Maryland State Board of Victim Services Meeting
Staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy
Wednesday, January 29, 2025
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Participating Members:
Steven J. Kelly, Esq, Chair
Heather Amador for Executive Director Dorothy Lennig, Esq, Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy
Anne Bean, Cecil County Department of Community Services
Tiffany Bright for Attorney General Anthony Brown, Office of the Attorney General
Gina Cirincion, Esq., State's Attorney for Washington County
Laura Clary, Greater Baltimore Medical Center
Dawn Collins, Survivor Advocate
Anne Colt Leitess, Esq., State's Attorney for Anne Arundel County
Jessica Dickerson for Secretary Vincent Schiraldi, Department of Juvenile Services
Lou Gieszl, Administrative Office of the Courts
Karin Green, Chair of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board
Sheriff Gary Hofmann, Queen Anne's County Sheriff's Office, Maryland Sheriff's Association
Jonah Hornum, Survivor
Deputy Chief Laura Lanham, Hyattsville Police Department, Maryland Police Chiefs Association
Tara Newcomer for Secretary Rafael Lopez, Department of Human Services
Jill Ritter, Washington County State's Attorney's Office
Alonzo Robertson, Esq., Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center
Shardal Rose, Baltimore Police Department
Lisa Spicknall, Donate Life Maryland
Patricia Stevens for Secretary Carolyn Scruggs, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Peaches Wilson, Montgomery County Trauma Services

Guests:
Stephanie Erdice, Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Amanda Grantham, Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City
Acina Hines, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy Staff:
Rebecca Allyn, Marianne Camino, Caitlin Kearney

I. Introductions and Roll Call
The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. Ms. Allyn conducted a roll call and guests introduced themselves. Ms. Allyn introduced new Board members:

- Gina Cirincion, Washington County State's Attorney

- Laura Clary, GBMC
- Karin Green, Criminal Injuries Compensation Board Chair
- Jonah Hornum, Survivor
- Deputy Chief Laura Lanham, Police Chiefs Association Representative
- Mildred Muhammad, Survivor
- Peaches Wilson, Montgomery County Trauma Services

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the October 2024 minutes, which were seconded by Ms. Ritter. All members were in favor and the minutes were approved.

III. Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy Updates

Ms. Allyn shared that the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) is planned to be released by the end of January. Remaining state NOFAs will be released in February.

IV. MSBVS Initiatives

- *2025 Crime Victims' Rights Week Events*

  Members discussed the 35th Statewide Memorial Services for Crime Victims and Their Families. The memorial services will be held on Sunday, April 6, 2025 which is the start of National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Charles, Frederick, Howard and Talbot County State's Attorney's Offices will host the regional services. Members were invited to attend and participate in the services.

  The 2025 Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference will be held on Wednesday, April 9 at Martin's West in Baltimore. Nominations for the Governor's Victim Assistance Awards will be due on February 19. The awards will be presented at the conference.

  Members discussed the draft conference agenda which includes presentations on human trafficking, parole hearings, U visa certification, and victim compensation, as well as keynote presentations from the Gabby Petito Foundation and Mildred Muhammad.

- *Crime Victim Notification Request Form Process*

  Ms. Allyn provided an overview of the meetings that the Board has held in the last year to improve the processing of the crime victim notification request form. A meeting will be scheduled within the next few months to update the instructions on the form. The Board plans to host a statewide meeting/training on the updated instructions by July 1, 2025.

- *Victim's Guide and Service Provider Directory*

  Members discussed the victim's guide and service provider directory drafts. Members are encouraged to review the draft resources and provide feedback. The victim's guide will include information on victims' rights, the criminal justice process, and statewide victim services resources. The service provider directory will include information on victim service programs by county.

V. Legislation
Members discussed upcoming and pending legislation including the Second Chance Act. Ms. Allyn reminded members to send any legislation they would like the Board to consider supporting or opposing for review as soon as possible.

Ms. Erdice shared that the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault has published their legislative agenda. It can be found here.

VI. Old/New Business
Members shared their interest in receiving updates from GOCPP regarding the federal funding freeze.

VII. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.

NEXT MEETING
Wednesday, April 23 at 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
100 Community Place, Crownsville, MD 21032
Google Meet: meet.google.com/rsm-duko-zrk
Phone: 862-231-3659 PIN: 862 344 311#