NATIONAL CRIME VICTIM LAW INSTITUTE

# Annual Report 2009-2010

Protecting, Enforcing, & Advancing Victims' Rights



Carl K. Davis



Meg Garvin

### Message from NCVLI's Leadership

This past year the **National Crime Victim Law Institute** fought for victims' rights using all available means: legal advocacy, training and education, and public policy. The year was filled with tremendous challenges and significant accomplishments as we litigated in court-rooms, taught in classrooms, and advocated for victims in the halls of government. The list below highlights a few of our many accomplishments and successes:

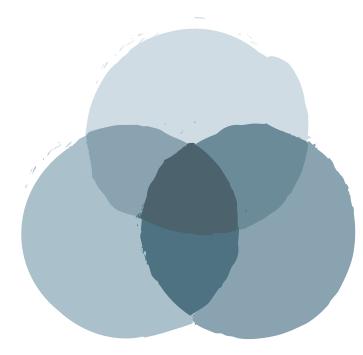
- We filed **18 amicus curiae briefs** in state and federal trial and appellate courts nationwide, providing a national perspective on victims' rights to these courts; securing victories in many cases and thereby ensuring that positive precedent is established for tomorrow's victims.
- Our Network of Victims' Rights Enforcement Clinics continued operation in 12 states, providing **direct legal services free of charge to more than 760 victims of crime**, and advising and supporting countless others.
- Together with our partners, we **trained more than 9,000 people** across the United States, including attorneys, judges, victim advocates, and law students.
- Our legal team responded to more than **150 requests for technical assistance**, providing legal research, writing, and strategic advice.
- We launched the *Responding to Online Fraud Project* to provide services to the ever-growing population of online fraud victims.

We encourage you to read this report to learn more about our work helping individual crime victims move toward becoming survivors, and establishing legal precedent so that tomorrow's victims benefit from today's efforts.

Each of our successes is attributable to the amazing community of survivors, attorneys, advocates, volunteers, and donors that stands behind our vision of a balanced and fair justice system. We are deeply grateful to each of you for your ongoing support. The year ahead is sure to present new challenges, but we're committed to continuing the fight to protect, enforce, and advance victims' rights.

Carl K. Davis, Chairman of the Board

Meg Garvin, Executive Director



## NCVLI

actively promotes balance and fairness in the criminal justice system through legal advocacy, training and education, and public policy.

### Legal Advocacy

We pair crime victims with pro bono attorneys who will fight to secure their rights. We do this through our Network of Victims' Rights Enforcement Clinics and our National Alliance of Victims' Rights Attorneys. We also provide legal research, writing, and strategic consultation to attorneys and advocates so that they can make the best arguments possible for the victims they serve. In addition, we file amicus curiae briefs in victims' rights cases nationwide.

### **Training and Education**

We provide training nationwide on the meaning, scope, and enforceability of victims' rights through practical skills courses, online webinars, teleconferences, and the only conference in the country focused on victim law. Our audiences include attorneys, judges, advocates, law enforcement, law students, and survivors.

### **Public Policy**

We work with partners nationwide to secure the next wave of victims' rights legislation – legislation that guarantees victims substantive rights and the procedural mechanisms to secure those rights. We provide model legislation, strategic advice, and testify when called upon.



Participating in cases as amicus curiae allows NCVLI to alert courts to broad victims' rights issues. Amicus curiae is Latin for "friend of the court." Our input explains the national implications of cases to courts and suggests how their decision will impact future victims. These efforts move us a step closer to ensuring that each case fulfills its potential to improve the landscape for future victims by setting positive precedent.

#### **Participation this Year**

NCVLI participated as amicus curiae in 18 cases this year, including:

- 3 cases before the United States Supreme Court;
- 4 cases before lower federal courts; and
- 11 cases before trial and appellate courts in eight different states.

#### Victims' Rights in the Highest Courts

Every day, across the country, trial courts decide victims' rights questions. Sometimes they decide correctly, sometimes incorrectly. Ultimately, to establish precedent so that tomorrow's victims do not face the same hurdles as today's victims, it is critical to secure decisions from the highest courts in each jurisdiction – state and federal. This year NCVLI had a number of victories. A few examples include:

In *Dolan v. United States*, a defendant pleaded guilty to assault and was sentenced and ordered to pay restitution. On appeal, the defendant argued that the restitution was improper because the court had acted outside the permissible timeframe when it ordered the restitution. NCVLI argued that restitution was not only permissible but mandatory. In a 5 to 4 opinion, the **United States Supreme Court** upheld the restitution order.

