



**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

**Maryland State Board of Victim Services 2019  
Annual Report**

*Criminal Procedure Article § 11-914(1), Chapter 205 of 2014  
(Senate Bill 922); Criminal Procedure Article § 11-915(b)(5),  
Chapter 10(2) of 2001 (Senate Bill 1)*

**Larry Hogan**  
Governor

**Boyd K. Rutherford**  
Lt. Governor

**V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.**  
Executive Director  
Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention

Submitted by:  
Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention

Contact: Anthony Barauskas  
410-697-9382 | [Anthony.Barauskas@Maryland.gov](mailto:Anthony.Barauskas@Maryland.gov)

December 31, 2019  
MSAR # 10140 | MSAR # 12143

# Table of Contents

<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Roster of Members</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Background</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Accomplishments</b>	<b>8</b>
Annual Statewide Memorial Services	8
Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference	8
Roper Victim Assistance Academy of Maryland	9
<b>Recommendations to the Governor</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Key Initiatives</b>	<b>11</b>
Victims' Rights Compliance Initiative	11
Crime Victim Mandated Pamphlets and Forms	13
<b>Grant Programs</b>	<b>14</b>
Maryland Victims of Crime Fund	14
Legal Services for Crime Victims Fund	14

## **Acknowledgements**

This *Maryland State Board of Victim Services 2019 Annual Report* is the result of hard work, valuable input, and dedication from numerous stakeholders. Everyone was generous with their time and supportive feedback. Their participation in the Maryland State Board of Victim Services, as well as their feedback, suggestions, and recommendations were invaluable for the final report. The completion, timeliness, and comprehensiveness of this report would not have been possible without their efforts.

# Roster of Members

Pursuant to § 11-912 of the Criminal Procedure Article, the Maryland State Board of Victim Services is composed of various members, and a Chair and Vice-Chair appointed by Governor Hogan.

**Governor Larry Hogan**  
Governor of Maryland

**V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.**  
Executive Director, Governor's Office of  
Crime Control and Prevention

**Steven J. Kelly, Esq., Chair**  
Sanford Heisler Sharp, LLP

**Barbara Bond, Vice-Chair**  
Attorney General's Office

**Sam Abed**  
Secretary, Department of Juvenile Services

**Anne T. Bean**  
Service Provider, Cecil County Department  
of Social Services

**Timothy Caprio**  
Public Member, Survivor

**Lou Gieszl**  
Administrative Office of the Courts

**Robert L. Green**  
Secretary, Department of Public Safety and  
Correctional Services

**Theresa Hiegel**  
Service Provider, Frederick County Sheriff's  
Office

**R. Gary Hofmann, III**  
Maryland Sheriffs' Association, Queen  
Anne's County Sheriff's Office

**Molly Knipe**  
Service Provider, YWCA of Annapolis and  
Anne Arundel County

**The Honorable Anne Colt Leitess, Esq.**  
Anne Arundel County State's Attorney

**Steven Levin, Esq.**  
Chair, Criminal Injuries Compensation  
Board

**Adam Lippe, Esq.**  
Public Member, Baltimore County State's  
Attorney's Office

**Lourdes Padilla**  
Secretary, Department of Human Services

**LaJoy Preston**  
Maryland Police Chiefs Association, Prince  
George's County Police Department

**The Honorable Joe Riley, Esq.**  
Caroline County State's Attorney

**Jill Ritter**  
Public Member, Washington County State's  
Attorney's Office

**Alonzo Robertson, Esq.**  
Public Member, Maryland Crime Victims'  
Resource Center, Inc.

**Lisa Smith, Esq.**  
Service Provider, Maryland Public Service  
Commission

**Lisa Spicknall-Horner**

Public Member, Mothers Against Drunk  
Driving (MADD)

