

THE VICTIM SERVICES PERSPECTIVE

Serving Crime Victims of Tennessee since 1993



**TENNESSEE BOARD OF PAROLE
VICTIM SERVICES:**

DIRECTOR

Doreisha Davis

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Rita Jorgensen

PROGRAM SPECIALIST

Carolyn Prowell Scott



**TENNESSEE BOARD OF PAROLE
VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION**

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WELCOME TO THE NEW EDITION of the BOP VICTIM SERVICES NEWSLETTER

After seven years at the helm of the BOP Victim Services Division, the Board of Parole said farewell to Director Tina Fox at the end of February, 2019. Our new Director is demonstrating a strong commitment to carry the torch forward and continue the work that has been laid over the past 25 years by Tina and the two Victim Services Directors before her.

Doreisha Davis assumed the role of Director of Victim Services for the Board of Parole in February 2019. Doreisha has over eleven years of experience with the State of Tennessee as a Special Agent/Criminal Investigator for the Office of Inspector General.

Doreisha is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University. Since graduation, Doreisha has continued to make Murfreesboro her home, where she lives with her two children.



CONGRATULATIONS: RETIREMENTS, APPOINTMENTS



Sue Tester

Sue Tester began her career with the Board of Probation and Parole in 1989 as a Parole Officer in Sullivan County. She was one of the original Victim Coordinators when the positions were first created. Sue served for many years as the Northeast Tennessee Victim Coordinator while also working a caseload. In 2006, she received the inaugural Victim Services Professional of the Year award. When Sue retired at the beginning of May, 2019 she was the District 10 Regional Victim Coordinator, in the Johnson City Probation and Parole Office. Since Sue's retirement, we have heard that she is enjoying the opportunity to spend more time with her grandchildren.



Pam Hopkins

In late June 2019, Pamela Hopkins retired as the Regional Victim Coordinator for District 31 in the Cookeville Probation and Parole Office, after serving 14 years with TDOC. As the Victim Coordinator, Pam felt humble and grateful to have had the opportunity to meet so many people who have shown strength and determination, while dealing with life-altering crimes. She said she would remember those people forever, as they have taught her how to live every day as a gift. We have Pam to thank for being solely responsible for the tree planting ceremonies honoring crime victims during National Crime Victims' Rights Week. She planted the first tree in the Cookeville area in 2008.

Now that Pam has retired, her motto is to enjoy every day and learn new things along the way. She has a long bucket list that she is excited to now have the opportunity to enjoy working on and living her best life!



Allyson Frasier

We would like to extend a warm welcome to TDOC's newest Victim Services Coordinator, Allyson Frasier! Allyson was hired to work in the District 31 Cookeville Office in mid-July. Allyson was born and raised in Sparta, Tennessee. She is filling the position of recently retired Victim Services Coordinator Pam Hopkins.

Most recently, Allyson has had the privilege of being a stay-at-home mom to her four children, ages 10 months to 9 years. Previously, she worked as a Customer Service Representative at SunTrust Bank, where she enjoyed helping customers in various ways. Allyson feels that her strong customer service skills will translate well in her new role of helping victims and their families. She is excited to have started this new career and is anxious to learn everything she can, as quickly as she can, in order to offer the best support possible.

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VICTIM COORDINATOR SPOTLIGHT



Sandra (Sandy) Rawles

When Sue Tester left her position, she left it in the very capable hands of Sandy Rawles. Sandy had been working alongside of Sue for over a year prior to Sue's retirement. Besides assuming the role of Regional Victim Coordinator for District 10, Sandy is the Probation/Parole Manager for the Greeneville TDOC Community Supervision Office.

In 2013, Sandy was selected to attend the first TDOC Basic Probation/Parole Officer training, at which she received the Superintendent's Award of Excellence. Upon completion of the class, she made Tennessee history by being the first Probation/Parole Officer in the 1st Judicial District to be commissioned to carry a firearm.

Sandy is also a TDOC Sergeant's Academy graduate and Field Training Officer. She has completed over 200 hours of gang training and monitors gang activity in her district. Sandy expressed that she loves working in the criminal justice field and cannot imagine ever doing any other type of work.