In a case that has spanned multiple years, *People v. Spykstra*, the defense subpoenaed the parents of a teenage sexual assault victim, seeking to have a defense expert enter their home

### Providing Courts with a National Perspective

and search computers for all emails from the victim throughout a six and a half year period – regardless of the relationship of the emails to the assault. NCVLI argued that the subpoenas were overbroad, and that both the victim and the prosecutor had standing to move to quash them. The **Colorado Supreme Court** agreed and quashed the subpoenas.

#### Getting to Courts Early

While the precedential value of a high court decision is a key to advancing rights, helping victims in trial courts is also critical. The following is an example of NCVLI's efforts in trial court this year:

In the **Northern District of Florida**, a number of girls who had been sexually exploited wanted to seek justice through the civil system, but wanted to do so using pseudonyms rather than their real names. NCVLI filed an amicus curiae brief in support of the girls, focusing on the girls' privacy interests and the re-victimization they would suffer if their personal information was revealed. Unfortunately the trial court denied the request to proceed by pseudonym. Importantly, however, because NCVLI was there at the trial court level working with the victims' attorney, NCVLI was able to quickly file another amicus curiae brief in support of the victims' appeal. The case is pending.

## What does it take to get a victim's case heard by the Supreme Court?

Having the United States Supreme Court comment on a victim's right – whether it be privacy, restitution, or standing – would help advance victims' rights for every victim nationwide. This is true because when the Supreme Court speaks, lower courts and criminal justice practitioners nationwide listen. On average, it takes NCVLI 3-4 weeks to prepare an amicus curiae brief to the Supreme Court and costs more than \$10,000.

## Responding to Violence Against Women

Domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and other acts of violence against women occur every day. These victims often face hurdles to accessing justice based, in part, on persistent cultural myths and biases. Our *Responding to Violence Against Women Project* provides focused technical assistance and training to tackle the unique challenges confronting these victims.

#### **Training Spotlight**

Through this Project, NCVLI instructed 157 individuals on victims' rights. Trainings included topics such as victims' rights in campus sexual assault cases, an overview of rape shield laws, and an overview of victims' rights enforcement. Attendees responded with high praise:

"All of the information was extremely useful and valuable. I am so thankful for the resources given at this workshop and the options I have to protect my clients' rights and survivors of sexual assault."

"This was essential information needed to protect the most vulnerable people, and it was very well presented. Thank you!"

#### **Technical Assistance:** A **Case Study** An attorney representing a victim seeking a civil domestic violence restraining order contacted NCVLI for help. In what is a common tactic, the abuser

had moved to depose the victim in the civil matter while the criminal case against him was pending. Because depositions can re-victimize, the victim's attorney wanted to prevent it. NCVLI provided a legal research memorandum with the arguments necessary to stop the civil deposition. Our efforts were recognized by the victim's attorney: "Today the judge granted our motion to stay . . . Thanks again for your help researching this issue."

#### **Collaborating Nationwide**

The fight to secure rights for violence against women victims can only be won through collaboration. The power of this effort is revealed in two amicus curiae briefs filed this year:

In *People v. Fontana*, NCVLI joined four other groups as co-amici in the fight to keep rape shield protections strong in **California**. In a victory for victims, the California Supreme Court found the probative value of the evidence of the victim's prior sexual conduct was slight, but the danger of prejudice was high, and therefore ruled in favor of the victim.

In the **Pennsylvania** case of *Reedy v. Evanson*, NCVLI joined 38 other groups as co-amici in the successful fight to protect the rights of a 19-year-old rape victim who was mistakenly charged with false reporting.



### Navigating Rape Shield Laws

Keli Luther (pictured left), Lead Attorney with Arizona Voice for Crime Victims, and Alison Wilkinson, Violence Against Women Project Manager with NCVLI, presented a webinar training last December on "Rape Shield: Using Victims' Rights Laws to Enforce Privacy Rights." The basic premise of rape shield legislation is that evidence of the victim's past sexual behavior is not relevant evidence to the question of whether a rape occurred. Until relatively recently, a victim of rape could expect to have every aspect of her sexual past thoroughly examined in open court. The theory was that if the victim had engaged in sexual activity before, she might be predisposed to submit to similar activity on another occasion, thus making it less likely that the victim was raped as opposed to having engaged in consensual sex. Through trainings with skilled partners such as Keli, and participation as amicus curiae, NCVLI is fighting to ensure that rape shield protections and all victims' rights remain strong.