**Jeanne Yeager**

Public Member, Mid-Shore Council on  
Family Violence

Maryland State Board of Victim Services  
Alternate Representatives

**Bonnie Ariano**

Department of Human Services

**Barbara Darley**

Governor's Office of Crime Control and  
Prevention

**Jessica Dickerson**

Department of Juvenile Services

**Lisae Jordan, Esq.**

Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault

**Patricia Stevens**

Department of Public Safety and  
Correctional Services

## **Executive Summary**

In accordance with §§ 11-914 and 11-915 of the Criminal Procedure Article, the Maryland State Board of Victim Services (Board) is charged to continue its mission to ensure victims of crime receive justice and are treated with dignity, respect, and compassion through comprehensive victim services. Through its charge, and under the leadership of Chair Steven Kelly, Esq., Sanford Heisler Sharp, LLC, Vice-Chair Barbara Bond, Attorney General's Office, and staff from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (Office), the Board continued to partner with victim service providers; local communities; executive, legislative, and judicial branches of State government; and the federal government to better serve Maryland's victims of crime.

To address its charge, the Board continued to improve the treatment for victims of crime by working with criminal justice agencies and private non-profit organizations, creating and expanding innovative initiatives, and welcoming feedback and suggestions from individuals and communities across the State.

Pursuant to §§ 11-914(1) and 11-915(b)(5) of the Criminal Procedure Article, this *Maryland State Board of Victim Services 2019 Annual Report* includes information on the activities of the Board, the administration of funds to victims of crime, and specific recommendations to improve the treatment and services for Maryland's victims of crime.

## Background

Recognizing the unique and distinctive needs of crime victims, the Maryland General Assembly created the Board and the position of the State Coordinator in 1987. This was done for the purpose of monitoring, assessing, coordinating, and making recommendations concerning state and local efforts to assist victims of crime. The Board's mission is to ensure that all crime victims in Maryland are treated with dignity, respect, and compassion during all phases of the criminal justice process.

In 1991, under the authority of the Office, the Maryland General Assembly created the Maryland Victims of Crime (MVOC) fund to provide funding support for victim services. In 2007, the Legal Services for Crime Victims (LSCV) fund was created by the Maryland General Assembly to provide Maryland crime victims the opportunity to have legal representation in the criminal court system. The Board makes funding recommendations to the Office, which administers and manages the MVOC and the LSCV grant projects.

Pursuant to § 11-914 of the Criminal Procedure Article, and under the authority of the Executive Director of the Office, the Board shall:

- Submit to the Governor an annual written report of its activities, including its administration of the MVOC fund;
- Monitor the service needs of victims;
- Advise the Governor on the needs of victims;
- Recommend the appointment of the Victim Services Coordinator to the Executive Director;
- Review and approve the Victim Services Coordinator's plans and annual reports, and the Victim Services Coordinator's implementation, operation, and revision of programs;
- Approve or disapprove each grant application submitted by the Office;
- Advise the State's Attorneys' Coordination Council on the adoption of regulations governing the administration of the Victim and Witness Protection and Relocation Program established under § 11-902 of this subtitle;
- Advise the State's Attorney's Coordinator on the administration of the Victim and Witness Protection and Relocation Program;
- Develop pamphlets to notify victims and victim's representatives of the rights, services, and procedures provided under Article 47 of the Maryland Declaration of Rights or State law, how to request information regarding an unsolved case and how to request that an offender be placed on electronic monitoring or electronic monitoring with victim stay-away alert technology, including:

- One pamphlet relating to the Maryland Electronic Courts (MDEC) system protocol registration process and the time before and after the filing of a charging document other than an indictment or information in circuit court; and
- A second pamphlet relating to the time after the filing of an indictment or information in circuit court; and
- Develop a notification request form and an MDEC system protocol in consultation with the Administrative Office of the Courts, through which a victim or victim's representative may request to be notified under § 11-104 of this subtitle.

Furthermore, and in accordance with § 11-915(b)(5) of the Criminal Procedure Article, the Victim Services Coordinator shall, under the authority of the Executive Director, submit to the Governor, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, and the Board an annual report that includes recommendations on how to improve victim assistance programs.



