

2015

National Crime Victims' Rights Week
April 19-25, 2015

National Crime Victims' Service Awards

Call for Nominations

**Nominations Due: Wednesday,
August 6, 2014**

**Apply online at:
www.ovc.gov/ncvrwnominations**



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JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS
JUSTICE FOR ALL

Office for Victims of Crime
OVC



National Crime Victims' Rights Week

In 1981, President Ronald Wilson Reagan proclaimed the first Victims' Rights Week, calling for "a renewed emphasis on, and an enhanced sensitivity to, the rights of victims." Every April since then, communities throughout the Nation have held public rallies, candlelight vigils, and a host of commemorative activities to

promote awareness of victims' rights and needs.

The 2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) is scheduled for April 19-25, 2015. The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) will host an awards ceremony to honor individuals and programs for their outstanding efforts on behalf of crime victims. The

public and the press are also invited to participate in the awards ceremony, which will take place in Washington, D.C.

Please check OVC's Web site for the most current information about 2015 NCVRW events at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw.



ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

1. You may nominate one or more worthy candidates, including individuals, programs, organizations, and teams. You must submit a separate form for each nominee. You may not nominate the same individuals, programs, organizations, teams, or coalition of individuals and programs for more than one award category.
2. Nominees can be federal, state, local, or tribal professionals, and volunteers in direct victim services and allied professions.
3. Previous award recipients, regardless of award category, are not eligible for subsequent awards.
4. Elected officials are not eligible for consideration.
5. Candidates nominated, but not selected, in previous years are eligible for consideration.

NOMINATION SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. **Each nomination form must be accompanied by a 100-word abstract and nomination letter.** The abstract (100 words or less) should outline the nominee's accomplishments and your reason for nominating this individual, program, team, or organization. The abstract should describe why the person or persons you are nominating should receive this award, what they have accomplished that sets them apart from colleagues in their field, and how their accomplishments benefit the community. Also include details as to the significance of the support materials that you include in the nomination package.

If you, the nominator, are affiliated with an organization, your nomination letter should be submitted on official stationery with your signature and position or title. No anonymous nominations will be accepted.

2. Each form must include the nominee's full name, title, organization affiliation, address, telephone number, and e-mail address. If you are nominating an organization, program, team, or group, please have all of the people who would attend the ceremony to accept an award provide the following required information: name, title, contact information, and e-mail. If your nomination is selected for consideration, a member of the OVC staff will contact the nominated individual, group members, and accompanying officials for their date of birth and Social Security number, which will be used by the U.S. Department of Justice to conduct a background check. Individuals who are not affiliated with a nominated team but are a part of the nominated organization (e.g., executive directors, managers) will only be allowed on stage if they have received and passed a background check.
3. **If you are nominating a group of individuals who work on a specific project, please submit one nomination letter for the group of individuals with a SEPARATE nomination form for EACH individual in that group.** All required information is listed above and must accompany the submission. Please note that only one plaque will be presented per group, team, or organization. Therefore, it is important to indicate the same plaque name consistently on each nomination

form provided for a group of individuals. If the nominee is an individual, please indicate in the space provided whether another name (e.g., a nickname) needs to appear on the award plaque if the nominee is selected.

4. Your nomination letter should not exceed two single-spaced, single-sided, letter-size (8.5" x 11") pages, and should be typed using a standard 12-point font. This letter should address the questions listed under the specific award for which you are submitting a nomination (see the Nomination Letters section of this nomination form), and should reflect as much as you know about your nominee's accomplishments and services in supporting crime victims.
5. Please review the award categories carefully and select the category that most accurately reflects your nominee's accomplishments and services in supporting crime victims. An individual, program, team, or organization may not be nominated for more than one award category. OVC has the final decision regarding which category the nominee will be evaluated under.
6. Please provide any additional information about the nominated individual or program that should be considered in the review process. Supporting documentation, such as newspaper articles or résumés, can be attached if it is relevant to the nominee's contributions. Please note: Videos, bound publications, and notebooks should not be submitted. Also, supporting documentation will not be accepted after the nomination deadline.
7. The entire nomination package, including supplemental information and letters of support, may not exceed 10 single-spaced, single-sided, letter-size pages. Nominations exceeding this limit will not be considered.
8. If you are submitting your nomination in print form, please provide an original and two copies of the entire nomination package.