### National Network of Rights Enforcement

In 2004, NCVLI launched its Network of Victims' Rights Enforcement Clinics. These clinics provide free legal services to victims of crime as they assert and seek enforcement of their rights in criminal cases against their offenders. What started as five clinics grew to a network of twelve partner clinics in 2009-2010, operating in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Maryland, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah, and Washington, D.C. The Network shares research, best practices, litigation strategies, pleadings, and more. Over the years, the Network has become greater than the sum of its parts, and it is now a formidable force for victims nationwide.

#### Impact of the Network

This year the Network:

- Represented more than 760 victims;
- Filed more than 430 legal pleadings asserting victims' rights; and
- Secured more than 8,600 pro bono attorney and law student hours to help victims.

## Case Spotlight: Collaborating to Secure Victims' Rights

In a successful joining of forces, the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc. (Maryland Clinic), the Utah Crime Victims Legal Clinic (Utah Clinic), and NCVLI secured a victim's right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay. A co-victim of homicide was enduring yet further delay in the case against his mother's killer. The murder occurred in 1985, the defendant confessed and was convicted. In 2009, the defendant was still challenging his conviction through a federal action.

Before the Network's involvement, the court had essentially granted the defendant unlimited time to locate and conduct testing on evidence with DNA traces, meaning that the victim's family was sentenced to ongoing uncertainty. The Utah Clinic, which assisted the victim in state proceedings, asked the Maryland Clinic to join the fight because of its experience in federal court. Armed with legal research and strategic input from NCVLI, the clinics filed a motion asserting the victim's right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay. In a clear victory for the family, the court issued a scheduling order to move the case forward.

As noted by Utah Clinic Director Heidi Nestel:

"The network of clinics is critical because we share our different expertise to ensure victims everywhere benefit from all of the lawyers' best practices, ideas, and understanding of victims' rights issues. Advocating for crime victims in a legal setting is a new area of law with little legal precedent on which to draw; therefore, collaborating among clinics ensures that no matter where the victim lives or what issues are being raised, we have the power of 12 clinics and dozens of lawyers and advocates supporting and finding creative arguments for the victim. The network clinics work together to ensure justice, fairness, and dignity to all victims."



Staff at the Utah Crime Victims Legal Clinic gather at NCVLI's Conference in June. Pictured from left are Yvette Rodier Evans, Andrew Stoddard, Heidi Nestel, and Brandon Simmons. Not pictured is Tony Graf.

## **Educating the Field**

Recognizing that to be effective, education on victims' rights must happen every day through a variety of avenues that reach diverse audiences, our educational tools include in-person trainings, webinar and teleconference trainings, and a variety of publications. Together with partners, NCVLI trained more than 9,000 individuals this year, including numerous judges, attorneys, criminal justice professionals, and students.

Independently, NCVLI trained:

- More than 1,365 individuals with in-person seminars;
- More than 290 individuals through webinars, teleconferences, and live Internet broadcasts.

#### **Crime Victim Law Conference**

The 2010 Crime Victim Law Conference – *Due Process for Victims: Meaningful Rights in Every Case* – was the 9<sup>th</sup> annual conference dedicated to rights enforcement. More than 170 individuals from 25 states, the District of Columbia, Israel, and South Korea, gathered to learn from each other and to develop best practices in the victims' rights field. There were 24 breakout sessions and 4 plenaries taught by 30 experts from the victim services field. In the words of attendees:

*"Excellent conference - one of the best I have ever attended."* 

"What I liked best about the conference was the positive energy and excitement that was present throughout the entire two days. It seemed like everyone was there because they care so much about the important work they do."

"NCVLI, thank you very much - this conference inspired me and renewed my enthusiasm to keep on being the best advocate I can be because I know I have outstanding company!"

#### Webinars & Teleconferences

Using webinars, teleconferences, and other technologies allows NCVLI to reach attorneys, advocates, and other criminal justice professionals across the country. NCVLI offered trainings on topics such as:

- Victims' Rights Review: 5 Years after the Federal Crime Victims' Rights Act and 2 Years After Oregon's Constitutional Amendment, Are Victims Better Off in our Criminal Justice System?
- Quashing Subpoenas in Criminal Proceedings: Enforcing a Victim's Right to Privacy.

