

VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION MINUTES – PENDING APPROVAL	
Committee	Utah Victim Services Commission
Date	Wednesday, June 25th, 2025
Time	12 PM - 2 PM
Location	Hybrid Zoom Virtual meeting – Beehive Room, East Senate Building
Members Present	<p><u>Virtual Attendance:</u> Natalia Mataya (for Liliana Olvera-Arbon), Max Pierce (for Jennifer Campbell), Rep. Ken Ivory</p> <p><u>In-Person Attendance:</u> Alissa Black, Tracey Tabet, Elizabeth Klc (for Tom Ross), Doug Fawson, Chief Sol Oberg, Dale Olyer (for Chyleen Richey), Beau Mason</p>
Staff & Visitors	<p><u>In-Person Staff:</u> Danica Bodley, Rachelle Hill, Marlesse Jones</p> <p><u>Virtual Staff:</u> Ken Matthews, Mikaylee Sanchez-Paz, Vickie Bushman</p> <p><u>In-Person Visitors:</u> Lana Taylor, Erin Jemison,</p> <p><u>Virtual Visitors:</u> Robert Steed, Andrea Noyes-Grand, Charri Brummer,</p>
Agenda Item	Welcome & Introductions/ Establish Quorum – Alissa Black, Chair
Notes	<p>Alissa Black welcomes everyone to the June 25th, 2025 Victim Services Commission (VSC) meeting.</p> <p>Motion: Chief Sol Oberg motions to approve the minutes from the May 28th meeting. Elizabeth Klc (for Tom Ross) seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.</p> <p>Membership Changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Hansen is now a judge and no longer sits as a member on the VSC. • Beau Mason now sits as the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety. • Nubia Pena has left her position, which has been posted. <p>VSC Representation on SOMAC</p> <p>Liliana Olvera-Arbon has been selected by Tom Ross of CCJJ as the new VSC representative on the Sentencing Commission and SOMAC. The VSC pledged its support for her in this role.</p>
Agenda Item	Victim Rights Appointments and Consent – Katie Fox, Victim Rights Coordinator
Notes	<p>Tracey Tabet fills in for Katie Fox on the reporting for the Victim Rights Committee.</p> <p>Scott Brenkman, the new director of the Children's Center (and former police chief for Weber), was nominated and approved as a member of the Second District's Rights Committee. He has a long history of working on these issues.</p> <p>Motion: Tracey Tabet motions for the commission to consent for the approval of Scott Brenkman as the Second District's Victims Rights Chair. Chief Sol Oberg seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.</p> <p>Fifth District Chair Vacancy</p> <p>Following Susan Hunt's departure, a new chair is needed for the Fifth District (Washington County). Members were asked to send suggestions to Marlesse and Rachelle for consideration at a future date.</p>
Agenda Item	Study Core Outcome – Christian Sarver, Ph.D., Associate Director & Mariah Cowell, UCJC, UofU
Notes	<p>Christian Sarver and Mariah Cowell presented a draft of system-wide goals for victim services in Utah. These goals will be used as part of a study to evaluate the functioning of victim services and "provide priorities across the board."</p> <p>The goals are intended to apply across the entire victim services cascade, including providers, funders, administrators, and legislative bodies, ensuring coherence about what are our funding priorities, and what are the services we want to make sure exist.</p>

