

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF VICTIM SERVICE PROFESSIONALS IN CORRECTIONS
5TH ANNUAL VICTIM OFFENDER DIALOGUE SUMMIT

Refining Our Practice

Portland, Maine – Wednesday, October 20, 2010 – Schedule

7:30 am Registration Opens

8:00 am – 8:45 am Opening Session – Welcome & Introductions
Facilitated by Karin Ho & Jon Wilson

8:45 am – 9:00 am BREAK

9:00 am – 10:15 am Defense-Initiated Victim Outreach (DIVO) in Death Penalty Cases: An Exploration of its Mission and Challenges

Defense teams in Death Penalty cases have been reaching out to victims' families with greater frequency and determination in recent years, and DIVO representatives have been working to connect these families directly with the defense, in hopes of facilitating communication. This session offers perspective from DIVO practitioner and trainer Lorraine Stutzman-Amstutz, and also provides the Ohio Victim Services perspective on successful and not-so-successful approaches to this challenging initiative.

Presented by Karin Ho, Roxanne Swogger, and Lorraine Stutzman-Amstutz

10:15 am – 10:30 am BREAK

10:30 am – 12:00 pm A Survivor Speaks on her VOD Experiences, and an Offender Reflects on Accountability – Post-VOD

The mother of a murdered son, who has now met in separate VODs with two of the offenders involved in her son's murder, will discuss some of her experiences, joined by one of the offenders – who is now released, and evidently committed to change.

Facilitated by Jon Wilson

12:00 – 1:00 pm LUNCH

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Differing Policies on Case Management, Confidentiality, Recordings, and Notes: Are These Differences Putting Programs at Risk in Any Way? *A Panel Discussion.*

Each state's VOD policies vary from others, from whether to allow certain kinds of cases to whether – or how – to record VOD preparation and/or dialogue sessions. Is it possible to work toward national standards? The panel will explore these questions.

With Erin Gaffney, Denise Giles, Mark Odom, and Jon Wilson. Facilitated by Karin Ho

2:00 pm – 2:15 pm BREAK

**2:15 pm – 4:15 pm Promise and Peril in VOD Cases Involving Domestic
Violence and Sexual Assault Survivors and Offenders**

Cases involving DV and sexual assault and exploitation are successfully facilitated in some states, but not even allowed in others. We'll explore some of the issues involved – and some failures and successes – in these complex and delicate situations.

A Floor Discussion facilitated by Karin Ho & Jon Wilson

**4:15 pm – 5:15 pm Making VOD Laws that Work – for Survivors, for Offenders,
and for Victim Services: An Update from Virginia**

As a result of the indefatigable efforts of sexual assault survivor Debbie Smith, the Virginia General Assembly has recently been working to enact legislation supporting survivors' determination to meet and talk with their incarcerated offenders. While this may appear at first glance to be a triumph for survivors, the legislation may end up creating more challenges and complications than its authors ever imagined. Has the result been successful? Wendy Lohr-Hopp, Director of Victim Services for VADOC, will give us an update on the situation, and we'll discuss the issues.

Presentation and Floor Discussion Facilitated by Jon Wilson

5:15 pm – 5:30 pm Wrap-Up and Conclusion

DINNER on Your Own

8:00 pm – 9:30 pm EVENING PROGRAM: VOD and the Challenge of the Media

With the recent increased interest in VOD by network and cable television production companies, VOD Program Directors are receiving more and more requests to film VOD preparation and/or dialogue sessions. The approaches seem much as they have always been, with many producers assuming the process is (a) simple, (b) very adaptable to their schedule, and (c) unburdened by issues of privacy, intimacy, and confidentiality. In a challenging experience with ESPN in New York, Janet Koupash co-facilitated a VOD that was filmed and edited way down for inclusion in the ESPN show, "E60." Janet will discuss the ESPN experience and its challenges, and offer cautionary insights for all Program Directors who receive such requests. There will also be an opportunity for others who have experience working with producers developing similar stories to share some of their own experiences, if they wish to.

Presentation and Floor Discussion.

Note: Presenters and panel participants subject to change due to budget constraints.