# Accomplishments

## Annual Statewide Memorial Services

In partnership with the Victim and Witness Divisions of the State’s Attorneys’ Offices, the Office and the Board sponsor four regional memorial services each year during the National Crime Victims’ Rights Week. The memorial services feature inspirational speakers, musical performances, and quiet reflection which honor over 4,000 crime victims of homicide, vehicular manslaughter, and missing crime victims and their families. These memorial services provide a safe, supportive, and trustworthy space for families of crime victims to congregate and share their stories. Many advocates, who strive to serve victims of crime, help to coordinate the memorial services because they understand the importance of a positive outlet for families to cope with their grief and honor their lost and loved ones. The regional memorial services are geographically divided throughout the State (*as illustrated below*).

<b>Eastern Region</b>	<b>Western Region</b>	<b>Southern Region</b>	<b>Northern Region</b>
Caroline	Allegany	Calvert	Anne Arundel
Dorchester	Carroll	Charles	Baltimore City
Kent	Frederick	Prince George’s	Baltimore
Queen Anne’s	Garrett	St. Mary’s	Cecil
Somerset	Montgomery		Harford
Talbot	Washington		Howard
Wicomico			
Worcester			

On April 7, 2019, Anne Arundel County, Caroline County, Carroll County, and St. Mary’s County State’s Attorney’s Offices hosted the *30th Annual Statewide Memorial Services*.

## Maryland Crime Victims’ Rights Conference

The Office and the Board held the *Fourth Annual 2019 Maryland Crime Victims’ Rights Conference* on April 11, 2019, during the National Crime Victims’ Rights Week. The free one-day conference offered over 400 crime victim service professionals the opportunity to listen, learn, and network with speakers and peers as it relates to emerging victim issues and innovative approaches to empower victims.

At the *2019 Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference*, Lieutenant Governor Rutherford presented a Victim Assistance Awards to three “Maryland citizens who went above and beyond the call of duty to assist crime victims.”<sup>1</sup>

- Alice Oaks of Survivors Against Violence Everywhere (S.A.V.E.) received the Vincent Roper Memorial Award in recognition of outstanding work to secure crime victim justice for all in a quiet and selfless manner.
- Angela Brooks of TurnAround Inc. received the Henry Gleim Memorial Award in recognition of outstanding services to crime victims and those who work to serve them.
- Debbie Feinstein, Esq. of the Montgomery County State’s Attorney’s Office received the Virginia Mahoney Award in recognition of a prominent state leader or high-ranking official who has epitomized true leadership in support of victims’ rights.

The *2019 Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference* also held nine workshops which consisted of various topics, such as victims’ rights, serving special victim populations, mass violence, animal abuse and domestic violence, language access, victim notification, and more.

## Roper Victim Assistance Academy of Maryland

The Office also supports the *Roper Victim Assistance Academy* (Academy) which offers two levels of training, basic and advanced, to victim service professionals in Maryland. The basic training consists of a 40-hour standardized multidisciplinary academic curriculum designed for newer professionals, and is conducted as a one-week residential program. In 2019, the one-week basic training program (June 3, 2019 - June 7, 2019) served as the 16th Academy and resulted in 44 professional graduates. The Academy also offered five advanced training sessions in which 177 participants completed the training.

All training provided by the Academy are nationally approved and certified for professional certification units and university credits. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and university credits for both the basic and advanced training programs are also offered by the Academy.

The Maryland Victim Assistance Certification Program is also offered by the Academy, and is available in three certification levels to coincide with years of experience and training. In FY 2019, 16 individuals received a certification (either Level I certification, Level II certification, or Level III certification).

---

<sup>1</sup> Governor’s Coordinating Offices. (2019). [\*Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford Opens 4th Annual Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference, Presents Governor's Victim Assistance Awards.\*](#)

## Recommendations to the Governor

Pursuant to §§ 11-914(1) and 11-915(b)(5) of the Criminal Procedure Article, and under the authority of the Executive Director, this *Maryland State Board of Victim Services 2019 Annual Report* includes information on the activities of the Board, the administration of victims of crime funds, and specific recommendations to improve treatment and services available for Maryland's victims of crime (*as illustrated below*).

