Executive Director: Mary M. Breaux, Ph.D.

April 2025

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Our Mission

The mission of the Crime Victims' Institute is to:

- Conduct research to examine the impact of crime on victims of all ages in order to promote a better understanding of victimization.
- Improve services to victims.
- Assist victims of crime by giving them a voice.
- Inform victim-related policymaking at the state and local levels.



CVI Updates

In honor of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, the CVI held a live webinar titled **Crime Victims' Rights 101: A Broad Overview of Victims' Rights** on April 2nd from 10:00am - 12:00pm CST over Zoom. We were joined by panelists from the National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI), The Hotline's Storyteller's Collective, The Harris County Sheriff's Office, and the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. Over 100 individuals from various agencies and departments across Texas registered to attend, including victim advocates, students, and law enforcement.

Additionally, in support of Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), a new episode of our ongoing series, CVI Talks, was recorded. This episode discusses campus sexual assault and features two panelists with extensive knowledge and expertise on this subject. Both the webinar recording and CVI Talks episode will be uploaded and publicly available on our website soon.

Lastly, current CVI Research Coordinator, Dr. Miltonette Craig will be featured in a TDCJ Texas Crime Victim Clearinghouse webinar focusing on Ethics in Victim Advocacy on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, from 9:30 am to 11:00 am CST. This webinar will explore ethical philosophies, principles, and expectations for service providers and advocates who work with victims and survivors. Other topics to be covered include recommended steps for resolving ethical dilemmas, the significance of supporting victims' and survivors' right to self-determination, social media ethics, and the importance of self-care and stress management for practitioners, especially those who deliver direct services. Please click here or use the below link to register:

https://tdcj-texas-gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1rYeXGbFS4-tfS6GwI0iPA

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TVSA Biennial Training Conference



Registration for the 2025 TVSA Biennial Training Conference is still open, through April 25th. The training program will consist of a three-hour preconference ethics session, opening and closing plenary sessions, and 28 workshops being presented in four breakout tracks: Trauma-Informed Approaches to Service Delivery, Cross-Sector Collaborations and Partnerships, Research and Promising Practices, and Management and Leadership in Victim Services. The full conference program is eligible for 18.0 continuing education credits for TCOLE, Social Work, LPC and LMFT. The full list of workshops is available online.

For more information or to <u>register</u>, please go to: https://www.txvsa.org/event-5964532

Conference on Crimes Against Women (CCAW)

The CVI is excited to announce its collaboration with CCAW for the first academic poster presentation event at this year's Conference. The event answers attendees' requests for additional evidence-based and data-driven content to complement the expertise shared by workshop facilitators. The overarching themes for the CCAW-CVI Poster Presentation are: Victimization Prevention and Investigative Intervention—with healthcare, legal, and law enforcement focuses. Accepted posters will be on display for the duration of the conference and authors have the opportunity to speak to attendees about their research at the Poster Presentation Session on Wednesday, May 21st.

For more information or to <u>register</u>, please go to: https://conferencecaw.org/registration-2025/



2nd Annual Crime Victims' Institute (CVI) Conference

The 2nd Annual Crime Victims' Institute Conference will be held October 15 - 17, 2025 in Huntsville, TX. The main purpose of this conference is to provide a platform to examine, discuss, and educate individuals on best practices and emerging trends in the field with innovative information on current research to improve policy and advocacy targeting victims and survivors. The target audience includes individuals who serve, support, and work with victims directly or indirectly in their community. More details (e.g., how to register) will be available soon. Join our email list to get the latest CVI news.

<u>Look for upcoming publications, CVI Talks episodes,</u> webinars, and fact sheets from the Crime Victims' Institute:

- Emergency Alerts Fact Sheet
- An Overview of Violence Interrupter Programs
- Crime Victims' Rights 101: A Broad Overview of Victims' Rights (webinar)
- Social Media and Cybervictimization Fact Sheet
- CVI Talks: Understanding Sexual Assault on College Campuses
- Bystander Intervention Fact Sheet





Other commemorative events/upcoming activities:

<u>April</u>

Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month
National Child Abuse Prevention Month
Second Chance Month
Autism Awareness Month

<u>May</u>

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month
Mental Health Awareness Month
Military Appreciation Month
National Stroke Awareness Month

<u>June</u>

Pride Month
National PTSD Awareness Month
Gun Violence Awareness Month
Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month

Crime Victims' Institute Advisory Board

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Texas State Representative
District 53 & Chair of the Texas
House General Investigating
Committee

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Resources

Aging and Disability Resource Center	855-937-2372
Cyber Civil Rights Initiative	844-878-2274
Mothers Against Drunk Driving	877-623-3435
National Child Abuse Hotline	800-422-4453
National Domestic Violence Hotline	800-799-7233
National Human Trafficking Hotline	888-373-7888
National Sexual Assault Hotline	800-656-4673
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline	988
Texas Abuse Hotline	800-252-5400
Texas Council on Family Violence	https://tcfv.org/survivor-resources/
• Texas Association Against Sexual Assault	https://taasa.org/get-help/
Victim Connect Resource Center	855-484-2846





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