

MINUTES
Connecticut Advisory Council for Victims of Crime
February 11, 2025
225 Spring Street, Room 4B, Wethersfield, CT

Members in Attendance: Co-Chair Judge Courtney M. Chaplin, Co-Chair Yvette Young, Emily Burnett, Amy Lupoli, Beth Hamilton, Irene Mikol, Susan Omilian, Jessica Pizzano, Deborah Witkin

Judicial Branch Office of Victim Services (JB-OVS) Staff in Attendance: Mary Kozicki, Rachel McKnight, Marc Pelka, Jean M. Weisbrod

Guests in Attendance: Krystal Rich, CT Children's Alliance

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Announcements

Co-Chair Young called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Council members and JB-OVS staff members made introductions.

2. Approval of the November 12, and June 4, 2024, Meeting Minutes

The minutes were not approved due a lack of a quorum and will be presented at the next meeting.

3. Victim Compensation Program Overview

A presentation and materials provided by Rachel McKnight provided an overview of the Victim Compensation Program.

The presentation covered ways the program helps victims with the financial impact of crime. It provided information on eligible crimes, benefits offered by the program, and examples of compensable expenses.

Also, the presentation provided data analysis of the program in FY 2024, including:

- Referral sources for compensation applications,
- Compensation payments by benefit type,
- Compensation payments by victimization type,
- Applications approved or denied and denial reason.

4. Victim of Crime Act Assistance (VOCA Assistance) Funding Update

A handout provided by Marc Pelka provided an overview of the Crime Victims Fund balance (FFY 2007 – 2025) through December 31, 2024.

5. Legislative Updates and Implementation Planning

A handout provided by Jessica Pizzano provided an overview of the National Coalition of Homicide Survivor Service Providers, which meets virtually the 2nd Tuesday of each month 12:30 to 2:00 pm EST.

6. New Business

No reports provided.

7. Adjournment

Co-Chair Young adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Jean M. Weisbrod, Recorder