#### Victims' Rights Publications

NCVLI educates the field through victim law publications in addition to trainings. This year, NCVLI published two editions of *NCVLI News*, each reaching more than 2,000 people with in-depth victims' rights legal articles.



More than 170 criminal justice practitioners attended this year's Crime Victim Law Conference, setting a new attendance record.





The 2010 Crime Victim Law Conference: 1) Helene Davis, NCVLI Board Member and founder of Mothers Against Murder and Assault, discusses the importance of victim voice in the criminal justice process at a plenary; 2) Jay Howell, Jay Howell & Associates, presents a plenary session on protecting a victim's right to privacy; and 3) Hon. Paul Cassell, Ronald N. Boyce Presidential Professor of Criminal Law at S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah, facilitates a roundtable on victims' rights throughout plea bargaining.

### Tomorrow's Victims' Rights Attorneys

Every attorney has contact with crime victims in their work – sometimes without knowing the person is a victim, sometimes because the case explicitly involves the victimization and its aftermath. This means that every attorney, whether their focus is prosecution, defense, immigration, housing, employment, trusts and estates, or education, must have an awareness of victims' rights. Because growing a community of lawyers that is aware of and committed to protecting victims' rights is so critical, we start with law students.

#### **Crime Victim Litigation Clinic**

Every fall and spring, NCVLI teaches the Crime Victim Litigation Clinic at Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland, Oregon. This year 12 secondand third-year law students enrolled and learned how to represent victims of crime. This resulted in 672 hours dedicated to victims' rights litigation. The issues worked on included:

- Researching protections available for children in **Maine** when they are compelled to testify;
- Fighting for California crime victims' rights to be notified and heard in opposition to subpoenas for their records;
- Analyzing the laws of the **50 states** to determine best practices for securing full and timely restitution that includes future lost income;

- Identifying whether **Arizona** law allows for closure of a courtroom during a child-victim's impact statement; and
- Arguing that an **Alaska** victim's right to fairness is violated by application of the abatement *ab initio* doctrine in cases where a petitioner dies during post-conviction proceedings.

In reflecting on the clinic and her experiences, a recent student said:

"The NCVLI legal clinic is a necessity for any law student interested in criminal law or any civil practice involving victims of crime. This class deepened my understanding of an integral area of law often overlooked in the typical criminal law class, while allowing me to gain practical experience in legal research and writing."

#### Legal Interns

In addition to the clinic, NCVLI works with law students from Lewis & Clark and other law schools year-round through its internship program. Legal interns volunteer, earn credit, or fill part-time paid positions, working with NCVLI's legal team to protect victims' rights nationwide. One recent intern assisted in drafting a legal memorandum arguing for the return of stolen property that was being held by law enforcement long after the case was closed. Her work helped secure justice for a **California** crime victim.



#### Brendan O'Hanlon Lewis & Clark Law School '10

"My experience with NCVLI was the most rewarding experience of my time at Lewis & Clark. Presentations by active professionals, academic experts, and victims gave tremendous insight to the theory and practice essential to the law. During my semester at NCVLI I was able to work on an internal memo addressing victims' rights issues in a pending U.S. Supreme Court case. I also undertook a comprehensive jurisdictional survey of the restitutional remedies available to victims that was later incorporated in a presentation by Hon. Paul Cassell at the Crime Victim Law Conference in Portland. In short, NCVLI Clinic afforded an opportunity to learn a great deal about an essential service, earn a sense of practical accomplishment, and leave with just enough expertise to encourage further exploration of the field."

Pictured left is NCVLI's Fall 2010 Crime Victim Litigation Clinic.



In March, NCVLI hosted a seminar at Lewis & Clark Law School on "Securing Access to Justice for Victims of Human Trafficking: A Training on Victims' Rights and Immigration Protections." The seminar, attended by more than 35 attorneys and criminal justice practitioners in the northwest, provided an overview of human trafficking and explained the core immigration protections and social services available under state and federal law, and how to help victims access their rights and protections.

## Supporting the Fight for Victims' Rights

At times, challenges to victims' rights can be anticipated and we provide technical assistance in the form of legal research, writing, and long-term strategic advice to protect individual rights. Other times, challenges emerge on the eve of trial, in the wake of a subpoena for private records, or in the midst of a seemingly benign proceeding. In these situations, providing emergency technical assistance is critical to safeguard victim privacy, protection, and participation.