Submit the complete nomination package online at www.ovc.gov/ncvrwnominations, where you may also view a sample abstract and nomination.



Nomination Form

The following information is to be completed by the nominator:

Nominator's Name _____ Nominator's Title or Position _____

Nominator's Organization _____

Nominator's Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone Number (____) _____ Fax Number (____) _____ E-Mail _____

Group Nominations

If you are nominating an organization or program, please provide the information below for all of the individual(s) who would accept the award on behalf of that organization or program. Please note that only one plaque will be presented per award nomination at the awards ceremony, regardless of the number of individuals accepting on behalf of an organization or program. If the nominee is an organization, program, or team, the name, contact information, and signature of the individual authorized to accept the award is needed. If a team is nominated (and each individual team member wishes to participate in the awards ceremony), please complete a separate nomination form for each individual on the team.

Nominee's Full Name _____

Type of Award (Check only one)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allied Professional Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Service Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Courage Award |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Award for Professional Innovation in Victim Services | <input type="checkbox"/> National Crime Victim Service Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Vision 21 Crime Victims Research Award |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crime Victims Financial Restoration Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Ronald Wilson Reagan Public Policy Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer for Victims Award |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crime Victims' Rights Award | | |

Abstract of Nominee's Accomplishments (Mandatory)

On a separate sheet of paper, in 100 words or less, please summarize the nominee's accomplishments and your reason for nominating this individual, program, or organization.

Relationship to Nominee (Mandatory)

Do you have a financial or familiar relationship to the nominee? Yes No

If you selected yes, on a separate piece of paper, please summarize your relationship to the nominee.

To the best of my knowledge, all of the information contained in this application is true and correct.

The following information is to be completed by the nominee:

Nominee's Full Name _____

Name for Award Plaque (if different from full name) _____

If you are nominating a group of individuals, please ensure that the plaque name provided is the same for each nominee in that group. You must submit a nomination form for each nominee. A group will receive only one plaque.

Nominee's Title _____ Nominee's Organization _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone Number (____) _____ Fax Number (____) _____ E-Mail _____

Voluntary Nominees Demographic Data

The following information regarding nominee demographics is collected on a voluntary basis. Gender: Male Female

Racial/Ethnic Background:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> African-American | <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaska Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian and Pacific Islander |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian | <input type="checkbox"/> Latina/o | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Please Specify _____ |

Terms of Award

If this nomination is chosen for consideration—

- The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), a component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, is authorized to contact the nominee for his or her date of birth and Social Security number in order to initiate a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) name check. This information is needed to provide enough identifying data to allow a search of FBI records and federal, state, and local law enforcement civil and criminal records. The results of the name check are used to assist OVC in making a determination of suitability or eligibility to receive a National Crime Victims' Service Award. Furnishing this information is voluntary; however, if a nominee chooses not to provide it, the refusal may result in a determination of ineligibility to receive a National Crime Victims' Service Award. To participate on stage in the awards ceremony, individual award recipients, members of a group award recipient, and accompanying officials must provide the same information for a name check upon request.

If chosen for an award, the nominee agrees to—

- Participate in all National Crime Victims' Service Awards Ceremony events taking place in Washington, D.C. Award recipients' travel expenses will be reimbursed within Federal Government guidelines. For group nominations, expenses will be reimbursed for a maximum of two nominees.
- The general use by the media and posting to Federal Government component Web sites of their photographic portraits or pictures, digital images, videotapes, other media material, and sound recordings. The media will be invited to participate in all events associated with National Crime Victims' Rights Week.
- The public dissemination of their biographical information, including award-related personal and/or professional stories.

I acknowledge that I read and understood the above Terms of Award.

Nomination Letters

ENTRIES DUE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2014

Each nomination form must be accompanied by a 100-word abstract and a nomination letter. If you are nominating a group of individuals who work on a specific project, please submit one nomination letter and abstract for the group of individuals, with a separate nomination form for each individual in the group. Nomination letters must address the questions listed under the award type below and should comply with nomination submission guideline #4.

