@ncjrs.org>. To place an order for publications, users may send an e-mail to <puborder@ncjrs.org>.

Partnerships Against Violence Network (PAVNET)

PAVNET Online is a searchable database containing information about hundreds of promising programs and resources, providing users with key contacts; program types; target populations; location; project startup date; evaluation information; annual budget; sources of funding; and program description. Users may go directly to the site at <www.pavnet.org>.

OTHER NCJRS ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SERVICES

Fax-on-demand

NCJRS has established a "fax-on-demand" service which allows the user to obtain copies of selected NCJRS documents directly through their own fax machine, using a toll-free telephone number. To access the fax-on-demand menu, simply call 1-800-851-3420, and follow the prompts.

CD-ROM and Online Access to the Abstracts Database

Users with CD-ROM capability can also obtain the NCJRS Abstracts Database on CD-ROM. This disc features citations and abstracts of more than 140,000 criminal justice books, research reports, journal articles, government documents, program descriptions, program evaluations, and training manuals contained in the NCJRS Research and Information Center library collection. The

disc also contains search software that supports retrieval using any combination of words to search individual fields or all fields globally. The disc can be searched using "free text" methods, or in combination with the National Criminal Justice Thesaurus. In addition, the NCJRS Abstracts Database is available on the NCJRS Homepage at <<http://www.ncjrs.org/database.htm>>. Details are available by calling NCJRS at (800) 851-3420.

VICTIM-RELATED INTERNET SITES

Crime victims and victim service providers have witnessed a remarkable growth in the amount of information available to them, through the continued development of the Internet -- especially the World Wide Web. Now, victim-serving agencies and advocacy organizations have the ability to reach around the corner or around the world with information about new issues, services, and promising practices designed to improve the welfare of victims of all types of crime. In an effort to present the most comprehensive and timely information available through this vast medium, the Office for Victims of Crime has substantially revised its World Wide Web homepage. OVC encourages crime victims and victim service providers alike to visit this comprehensive resource, located at <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/>>.

Many other agencies and organizations are now providing victim-related information through the World Wide Web. The following is a list of sites on the Web that contain information on selected crime victimization topics. Please note that this list is intended only to provide a sample of available resources, and does not constitute an endorsement of opinions, resources, or statements made therein.

Federal Agencies/Resources

Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)	http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA
Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)	http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/
Community-Oriented Police Office (COPS)	http://www.usdoj.gov/cops/
Dept. of Health and Human Services Grantsnet	http://www.os.dhhs.gov/progorg/grantsnet/index.html
Department of Justice	http://www.usdoj.gov
Department of the Solicitor General	http://www.gov.nb.ca/solgen/index.htm
FBI Uniform Crime Reports - Statistical Data	http://www.lib.virginia.edu/socsci/crime
Federal Bureau of Prisons	http://www.bop.gov
Federal Judicial Center	http://www.fjc.gov/
Government Information Online, GovBot	http://bacchus.fedworld.gov/Search_Online.html
National Archive of Criminal Justice Data	http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/home.html
National Domestic Violence Hotline	http://www.usdoj.gov/vawo/newhotline.htm
NCJRS Justice Information Center	http://www.ncjrs.org
National Institute of Corrections (NIC)	http://www.bop.gov/nicpg/niccd.htm/
National Institute of Justice (NIJ)	http://www.ncjrs.org/nijhome.htm
Nonprofit Gateway	http://www.nonprofit.gov

Office of Justice Programs (OJP)	http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov
Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention	http://www.ncjrs.org/ojdp/
Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)	http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/
Office of National Drug Control Policy Information Clearinghouse	http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov
Partnership Against Violence Network (PAVNET)	http://www.pavnet.org
THOMAS: Federal Legislation	http://thomas.loc.gov
U.S. Department of Education - Campus Security and Safety	http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/index.html
U.S. Parole Commission	http://www.usdoj.gov/uspc/parole.htm
Violence Against Women's Office (VAWO)	http://www.usdoj.gov/vawo/index.html
Violence Against Women Grant Office (VAWGO)	http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawgo/