#### Assistance this Year

In 2009-2010, NCVLI's in-house legal team responded to more than 150 requests for technical assistance from 26 states, plus the District of Columbia. Our assistance helped victims of all types of crimes. Among the matters worked on, more than:

- 34 involved child-victims;
- 31 involved violence against women; and
- 24 involved homicide.

#### **Technical Assistance Spotlights**

A **California** attorney contacted NCVLI after learning that subpoenas were issued for information regarding the victim's mental health and for the victim's educational records. The case was one of "first impression," as the applicable constitutional law had not been tested in the courts. That law allows victims to refuse an interview, deposition, or discovery request by the defendant, and to prevent the disclosure of confidential information or records. The victim's attorney, who was armed with research and arguments from NCVLI, successfully argued to quash the subpoenas, thereby protecting the victim's privacy.

In **Arizona**, a defendant charged with the murder of his 5-year-old son filed another in a string of requests for continuances, resulting in more painful delay for the surviving family members. NCVLI prepared a legal memorandum for the victim's attorney, setting forth arguments for why the victims' rights to proceedings free from unreasonable delay were preeminent in the case. After hearing these arguments, the trial court denied the request for a continuance and issued a scheduling order.

An **Oregon** victim advocate contacted NCVLI after learning that a 5-year-old victim of sexual abuse was about to be forced to testify in front of her abuser (the victim's grandfather). NCVLI provided research and arguments to secure alternative means of testifying for the child, and the presence of a support person by the child's side if in-person testimony ever became necessary.



Janine Robben (far right), Director of the Oregon Crime Victims Law Center, collaborates with, from left, NCVLI paralegal supervisor Jeff Hanson and NCVLI staff attorneys Marti Long and Terry Campos.

## **Responding to Online Fraud**

Online fraud is fraud committed using the Internet. It takes many forms: benefits fraud, identity theft, mortgage fraud, data breaches, selling of fictional goods, credit card fraud, foreign lottery scams, and auction scams. Online crimes are extremely common and are increasing daily. They wreak financial and emotional havoc on their victims. Despite the prevalence and impact of these crimes, there are barriers to accessing rights and services for these victims. NCVLI launched the *Responding to Online Fraud Project* to address victim needs.

#### **Education About the Crimes**

The Project has a core initiative to educate victims, victim service providers, law enforcement, and the public about the prevalence and nature of online fraud, prevention techniques, victim services, and the rights afforded to those victimized by these crimes. In fall 2010, this effort will fully launch with a series of webinars and in-person trainings.

#### Victim-Centric Approach

In addition to the financial loss from the crimes, many victims must overcome issues of shame, embarrassment, and trust. To help victims, the Project implemented a toll-free number (866-768-6556) to make contacting NCVLI easier. In fall 2010 NCVLI will also launch an online victim-accessible resource database to enable victims to access a wide variety of resources.

#### International Aspects of the Crimes

Frequently, perpetrators of online fraud reside in foreign jurisdictions. When investigation and prosecution occur in those jurisdictions, victims are often left in the dark, unaware of the investigation, the prosecution, or resources and rights available to them. NCVLI is tackling this with a pilot project targeted at crimes being investigated and prosecuted in Romania (which research shows is the origin for many of these crimes). In the first case of its kind, NCVLI is working with domestic and international law enforcement to help more than 900 victims of an online scheme to sell fraudulent goods by facilitating support services for these victims domestically, and legal services for them abroad as the case proceeds through Romanian courts.

### Profile of an Online Fraud Victim

The victim diligently saved several thousand dollars to purchase a car. He researched and found the car he wanted online, communicated with the seller, and then sent the money for the purchase via wire. Sadly, the car was fictional; he had been victimized by a sophisticated online scam. In the aftermath of this victimization, his savings was depleted, which created a domino effect. He lost his job because he lacked transportation; without employment he lost his housing; and he had to apply for public benefit assistance. This victim is also experiencing enormous shame arising out of "falling for" the scam. When he reported the crime to the local police and various governmental and consumer agencies, each indicated that the issue was not within its jurisdiction and that there was not much to be done. This profile is not unusual. Online fraud does not discriminate between educational levels or socioeconomic status. Its victims are accountants, doctors, attorneys, taxpayers, the unemployed and the employed, students, investors, the affluent, and the poor. Every one of these victims needs access to services and support.