**Recommendation 1:** Support Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) for courts, custody, parole, probation, and sex offender alert line services.

**Recommendation 2:** Include victim advocates in the planning and implementation of providing services to victims during a mass violence incident.

**Recommendation 3:** Maryland should be a leader in the effort to assist the underserved population of crime victims, children, persons with disabilities, older adults, individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP), marginalized communities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning (LGBTQ) individuals, through outreach, training, and the encouragement of state and local agency collaboration.

**Recommendation 4:** Expand training resources and availability for victim advocates and victim assistants throughout the State.

**Recommendation 5:** Maryland should develop long term strategies to meet the financial needs of crime victims. Provisions should be made to increase the collection of costs imposed on convicted defendants in District and Circuit Courts that are distributed into the MVOC fund and the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund. Increased revenue would address the mounting need that is necessary to continue supporting crime victims through services and compensation, statewide trainings, federal and state policies, technology, and public awareness and community outreach.

All recommendations support the overall goal of enhancing victims' ability to be aware of services, safe, and self-sufficient.

# Key Initiatives

## Victims' Rights Compliance Initiative

The Board and the Office established the *Victims' Rights Compliance Initiative* (Initiative) in April 1999 in an effort to remedy crime victims' rights violations. The goal and objectives of the Initiative is to improve the criminal justice system's response to victims of crime through systematic improvements of services provided to victims; and to give victims the option to voice their concerns and seek system response when they feel that their statutory rights have been violated at any point in the criminal justice system.

In support of this Initiative, the Office advises criminal justice agencies on victims' rights. The Office promotes and facilitates voluntary, efficient, and effective compliance with laws; analyzes agency implementation practices, policies, procedures, and tools; and recommends and resolves complicated questions and problems between victims and service providers in a non-adversarial manner. More specifically, the Office responds to calls, letters, and emails received from crime victims across the State alleging violations of various crime victims' rights, seeking referrals for direct services, and looking for information and explanations about the criminal justice process. Some of these examples include:

- Frustration with the lack of (or limited) criminal justice agency responses to the crime;
- Confusion about and/or failure to be informed of filing of nolle prosequi by prosecutors;
- Lack of information regarding case status;
- Delay in processing and/or denial of claims by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board;
- Nonpayment of restitution by offenders granted probationary sentences or parole; and
- Lack of notification of offender's parole, violation of probation, and release from incarceration.

In FY 2019, the Victim Services Program Manager, who serves as the Victim Services Coordinator, responded to 121 calls, letters, and emails from crime victims in the State regarding complaints or request for services (*as illustrated below*).

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Number of Complaints/Request for Services</b>
Anne Arundel	7
Baltimore	11
Baltimore City	19
Calvert	1
Carroll	4
Cecil	3
Frederick	5
Harford	4
Howard	5
Kent	1
Montgomery	5
Prince George's	13
Washington	3
Worcester	1
Unknown	39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>121</b>

The Office seeks to refer victims with active cases to appropriate advocacy groups or responsible agencies, and to examine what occurred in cases which have been completed. As a result of these efforts, the Office received and addressed numerous victim contacts (*as illustrated below*).

	<b>Referrals</b>	<b>Number of Referrals</b>
<b>Closed Matters</b>	Commission on Civil Rights	2
	Criminal Injuries Compensation Board or other financial assistance	19
	Department of Disabilities	2
	Department of Human Services	6
	Department of Juvenile Services	3
	Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services	6
	Federal Bureau of Investigation	3
	Law Enforcement Agency	14
	Courts	4
	Office of the Attorney General	2
	State's Attorney's Office or other legal assistance	37
	Transitional Housing Services	2
	Victim Assistance Organization	30
	<b>TOTAL*</b>	<b>134</b>

\*The total number of referrals is greater than the number of complaints/requests for services because several victims received referrals to multiple organizations and agencies.

## Crime Victim Mandated Pamphlets and Forms

Pursuant to Article 47 of the Maryland Declaration of Rights, § 11-914 of the Criminal Procedure Article, and other statutory provisions, the Board developed two pamphlets to ensure that a victim’s right to be informed is upheld by law enforcement personnel, commissioners or juvenile justice intake workers, and state’s attorneys.