Bridget Cornwell will continue to be the Cookeville back-up Victim Coordinator, along with her official position as a PSU Officer, monitoring the compliance of her sex offender caseload in District 31.

2019 NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK (NCVRW)



Nashville NCVRW

Crime victims all around the country were honored during the week of April 7 - 13, 2019. In Tennessee, the Board of Parole, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Department of Correction and TRICOR worked together to hold a special ceremony each day. This year, ceremonies were held in Nashville, Chattanooga, Memphis, Jackson and Johnson City. Rather than planting a tree at each location, this year's events were more diverse. They included an Honor Guard presentation and buglers, bell-ringing for victims, a dove release, a tree planting and a candle-lighting ceremony. Each event held special significance for those in attendance.



Chattanooga NCVRW



In 2020, National Crime Victims' Rights Week will be held April 19-25.



Memphis NCVRW

Jackson NCVRW



Johnson City NCVRW



TBOP/TDOC JOINT TRAINING



During May and June 2019, BOP Victim Services Director Davis and Assistant Director Jorgensen, along with TDOC Victim Services Coordinator Tamika Dobbins, held their annual joint trainings in the three grand divisions of Tennessee. These trainings were held in Jackson, Nashville and at Morgan County Correctional Complex for various classifications of correctional staff, including IPPOs, counselors and intake staff, among others.

Some of the topics covered at the training included discussions about what the BOP and TDOC Victim Services do, how to interact with victims, victim rights, release notifications and making sure the correct forms are being used, as well as a policy refresher.



Prior to the presentation, some of the groups participated in a role playing exercise called “In Her Shoes” where they were split into small groups and were given cards that held the description of a character who was a victim of domestic abuse. Throughout the conference room were different life choices the group could choose for their character to get help and out of the domestic abuse situation; such as whether to go to counseling, find a support group, talk to friends and family, get a job or go to the doctor.



A PERSON'S MOST USEFUL ASSET IS NOT A HEAD FULL OF KNOWLEDGE, *but a heart full of love,* AN EAR READY TO LISTEN, AND A HAND WILLING TO HELP OTHERS.

Many participants found that their character didn't have many options to get out of their situation, and expressed frustration because they were unable to find help. The exercise really put the participants in the shoes of the victim.



SHOW ME THE NUMBERS



TENNESSEE BOARD OF PAROLE VICTIM SERVICES QUARTERLY STATISTICS



| Telephone Calls at Central Office | June | May | April | FY YTD |
|--|------|-----|-------|--------|
| Phone Calls Received/Returned | 109 | 112 | 125 | 2,217 |
| *Interested Parties Registered for Notifications | 10 | 8 | 9 | 392 |
| Hearing Information | 37 | 44 | 42 | 795 |
| Referrals | 0 | 0 | 1 | 50 |
| Release/Parole Inquiry | 18 | 21 | 9 | 252 |
| Other | 44 | 39 | 64 | 703 |

| Statewide Hearings Collaboration | June | May | April | FY YTD |
|--|------|-----|-------|--------|
| Virtual Video Hearing Rooms Scheduled (Includes Grants/Revos/T/S, etc. hearings) | 37 | 36 | 39 | 373 |
| Scheduled Video Hearings for Opposition | 11 | 17 | 19 | 166 |
| Opposition Attending Video Hearings (BOP Central Office/TDOC Offices) | 24 | 60 | 82 | 599 |
| TOTAL Opposition Attending Hearings | 25 | 67 | 90 | 814 |

| Central Office Correspondences | June | May | April | FY YTD |
|---|------|-----|-------|--------|
| All Correspondence Items Received | 285 | 292 | 312 | 3,648 |
| *Interested Parties Registered via Correspondence | 26* | 1 | 1 | 92 |
| Letters of Opposition | 170 | 179 | 203 | 2,105 |
| Victim Impact Statements | 6 | 20 | 13 | 182 |
| Petition Letters/Signed Petitions | 2 | 8 | 1 | 325 |
| Others (H/D/R Notifications, Memos, Restitution Requests, etc.) | 107 | 83 | 94 | 935 |

