



## SOUTH CAROLINA

# Victim Services Coordinating Council

**Barbara Jean (BJ) Nelson - Chair**  
SC Crime Victim Services  
Division Office of the Attorney  
General

**Nettie Jacobs**  
SC Department of Probation,  
Parole and Pardon Services

**Lisa Catalanotto**  
SC Commission on  
Prosecution Coordination

**Karin Ho**  
SC Department of Corrections

**Marcia Nobles**  
SC Department of Juvenile Justice

**Nataki Brown**  
SC Department of Crime Victim  
Ombudsman, Crime Victim  
Services Division, Office of the  
Attorney General

**Salley Foster**  
SC Sheriffs' Association

**John Dunn**  
SC Solicitors' Advocate Forum

**Tressa Dixon**  
SC Law Enforcement  
Victim Advocate

**Sara Barber**  
SC Coalition Against Domestic  
Violence and Sexual Assault

**Trisha Allen**  
SC Attorney General's Office

**Joe Corey, Deputy Director**  
SC Department of Crime Victim  
Assistance Grants, Crime Victim  
Services Division, Office of the  
Attorney General

**Chief Dana Crowell**  
SC Police Chiefs' Association

**Dean Kilpatrick, Ph.D.**  
Medical University of SC

**Laura Hudson**  
SC Victim Assistance Network

**Debbie Curtis, Deputy Director**  
SC Department of Crime Victim  
Compensation, Crime Victim  
Services Division, Office of the  
Attorney General

**Thomas Knapp**  
SC Network of Children's  
Advocacy Centers

**Jada Charley**  
SAFE Homes-Rape Crisis  
Coalition

**Kassy Alia Ray, Ph.D**  
Serve & Connect

**Ginger Dukes, Deputy Director**  
SC Department of Crime Victim  
Services Training, Provider  
Certification and Statistical  
Analysis, Crime Victim Services  
Division, Office of the Attorney  
General

**Ashley Olayinka**  
The Hive Community Circle

**Chief John C. Hicks, Jr.**  
SC Jail Administrators'

### VSCC MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** Thursday, November 20, 2025

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Nataki Brown, Joe Corey, Ginger Dukes, John Dunn, Missy Knight (Nettie Jacobs), Jan Nobles, Dexter Boyd (Debbie Curtis) Shannon Geary (Laura Hudson), Dean Kilpatrick, Karin Ho, Jennifer Aplin (Lisa Catalanotto), Kassy Alia Ray, Salley Foster

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Barbara Jean "BJ" Nelson, Ashley Olayinka, Tressa Dixon, Chief John C. Hicks, Jr., Trisha Allen, Jada Charley, Chief Dana Crowell, Thomas Knapp, Sara Barber

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Steve Yarborough, Patrick Cable, Christina Toler, Cyril Belton, Sheila Hoffman, Mary Trunk (Guest Speaker)

#### • CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting was called to order by Deputy Director, Nataki Brown (on behalf of Barbara Jean "BJ" Nelson).

#### • APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes from the previous meeting (May 22, 2025) were reviewed and approved.

#### • BUSINESS

**Guest Speaker (*Mary Trunk, Able SC, Violence Prevention and Survivor Services Coordinator*)**

- Able SC is a disability-led organization seeking transformational changes in systems, communities, and individuals.
- Consumer-controlled, community-based, cross-disability nonprofit that seeks to make South Carolina a national model of equity and inclusion for all people with disabilities.
- Practice co-equality, disability justice and representation, and true inclusion through consumer-driven independence and disability pride.
- Mission: Able SC is an organization of people with disabilities leading the charge to equip people with disabilities with tools to foster pride and direct their own lives; to educate the community; to challenge stereotypes and eliminate barriers; to advocate for access, equity, and inclusion at the individual, local, state, and national level.



- Vision: To make South Carolina the national model for equity and inclusion for all people with disabilities.
  - Mary Trunk is a Certified Victim Service Provider and gave personal testimony of her own non-apparent disabilities which gives her a better connection with the people they serve.
  - Has a grant from Richland County called Providing Access to Safe Services (PASS) since 2022, aimed at training law enforcement and victim service providers on survivors with disabilities.
  - Has a Federal grant through the SC Attorney General's Office since 2023 called Equitable Services for Survivors with Disabilities Project (ESSDP).
  - Has a new grant through OVC that provides comprehensive financial assistance and support services to at least 20 survivors with disabilities. Allows for the purchase of food, clothing, transitional housing, transportation and other essential items.
  - Having successful training with the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (SCCADVASA) members on accessibility, disability culture, and serving survivors with disabilities.
  - Mary detailed the prevalence of abuse in the disabled community. She also addressed "How to identify and Respond" to caregiver abuse.
  - Joe Corey inquired about the length of the OVC grant, Mary replied, "two years".
  - John Dunn asked if Mary about referral capabilities, Mary responded, "by email".
  - Ginger reminded Mary when she goes out for any trainings with service providers, to always apply for hours through CVST.
  - For more information, visit [www.able-sc.org](http://www.able-sc.org).
- **Leadership Training Update (*Ginger Dukes, Deputy Director*):**
    - A letter will go out to agency leadership next September requesting nominations for the next Leadership Development Class.
    - New Noncompliance Policy was shared with Council members and distributed to the Council members by email. Ginger summarized the policy.
    - Jennifer Aplin asked if CVST will show hours online. Per Ginger, CVST is looking at Learning Management Systems in conjunction with other areas like DCVC and Human Trafficking to allow individuals to view their hours online, as well as some other features.
    - The goal is to have such a system in place in the next year or two.
    - In the meantime, people can inquire about their hours by phone.
    - Ginger provided information concerning suspension and denial of training certification with discussion.