## National Alliance of Victims' Rights Attorneys

The National Alliance of Victims' Rights Attorneys (NAVRA) is NCVLI's membership alliance of attorneys, advocates, law students, and other persons interested in advancing victims' rights. NAVRA's mission is to ensure that attorneys and advocates nationwide can be effective so that the rights of victims in every jurisdiction are protected. We provide training, technical assistance, and access to a community of experts.

#### **Membership Profiles**

NAVRA grew to 818 members in 2009-2010, a 33% increase from the previous year. Membership includes:

- 357 attorneys;
- 385 advocates; and
- 26 students.

Members come from 48 states and the District of Columbia, and recently, NAVRA expanded to include international members.

#### Helping Members Better Advocate www.navra.org

While members have priority access to NCVLI's expert team for legal research, writing, and strategic case consultation, this year NAVRA launched a dedicated website - www.navra.org - to provide even more support to its members. This website offers important resources, including:

- An online legal brief and memoranda bank with amicus curiae briefs and samples of key motions for state and federal courts;
- Indexed summaries of judicial opinions from across the country;
- A repository of recorded trainings; and
- Improved opportunities for members to share knowledge and resources.

### Steven Kelly NAVRA Member & Maryland Attorney

"I have fought for victim's rights since my sister was murdered in 1988. I devote much of my practice to pro bono defense of victims' rights in criminal cases ranging from obtaining restitution for lost future wages in a murder case to defending the privacy of child-victims of sexual exploitation in federal child pornography prosecutions. This work is, by far, the most rewarding work I do. It is also the most challenging. I frequently find myself at odds with all the players: the court, the state, and the defense. What's worse, the 'legal support' necessary to defend victims' rights is frequently nonexistent. Lost and frustrated, I turn to NCVLI and NAVRA for research, advice, and support. This support is critical in arming lawyers like me with the knowledge and confidence we need to stand up for victims' rights in the face of a system that is sometimes reluctant to recognize those rights."



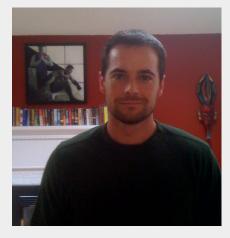
### The Power of Community

Securing justice for victims requires many advocates, from a variety of professions fighting for victims' rights. This year we were fortunate to have amazing volunteers. Below we profile just a few.

#### Amy Liu Attorney

Amy is a pro bono attorney with NCVLI who became interested in victims' rights after participating in NCVLI's webinar on victims' rights during Crime Victims' Rights Week in April. Amy recently worked on an amicus curiae brief that NCVLI submitted to the United States Supreme Court in support of victims' rights to dignity, privacy, respect, and proceedings free from unreasonable delay. Amy says that her pro bono work with NCVLI has been extremely rewarding, and it has changed her perspective about litigation. "Here, the goal is not simply to obtain a good outcome in the immediate case; we aim to lay a good foundation for future litigation in the victims' rights area."





#### Thomas Ross Caldwell

#### J.D. Candidate '12, Lewis & Clark Law School

"I volunteered at NCVLI the summer after my first year of law school and it was definitely the most interesting law-related experience I have had so far. Victims' rights is a very exciting area of the law because it is so quickly evolving and such meaningful work. I feel fortunate to have been able to participate in such an important change in our society." Ross is now enrolled in NCVLI's fall Victim Litigation Clinic at Lewis & Clark Law School.