*The total number of IP registered via Correspondence is included in the Letters of Opposition, Victim Impact Statements, and/or Others total count.

| GRAND TOTALS | June | May | April | FY YTD |
|---|------|-----|-------|--------|
| Monthly Total (Telephone/Correspondence) | 394 | 404 | 437 | 6,472 |
| *Total Registered (Hearings/Decisions/Releases) | 36 | 9 | 10 | 480 |

BOARD OF PAROLE'S VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION
SERVING CRIME VICTIMS OF TENNESSEE SINCE 1993

CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION

A program of the Tennessee Department of Treasury

David H. Lillard, Jr.
State Treasurer

If you or someone you know has been an innocent victim of violent crime in Tennessee, the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund may be a financial resource for you.

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund was established as a fund of last resort to financially assist innocent victims of violent crime in Tennessee that results in personal injury. In the case of death, dependent relatives may be eligible for compensation. The program has paid out \$301.2 million in claims to victims and their families since 1982.

Victims and claimants who meet eligibility requirements may be reimbursed for medical expenses, loss of wages, funeral expenses and other unforeseen costs related to the crime.

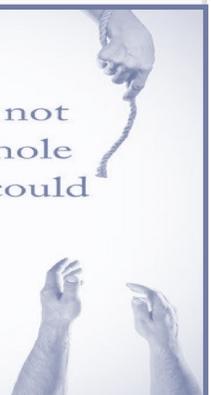
NOTE: This is general information, and is not intended to be used as a sole source. Please visit:

treasury.tn.gov/injury

or call: (615) 741-2734

for more information on the Criminal Injuries Compensation Program.

Helping one person might not change the whole world, but it could change the world for one person.



UPCOMING EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

REFUSE TO BE A VICTIM SEMINAR by Citizens Safety Academy

COST: \$35

DATE AND TIME: Saturday, August 17, 2019, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM CDT

LOCATION: Citizens Safety Academy
752 E. Northfield Blvd
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

DESCRIPTION: Safety experts agree that the single most important step toward ensuring your personal safety is making the conscious decision to **Refuse To Be A Victim**®. You stand a much better chance of preventing criminal attacks if you develop a safety plan before you need it. That is why the **Refuse To Be A Victim**® crime prevention seminar was developed. It is a program of the National Rifle Association, and the instructors at Citizens Safety Academy are trained and certified to teach it nationwide. This is a non-shooting class that offers general safety tools other than firearms. **Topics include:**

- + Psychology of the Criminal Mind
- + Home & Phone Security
- + Automobile & Travel Security
- + Personal Security
- + Self-Defense Devices
- + Additional Training Options
- + And much more!

TENNESSEE BOARD OF PAROLE VICTIM SERVICES' GOAL:

To be recognized as a leader in providing victim services of educating and supporting victims on the parole process, fulfilling the laws that govern/protect their rights and addressing any immediate public safety concerns.

VICTIMS' FOCUSED



IF YOU'RE A VICTIM OF CRIME, PLEASE CONTACT FOR HELP:

- Tennessee Domestic Violence Hotline - 800-356-6767
- National Domestic Violence Hotline - 800.799.SAFE
- Battered Women's Justice Project - 800.903.0111
- Mothers Against Drunk Driving - 877.MADD.HELP
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children - 800.843.5678
- Tennessee Human Trafficking Hotline—1-855-558-6484
- National Human Trafficking Hotline - 888.373.7888
- Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund - 615.741.2734



TENNESSEE BOARD OF PAROLE VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION

**404 James Robertson Pkwy, Suite 1300
Nashville, TN 37243**

**Phone: 615-532-8112
Toll Free: 866-795-7467
Fax: 615-253-5677**

Email: victim.witness@tn.gov

DOREISHA DAVIS

**Victim Services State Director
Doreisha.Davis@tn.gov**

RITA JORGENSEN

**Victim Services Assistant Director
Rita.Jorgensen@tn.gov**

CAROLYN PROWELL SCOTT

**Victim Services Program Specialist
Carolyn.Scott@tn.gov**