	<p>Across a range of domains (crime type, geography, culture). Representative Ken Ivory noted the goal is to prevent "disparate levels of service." This goal is supported by the ongoing resource mapping component of the study, which identifies existing services and funding by county to assess adequacy.</p> <p>Between service providers and stakeholders to ensure "no wrong door for accessing assistance," promoting warm handoffs and preventing funding silos.</p> <p>Regarding criminal justice, community, and other available options for victims. On treatment engagement and identifying and addressing needs, allowing survivors to define their goals. Discussion arose regarding the inclusion of perpetrator treatment within this goal, with recognition that a better response to perpetrators improves public and victim safety. While not the primary focus, it is acknowledged as an intertwined aspect.</p> <p>Quality services are determined and delivered as intended.</p> <p>This aspirational goal of addressing causes of vulnerability, generated a significant discussion due to concerns about providers' capacity to address deep-rooted issues like poverty. The intent is for this to be a "system goal" that drives discussions at the administrative and funding levels, rather than a punitive measure for individual providers. It aims to interrupt cycles of trauma and violence by linking victims to broader services (e.g., housing vouchers).</p> <p><u>Feedback & Next Steps</u> The goals are still in draft form. Feedback from subcommittees included suggestions for word-smithing, clarification on the definition of "access" (potentially changing to "adequacy"), and addressing concerns about HB261. Members were encouraged to email further thoughts to the research team. The goals will be discussed again at a future meeting (likely August).</p> <p><u>Measurable Outcomes (KPIs)</u> While the presented goals are broad, measurable outcomes (KPIs) will be hierarchically organized underneath them, specialized for different provider types (e.g., for a mental health provider, measuring regular contact or therapeutic response).</p>
Agenda Item	Crime Victims Conference – <i>Rachelle Hill, VSC Assistant</i>
Notes	<p>Rachelle Hill provides information regarding the future of the Crime Victims Conference.</p> <p>A survey of past attendees (108 responses) revealed strong support for maintaining the conference largely as is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Price Increase</u>: 92% were open to a slight price increase. • <u>Timing</u>: Strong preference to keep the conference at the end of April, avoiding summer months due to declining attendance. • <u>Location</u>: Overwhelming preference for the Zermatt due to its atmosphere and networking opportunities. Davis County Conference Center was a low preference. UofU offered free meeting space but had significant parking costs and a preference for June/July dates. • <u>Duration</u>: Majority preferred the two-day (day and a half) format, valued for offering a break from the office and networking. <p>Motion: Chief Sol Oberg motion to move forward with a one-year contract with the Zermatt for the upcoming year, with the possibility of a longer contract in the future. Elizabeth Klc (for Tom Ross) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p><u>Legislative Fee Schedule</u> The current registration fee of \$150 is "incredibly low," and the VSC will need to investigate legislative changes required to adjust it.</p>

	<p><u>Steering Committee</u> Rachelle encouraged VSC members to participate in the conference steering committee to broaden representation and incorporate diverse perspectives (e.g., law enforcement, DPS). The goal is to increase law enforcement and prosecutor attendance to foster relationships and shared learning.</p>
Agenda Item	Priorities – <i>Alissa Black, VSC Chair & Marlesse Jones, VSC Director</i>
Notes	<p>The VSC discussed whether to address priorities immediately or defer a deeper dive to the September annual meeting, where more time would be available for comprehensive discussion and subcommittee reports. The decision was made to postpone a detailed discussion until the September annual meeting.</p> <p>The commission decided to identify priorities to discuss for future meetings.</p> <p><u>Victim Privacy (Digital Devices)</u> Determine ways to protect victim privacy when digital devices are seized while balancing other concerns (likely connected to Representative Clancy's re-running privacy bill).</p> <p><u>One-Time Funding Renewal</u> Address the expiration of 2023 one-time funding. Representative Ivory emphasized the need for an overall education offensive to remind current leadership about the initial rationale for the 2023 funding package, its inadequacy in fully addressing needs, and the cost of not funding these services. He offered to facilitate discussions with legislative committees, the Governor, and Lieutenant Governor.</p> <p><u>Jail Release Waivers</u> These are currently being addressed by the DV subcommittee.</p> <p><u>Funding for Crime Prevention</u> Especially in light of Utah's high rates of child abuse and sex assault. This is seen as a legislative education piece.</p> <p><u>Seamless & Trauma-Informed System Handoffs</u> Improve transitions for victims.</p> <p><u>SJR8</u> Will be a VSC priority, not a subcommittee work item.</p> <p><u>Polygraph Bill</u> Will be a VSC support item, as Representative Romero is expected to re-run it.</p> <p><u>Inmate Demographics (Sex Offenders)</u> A brief discussion noted the high proportion of sex offenders within the inmate population (almost 40% of all inmates, approx. 2500 sex offenders).</p>
Agenda Item	Other Business
Notes	No other business was addressed.
Agenda Item	Public Comment
Notes	Public comment invited. None given.
Agenda Item	Adjourn
Notes	Motion: Tracey Tabet motions for the commission to adjourn. Chief Sol Oberg seconds the motion. The commission adjourns.