#### Cristina Ursan Paralegal

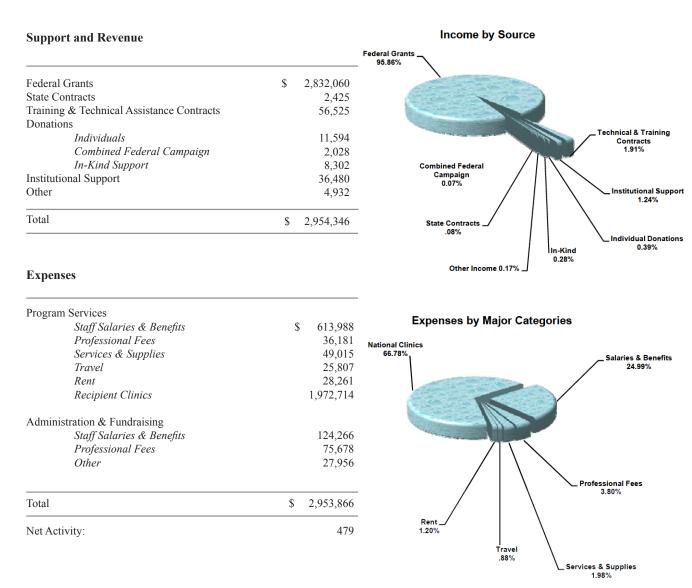
Cristina is a paralegal volunteer who has donated more hours to NCVLI than any volunteer in NCVLI's history. She has spent considerable time assisting with grant reporting in addition to helping build the foundation of NCVLI's upcoming National Alliance of Victims' Rights Attorneys website. Cristina describes her experiences at NCVLI as fundamental in shaping her future. "In reviewing state laws on victims' rights I've learned that some states have little more than a page of information on victims' rights while others have seventy; it's made me want to work in criminal law to advance victims' rights in a state lacking legislation."



## **Revenue and Expenses**

NCVLI was incorporated in 2003 and is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. During this past fiscal year, NCVLI's work was funded predominately by federal grants derived not from tax dollars but from fines, penalty assessments, and bond forfeitures of convicted federal criminal offenders. During this same period, NCVLI spent **92% of its total expenses on program services**. NCVLI is committed to ensuring that its rights enforcement work continues long into the future. All contributions to NCVLI are tax deductible. For more information about NCVLI's financials please visit www.ncvli.org.

#### Audited Finances: June 1, 2009 - May 31, 2010





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### Why I Give to NCVLI

"I join many others who celebrate the accomplishments of NCVLI. Its appellate briefs, its nurturing of free clinics, and its teachings have all left their mark. There is now a growing, institutionalized intolerance of victim maltreatment in the justice system, and NCVLI is at the center of that profound reform movement."

> - John Stein, International Organization for Victim Assistance

#### **Public Support**

Office for Victims of Crime Office on Violence Against Women Oregon Attorney General John Kroger and the Victims' Services Division of the Oregon Department of Justice

#### Volunteers

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Board and staff commitment to NCVLI's mission is uncompromising, and is demonstrated by 100% board and staff contribution to NCVLI. \*Board \*\*Staff

NCVLI's Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) code is 48652. To contribute to NCVLI, visit www. ncvli.org.

Select photos credit: cfwphoto.com.



NCVLI extends a special thank you to Lewis & Clark College and Law School for their unwavering commitment to NCVLI and to a fair and balanced justice system.

### Looking Forward

The fight to protect victims' rights requires vigilance, and we are committed to being there every step of the way.

- In October, NCVLI will launch the *Helping Organizations and Programs Expand* grant as part of a national effort funded by the Office for Victims of Crime to articulate a new horizon for the victim services field. NCVLI will undertake a 12-month project examining the role of the crime victims' field in the country's response to crime and delinquency.
- Also in October, NCVLI will launch the *Child-Victimization Awareness and Protection Project*, which will develop and improve the capacity of practitioners
  to advance victims' rights and improve victim services with a focus on children
  exposed to or victimized by violence. NCVLI will develop a number of
  educational initiatives for both attorneys and advocates to ensure protection of
  these victims.
- As part of its *Responding to Online Fraud Project*, NCVLI will launch a **webinar series on online fraud and identity theft** in December, addressing the prevalence and nature of online fraud, prevention techniques, victim services, and the rights afforded to those victimized by these crimes. The three-part series will commence on December 2, 2010, with subsequent parts taking place in January and February 2011.
- NCVLI's annual Crime Victim Law Conference will take place in Portland, Oregon on June 14-15, 2011. This will mark the 10<sup>th</sup> year NCVLI has hosted the only conference in the country dedicated to the enforcement of victims' rights.

For more information on these initiatives and all of NCVLI's projects, please visit **www.ncvli.org**.

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### National Crime Victim Law Institute,

together with our partners, represented 763 crime victims = Trained more than 9,000 professionals in the victims services community = Filed 18 amicus briefs in courts across the country, including 3 in the United States Supreme Court = Submitted more than 430 other legal pleadings to courts to protect the rights of individual victims = Secured more than 9,300 pro bono attorney, law student, and volunteer hours dedicated to crime victims.