For a detailed description of each award category, visit www.ovc.gov/ncvrwnominations.

ALLIED PROFESSIONAL AWARD

- ★ In what ways does the nominee serve victims and/or contribute to the victims field?
- ★ How does the nominee's service to victims enhance or increase collaboration in the nominee's line of work and the victims of crime field?
- ★ How has the nominee's service or program affected the community, state, or Nation?

AWARD FOR PROFESSIONAL INNOVATION IN VICTIM SERVICES

- ★ Describe how the nominee's work brought about effective responses in a new or nontraditional area of victims' rights or services.
- ★ What accomplishments can be attributed to the nominee on behalf of crime victims, and how are those accomplishments unique and original?
- ★ How did the nominee's service or program affect the community or other jurisdictions?
- ★ How did the nominee's actions influence attitudes, policies, or practices?

CRIME VICTIMS FINANCIAL RESTORATION AWARD

- ★ Describe the nominee's approach to providing either a new or innovative approach to funding crime victim services at the state, tribal, federal, or national level, or for securing financial restoration for crime victims.
- ★ Describe any new collaborative partnerships formed to advance these innovative approaches.
- ★ How do these approaches benefit crime victims or the crime victims field?
- ★ What efforts did the nominee undertake to promote awareness of these approaches for financial restoration?

CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS AWARD

- ★ Describe the nominee's accomplishments to advance or enforce crime victims' rights.
- ★ How did the nominee's work affect change in crime victims' rights at the state, tribal, federal, or national level?
- ★ What policies or procedures were implemented as a result of the nominee's accomplishment(s)?

- ★ In what way is the nominee's demonstrated work extraordinary or innovative in terms of crime victims' rights?

FEDERAL SERVICE AWARD

- ★ What extraordinary assistance did the nominee provide for victims of federal crime(s)?
- ★ How did the nominee's achievements affect a specific category of victims (homicide, identity theft, etc.), victims in general, their agency, or the Federal Government's response to crime victims, underserved victims, or communities?
- ★ What innovative changes in attitudes, policies, or practices were brought about by the nominee?
- ★ Why are the nominee's contributions considered beyond the call of duty?

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIM SERVICE AWARD

- ★ Describe why the nominee is deserving of this prestigious award from OVC.
- ★ What did the nominee accomplish on behalf of crime victims that is particularly noteworthy?
- ★ How does the nominee's service or program affect the community or other jurisdictions?
- ★ How do the nominee's actions influence attitudes, policies, or practices in victim services?

RONALD WILSON REAGAN PUBLIC POLICY AWARD

- ★ What innovations in public policy did the nominee develop that benefit crime victims, and how are those innovations unique and original?
- ★ How did the nominee's leadership and vision help to change public policy and influence attitudes?
- ★ What impact does the nominee's work have in the community, state, or Nation?

SPECIAL COURAGE AWARD

- ★ What act of courage did the nominee perform, either in the aftermath of his or her own victimization or by coming to the aid of another victim?
- ★ How is this act extraordinary?
- ★ Who were the beneficiaries of this courageous act?

- ★ Can you provide verification of this act? Submit newspaper articles or links to media reports.

VISION 21 CRIME VICTIMS RESEARCH AWARD

- ★ In what ways did this research impact victim services policy or practice? Provide a citation or link to the research report or study.
- ★ How did the research respond to a critical information need in the field?
- ★ How is the research project tied to the philosophy of Vision 21? Find information on Vision 21 at <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/vision21/>.
- ★ Does the research feature a partnership between a researcher and a practitioner?
- ★ Did the researchers do something extraordinary to translate their findings for the field?

VOLUNTEER FOR VICTIMS AWARD

- ★ How did the nominee's voluntary actions and assistance impact the lives of victims?
- ★ What makes the nominee's volunteer contributions to victim services extraordinary?
- ★ How does the nominee's service or program impact the community or victim services field?
- ★ Describe how the nominee's selfless efforts resulted in positive and lasting changes in the lives of crime victims.