- **Grants Update (*Joe Corey, Deputy Director*):**

- We have activated our 2025-2026 Grants will hold their solicitation workshop in February 2026.
- Grants will hold their Solicitation Workshop in February 2026.
- Federal funding for 2026 is still uncertain. Waiting to receive more information on that.
- Unspent state money will act as a cushion.
- Grants department is currently working on the VAWA Implementation Plan.

- **Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) (*Christina Toler, Lead*):**

- ACP launched in October.
- They currently have eight participants across four counties, Horry, Richland, York, Greenville and expecting Aiken.
- ACP has established a protocol with three different counties whereby we verify the confidential address tax district with the Auditor. We then provide a letter to the participant that they use when they go to the Treasurer's Office to notify them of the Tax District without providing their confidential address. This way, neither office will ever have the confidential address with the participant's name attached.
- ACP has held eleven application assistant trainings with 375 VSPs attending.
- They have 52 registered application assistants.
- 36 out of 46 counties have at least one registered application assistant.
- Successfully receiving, packaging and forwarding all mail.
- One participant successfully received their driver's license with the substitute address listed.

- **COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATES**

***Sally Foster:***

- No updates.

***Shannon Geary (Laura Hudson):***

- Registration for VRW has opened with about 55 training sessions over the virtual and in-person week. Confirming over 40 speakers.
- The SC Elder Justice Network received the FBI's Community Leadership Award.
- Calendar of events/trainings for the Network 2026 should be coming out soon.



- FNE Team just awarded another law enforcement safe designation. Now up to six law enforcement departments that have that designation.
- Collaborating with the Criminal Justice Academy to film their training videos for that so we can have a wider reach in 2026.
- VRW registration opened. Will have 55 training sessions. Have confirmed over 40 speakers.
- Peer to Peer Team just wrapped up their first cohort with survivors of homicide.

### ***Dean Kilpatrick:***

- Would like to locate a copy of the old Mass Violence Plan for SC, spearheaded by Burke Fitzpatrick, for the purpose of updating. If the old plan can't be located, a new Mass Violence Plan should be prepared.
- Highlighted the fact that SC is not immune to mass violence events.
- Per Ginger, the plan may be attached to the mass violence grant.
- Joe stated he will look into it further.

### ***Jan Nobles:***

- Announced that they recently hired a Facility Advocate, filling a pre-existing position. The Advocate will be overseeing restitutions.

### ***Karin Ho:***

- With Human Trafficking, they have partnered with two organizations, Lighthouse for Life and Switch, to share the video, *Slave in Your Backyard* with detention centers.
- Thus far, they have only been to all female facilities. An invitation was given to the Council members to join them whenever they would like to attend.
- Female inmates have connected to the documentary. Some of them did not realize they had been trafficked and were directed to resources.
- Anticipating that men may relate to trafficker in the film.
- Victim/Offender Dialog Agreement is being renewed.
- They are conducting an advanced training for sexual assault specific dialogs. Only two trainees per state are admitted, but Karin may be able to squeeze in four.
- Jan gave kudos to the training and commented that it may have been one of the best trainings she had gone to in her career.



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## ***Kassy Alia Ray:***

- Statewide grocery packing event has been rescheduled for December 2, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Criminal Justice Academy.
- Yesterday they had a successful Bountiful Harvest event in Lexington. They have another event scheduled off Decker Boulevard on Sunday, and then one on Tuesday in Florence.
- Community Center, Greg's Place, named in honor of Greg Alia, near Richland Northeast Highschool opened on October 3, 2025. There are three buildings with a focus on the main building.
- The goal is to offer services for the community.
- Midlands Fatherhood Coalition is offering satellite services.
- Human Affairs Commission is offering training on cultural sensitivity for law enforcement through our SiSePuede partnership.

## ***Jennifer Aplin (Lisa Catalanotto):***

- Annual Solicitors' Conference was successfully held in October. It was very well attended with close to 200 Victim Advocates in attendance.
- Christina Toler spoke about the ACP.

## ***Missy Knight (Nettie Jacobs):***

- No updates.

## ***John Dunn:***

- At the conference he got voted in as Chair of the Victim Forum Committee.
- All of the others are from Aiken this year. Will meet with them in December for our quarterly meeting.

## ***Nataki Brown:***

- On behalf of Thomas Knapp, he wanted to report that registration is open for the Seaside Symposium on Child Abuse in Myrtle Beach, which takes place May 26-29, 2026. Registration and information can be obtained at the following link: <http://www.carolinassyposium.org/>
- Statute Review Ad Hoc Committee is proceeding well. On track to finish by April 26 and hope to have the project finalized by Summer 2026.



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***Dexter Boyd (Debbie Curtis):***

- SVAP money has been remitted for last fiscal year with a total of \$476,033.00.
- For this current fiscal year to date, we have \$185,351.92 that has been remitted.
- Counseling fee allowances were increased, effective November 1, 2025.
- Things are going well for the claims management system; vendor has been established and on schedule.
- Concerned about the 30% decrease in the number of compensation claims submitted since 2020. They are conducting reviews and meetings, trying to identify why this is occurring.

- **FUTURE MEETING DATE(S)**

Thursday, February 19, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 21, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 20, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 19, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

- Deputy Director Nataki Brown moved for adjournment. Council members seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.