

**MINUTES**  
**Connecticut Advisory Council for Victims of Crime**  
**September 16, 2014**

The Connecticut Advisory Council for Victims of Crime met at 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield, in the fourth floor conference room from 2:04 p.m. to 3:59 p.m.

**Members in Attendance:**

Co-chair the Honorable John A. Danaher, III, Co-chair Susan Omilian, Brian Austin, Jr., Joseph W. Bibisi, Chester Brodnicki, Laura Cordes, Deborah Fuller, Janice Heggie Margolis, Mui Mui Hin-McCormick, Karen Jarmoc, David Lawrence-Hawley, David Snyder for Karen Martucci, and Deborah Witkin.

**Members Excused or Absent:**

Antonia Cordero and Robin Montgomery

**OVS Staff and Guests Present:**

Tina Bouchard, Valina Carpenter, Denise Covington, Nancy Gulash, Brenda Jordan, Kevin Lawlor, Rachel McKnight, and James Morgan.

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome

Susan Omilian called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. Susan explained the charge of the Council and reviewed the information contained in the Council binder that was distributed to members. Susan inquired if members would be interested in touring the OVS central office and meeting staff for an explanation of their role within OVS, with OVS Director Linda J. Cimino's permission. Brenda Jordan responded that she would inform Linda of the request.

Susan suggested that members consider providing a presentation on the services offered by their respective agencies or on a particular subject that affects crime victims. Janice Heggie Margolis volunteered to demonstrate the ignition interlock device and Mui Mui Hin-McCormick volunteered to present on the services offered by her agency at the next meeting on November 18, 2014. It was agreed that these presentations would be 15-20 minutes each.

2. Introduction of New Members

Susan asked members to share information about their agency and their connection to supporting crime victims. Members continuing on the Council from the past term were also asked to share with new members some of the ways that being on the Advisory Council has been helpful to them in their work. In addition to providing recommendations to OVS on programs, legislation, and other matters that would improve services to crime victims as stated in the Council's statutory charge, several members

said that being on the Council 1) keeps them informed of victim issues and programs around the state, 2) provides a forum to discuss outstanding issues and share legislative proposals and priorities with all the participating agencies and interests around the table; and 3) gives them an opportunity to support OVS staff as needed in the challenges they face in their work.

Members introduced themselves. Mui Mui distributed a flyer on Domestic Violence in the Asian Communities.

3. Approval of the July 15, 2014 Minutes

Judge Danaher asked for a motion to accept the minutes of July 15, 2014. The motion was moved and seconded; the minutes were accepted as presented.

4. Office of Victim Services (OVS) Overview

Several OVS staff members provided an overview of the responsibilities and functions of their respective units. In his presentation, Jim Morgan distributed Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Summary of OVS-funded Contractor/Subcontractor Services.

5. New Business

Based on a discussion at the meeting, Susan Omilian requested that at the next meeting an update on the implementation of Public Act 14-217, An Act Implementing Provisions of the State Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015, Section 120 that addresses civil restraining orders be provided.

Members requested the following future presentations and discussion:

1. A presentation by an OVS victim services advocate in the field related to their advocacy role in the court.
2. A presentation by an OVS staff member on the Connecticut Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (CT SAVIN) system.
3. A presentation on the notification services provided by the Department of Correction, Victim Services Unit.
4. A discussion on culturally sensitive victim responses.

6. Adjournment

Susan Omilian adjourned the meeting at 3:59 p.m.

Nancy Gulash, Recorder