National Victim-related Organizations

American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law	http://www.abanet.org/child/
American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children	http://child.cornell.edu/APSAC/apsac.home.html
Child Abuse Prevention Network	http://child.cornell.edu
Childhelp USA	http://www.childhelpusa.org
Childquest International	http://www.childquest.org/
Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS)	http://www.nationalcops.org
Family Violence Prevention Fund	http://www.fvpf.org/fund/index.html
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)	http://www.madd.org
National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)	http://www.missingkids.org/index.html http://www.ncvc.org
National Center for Victims of Crime (formerly National Victim Center)	http://www.gwjapan.com/NCEA/
National Center on Elder Abuse	

National Children's Alliance	http://www.nncac.org
National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information	http://www.calib.com/nccanch
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence	http://www.webmerchants.com/ncadv/default.htm
National Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NCASA)	http://www.ncasa.org
National Court Appointed Special Advocates Association	http://www.casanet.org
National Fraud Information Center	http://www.fraud.org
National Insurance Crime Bureau	http://www.nicb.org
National Children's Alliance	http://www.nncac.org/
National Victims Constitutional Amendment Network (NVCAN)	http://www.nvcn.org
National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA)	http://www.try-nova.org
National Victim Assistance Academy (OVC)	http://ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/assist/vaa.html
National Victim Assistance Academy (VALOR)	http://www.nvaa.org
Neighbors Who Care	http://www.neighborswhocare.org
Parents of Murdered Children (POMC)	http://www.pomc.com
Safe Campuses Now	http://www.uga.edu/~safe-campus/
Security on Campus	http://www.soconline.org/
Victims' Assistance Legal Organization (VALOR)	http://www.valor-national.org

National Criminal Justice- and Public Policy-related Associations

American Correctional Association (ACA)	http://www.corrections.com/aca
American Correctional Health Services Association	http://www.corrections.com/achsa/
American Jail Association (AJA)	http://www.corrections.com/aja

American Probation and Parole Association (APPA)	http://www.appa-net.org
Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA)	http://www.asca.net
Center for Sex Offender Management	http://www.csg.org/appa/csom.html
Correctional Education Association	http://sunsite.unc.edu/icea
Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators	http://www.csc-scc.gc.ca/
Council of State Governments (CSG)	http://www.csg.org
Higher Education Center Against Violence and Abuse	http://www.umn.edu/mincava/
National Association of Counties (NACo)	http://www.naco.org
National Center for State Courts (NSSC)	http://www.ncsc.dni.us
National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)	http://www.ncsl.org
National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics	http://www.search.org
National Council on Crime and Delinquency	http://www.nccd.com/
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges	http://www.ncjfcj.unr.edu/
National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA)	http://sso.org/ncja/ncja/htm
National Governors Association	http://www.nga.org/
National Judicial College	http://www.judges.org
National Indian Justice Center	http://www.nijc.indian.com/

National Sheriffs Association	http://www.sheriffs.org/index.html
Office of Correctional Education	http://www.ed.gov/offices.OVAE/OCE/
Southern Poverty Law Center	http://splcenter.org

State-level Victim Assistance Agencies

Arizona Department of Public Safety	http://www.state.az.us/dps/voca/
California Criminal Justice Planning	http://www.ocjp.ca.gov/index.html
Colorado Division of Criminal Justice	http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/cdps/dcj/ovp.htm
Delaware Criminal Justice Council	http://www.state.de.us/govern/agencies/cjc/victim.htm
Florida Attorney General's Office - Crime Victims Services	http://legal.firn.edu/victims/index.html
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Agency	http://www.icjia.org/about.html
Iowa Department of Justice	http://www.state.ia.us/government/ag/cva.html
Kansas Attorney Generals Office	http://lawlib.wuacc.edu/ag/victims.html
Kentucky Attorney General's Victims' Advocacy Office	http://www.law.state.ky.us/victims/Default.htm#Top
Maryland Office of the Attorney General	http://www.oag.state.md.us/Victim/rights.htm
Massachusetts Attorney Generals Office	http://www.state.ma.us/ag/ago7.htm
Minnesota Dept. of Public Safety Crime Victim Services	http://156.98.194.206/cvshome.html http://www.state.mn.us/ebranch/corr/vsu/vsuforms.htm
[Program forms]	
Missouri Department of Public Safety	http://www.dps.state.mo.us/dps/programs/grants.htm
New Hampshire Attorney Generals Office	http://www.state.nh.us/oag/vw.html
New Mexico Crime Victims Reparations Commission	http://www.state.nm.us/cvrc/
New York Attorney Generals Office	http://www.oag.state.ny.us/crimevt.html
Ohio Attorney General's Office Crime Victim Services	http://www.ag.ohio.gov/crimevic/cvassist.htm
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency	http://www.pccd.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/PCCD/victim/victims1.htm
South Carolina Ombudsman	http://www.netside.com/~ae4fa/ombtext.htm