With the enactment of “Amber’s Law” ([Chapter 643 of 2017](#)), individuals have received the opportunity to request reasonable protections for the safety of an alleged victim or the victim's family. The Board developed the brochure, *Maryland Crime Victims: Requesting Protections for Safety*, to inform victims on how to request that an offender be placed on electronic monitoring or electronic monitoring with victim stay-away alert technology.

In addition, and since October 1, 2017, the Maryland Parole Commission is required to notify a victim of an eligible inmate’s administrative release eligibility date, the victim’s right to request an open hearing, and the victim's right to submit written testimony concerning the crime and the impact of the crime on the victim. The *Crime Victims and Witnesses: Your Rights and Services* and the *Your Rights as a Victim in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Process* brochures have been updated to reflect this right of victims.

As illustrated below, **271,450** crime victim mandated materials have been distributed throughout the State, between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019.

<b>Primary Agency Responsible for Distribution Crime Victim Mandated Pamphlets/Form</b>	<b>Language</b>	<b>Quantity Distributed</b>
Law Enforcement ( <i>Crime Victims and Witnesses: Your Rights and Services</i> )	English	189,150
Law Enforcement ( <i>Crime Victims and Witnesses: Your Rights and Services</i> )	Spanish	45,100
Law Enforcement ( <i>Maryland Crime Victims: Requesting Protections for Safety</i> )	English	2,500
State’s Attorney’s Office ( <i>Your Rights as a Victim in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Process</i> )	English	27,250
State’s Attorney’s Office ( <i>Your Rights as a Victim in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Process</i> )	Spanish	2,000
State’s Attorney’s Office ( <i>Crime Victim Notification and Demand for Rights Form</i> )	English	5,450
State’s Attorney’s Office ( <i>Crime Victim Notification and Demand for Rights Form</i> )	Spanish	0
<b>TOTAL Quantity Distributed</b>		<b>271,450</b>

# Grant Programs

## Maryland Victims of Crime Fund

Chapter 561 of 1991 created the MVOC fund as a source of revenue to allow the Board to ensure implementation of the Declaration of Crime Victims' Rights Amendment to the Maryland Constitution, as well as the Guidelines for Treatment of and Assistance to Crime Victims and Witnesses, and other laws adopted to benefit victims and witnesses of crime.<sup>2</sup>

The primary purpose of this fund is to provide advocacy and support services to victims of crime to develop and enhance existing programs that serve victims of crime in Maryland. In 2019, the Office released the *FY 2020 Maryland Victims of Crime (MVOC) Fund NOFA* which identified the following priorities:

- Direct services for victims of crime;
- Victim service providers in law enforcement;
- Victim/witness service providers in state's attorney's offices;
- Enhanced services and support for child advocacy centers; and
- Enhanced services to crime victims that aid and promote the distribution of mandated brochures and educate them on their rights according to Maryland law.

Through FY 2020 MVOC funds, the Office awarded \$600,000.

## Legal Services for Crime Victims Fund

Chapters 125 and 126 of 2007 created the LSCV grant program under § 11-919 of the Criminal Procedure Article to provide victims of crime the opportunity to have legal representation in the criminal court system. Through this grant program, funds are received from unclaimed restitution to protect victims' rights as provided by law. The Division of Parole and Probation, and the Department of Juvenile Services collect court-ordered restitution from adult defendants and juvenile respondents for subsequent distribution to crime victims.

The primary purpose of this grant program is to ensure that the money obtained from unclaimed restitution is used for annual grants to provide legal counsel to victims of crime and delinquent acts, and to protect the victims' rights as provided by law. This supports the Office's objective to improve victim services for Maryland residents.

Through FY 2020 LSCV funds, the Office awarded \$75,000.

---

<sup>2</sup> Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention. (2012). [\*Maryland State Board of Victim Services Manual \(Rev. 2012\)\*](#).