Wisconsin Office of Crime Victim Services [Resource Directory]	http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/derene http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/derene/referral.htm
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State Crime Victim Compensation Programs

Natl Assoc. of Crime Victim Compensation Program Directory	http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/here/compdir
Arizona Department of Public Safety	http://www.state.az.us/dps/voca/compensa.htm
Arkansas Attorney General's Office Outreach Division	http://www.ag.state.ar.us/division.htm#outreach
California Board of Control	http://www.boc.cahwnet.gov/Victims.htm
Colorado Div. of Public Safety Office of Victims Programs	http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/cdps/dcj/ovp.htm
Florida Attorney General's Office - Crime Victims Services [Application]	http://legal.firn.edu/victims/compensation.html http://legal.firn.edu/victims/vic_comp.html
Illinois Attorney General's Office	http://www.acsp.uic.edu/~ag/victim/vcva.htm
Idaho Industrial Commission	http://www.state.id.us/iic/crimevic.htm
Iowa Dept. of Justice Crime Victim Assistance Division	http://www.state.ia.us/government/ag/cvcform.htm
Kansas Attorney General's Office	http://lawlib.wuacc.edu/ag/compensation.html
Kentucky Cabinet for Public Protection and Regulation	http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/ppc/agency.htm#claims
Massachusetts Attorney General's Office	http://www.state.ma.us/ag/ago7.htm
Minnesota Crime Victims Reparations [Application]	http://156.98.194.206/crimevic/crimevic.html http://156.98.194.206/crimevic/repclaim/repclaim.html
Mississippi Crime Victim Compensation Program	http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/crime/letter/letter1.html
Missouri Department of Labor and Industry Relations	http://www.dolir.state.mo.us/wc/dolir6f.htm

New Hampshire Victim's Assistance Commission	http://www.state.nh.us/oag/nhvac.html
New Jersey Victims of Crime Compensation Board	http://www.state.nj.us/victims/ http://www.state.nj.us/victims/vccbappl.pdf
[Application; PDF format]	
New Mexico Crime Victims Reparations Commission	http://www.state.nm.us/cvrc/ http://www.state.nm.us/cvrc/brochure.pdf
[Application; PDF format]	
New York Crime Victims Board	http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/ils/cvb1.html
North Carolina Victim and Justice Services	http://www.dem.dcc.state.nc.us/vjs/cvcp0.htm
Ohio Attorney General's Office Crime Victim Services	http://www.ag.ohio.gov/crimevic/cvout.htm
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency	http://www.pccd.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/PCCD/victim/victims1.htm
Rhode Island Treasury	http://www.state.ri.us/treas/vc_info.htm
[Application]	http://www.state.ri.us/treas/vc_appl.htm
South Carolina Office of Victim Assistance	http://www.leginfo.state.sc.us/man97/stategov/state172.html
Tennessee Claims Administration Division	http://www.state.tn.us/other/dag/compfund.htm
Utah Office of Crime Victims Reparations	http://www.justice.state.ut.us/CVRrept.htm
Texas Office of Attorney General	http://www.oag.state.tx.us/WEBSITE/CRIMINAL/cvc_prog.htm
[Application]	http://www.oag.state.tx.us/WEBSITE/CRIMINAL/cvc_app.txt
Wisconsin Crime Victim Rights (Unofficial)	http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/derene/cvc.htm
[Application: PDF; MS Word]	http://www.mailbag.com/users/derene/cvcapp.pdf http://www.mailbag.com/users/derene/cvcapp.doc
Washington State Department of Labor and Industries	http://www.wa.gov/lni/workcomp/crime.htm

Federal and State Corrections, Victim Service Units, Sex Offender Registries, Etc.