# 2025 VICTIM RIGHTS AWARD CEREMONY

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May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 1 - 3 p.m.

Massachusetts State House, Grand Staircase



Massachusetts Office For Victim Assistance



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**Massachusetts Office For Victim Assistance** 

# MOVA

Victim & Witness Assistance Board

MOVA is an independent state agency governed by the Victim and Witness Assistance Board. MOVA strives to advance victim rights by ensuring all victims and survivors of crime across the Commonwealth are supported and empowered through access to high-quality services that are trauma-informed, culturally-responsive, and reflective of diverse communities. MOVA achieves this through survivor-informed work, advocacy for enhanced victim rights and services, partnerships with agencies and individuals, and a commitment to providing funding and services for underserved and marginalized communities.

#### Welcome

Liam Lowney, MOVA Executive Director

#### **Opening Remarks**

Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell

#### **Presentation of Victim Rights Month Awards**

Members, Victim & Witness Assistance Board

#### **Gerard D. Downing Leadership Award:**

**Dr. Fanta Atkinson,** Center for Homicide Bereavement, Cambridge Health Alliance

#### **Legislator of the Year Award:**

Representative Kate Hogan, 3rd Middlesex

#### **Access to Justice Award:**

**Sergeant Detective Tony D'Alba,** Chelsea Police Department

#### **Special Recognition Awards:**

Charmise Galloway Nathacha Louis

#### **Innovation Award:**

Paula Kularski, Behavioral Health Network

#### **Corporate Leadership Award:**

Issues Management Group, Dan Cence

#### **Advocate of the Year Award:**

Sonia Arrubla-Castro, Safe Passage Corinn Crowninshield, Massachusetts Probation Victim Services Mary Krol, Hilltown Community Health Centers

#### **Closing Remarks**

Liam Lowney, MOVA Executive Director



# THE GERARD D. DOWNING LEADERSHIP AWARD

recognizes a public or private agency leader who has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to advancing the rights of crime victims. This individual is recognized by his or her colleagues for their efforts in advancing victim rights.



DR. FANTA ATKINSON

Center for Homicide Bereavement, Cambridge Health Alliance Dr. Fanta Atkinson, PhD, LMHC, is a distinguished leader in the field of psychology and in the victim rights community, with nearly two decades of experience in victim service work. She currently serves as the Director of the Center for Homicide Bereavement at the Cambridge Health Alliance, a Harvard **Medical School teaching** hospital. Dr. Atkinson oversees two victim services grants and, with her expertise in traumainformed care, leads a multidisciplinary team that provides crisis intervention. consultation, and therapeutic services to individuals and families impacted by homicide, street violence, and terrorism. Her work is characterized by a deep commitment to supporting survivors and communities in the aftermath of profound loss and trauma.





# THE LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

recognizes a legislator who has made outstanding contributions to the victim rights movement through promoting legislation and policy that further rights and services to victims and survivors.



REPRESENTATIVE KATE HOGAN

MA House of Representatives

Representative Kate Hogan is in her ninth term as State Representative for the Third Middlesex District. which includes the towns of Bolton, Hudson, Maynard and Stow. In 2021, she was named **Speaker Pro Tempore by** Speaker Mariano and works as a bridge between House leadership and members to tackle the state's biggest issues. As a legislator, Representative Hogan has been a tireless advocate for building our regional economy, enhancing and improving our health care system, and a voice for our Veterans, elders and most vulnerable.





# THE ACCESS TO JUSTICE AWARD

recognizes a survivor, service provider, agency, or organization (criminal justice and/or community-based) whose leadership and outreach efforts have made victim rights and services more accessible or readily available to underserved populations.



**ANTHONY D'ALBA** 

**Chelsea Police Department** 

Anthony D'Alba has served as a police officer for 36 years. Raised in Malden, Massachusetts, he graduated from Malden Catholic High School and earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Stonehill College. In 1989, he began his law enforcement career with the Transit Police before joining the Chelsea Police Department in 1995. He was assigned to the Chelsea Police Department **Criminal Investigations Division** as a detective in 2005 and was promoted to the position of Sergeant Detective in 2017. During his 20 years as a detective, Anthony D'Alba's work has focused on investigating sexual assault crimes and crimes against children. He leads the Chelsea **Police Department Sexual** Assault Unit and has taken part in over 1400 sexual assault investigations involving children, adults, people with disabilities, and the elderly. Sergeant Detective D'Alba has testified on numerous cases in courts across New England and serves as a Task Force Officer assigned to the FBI Violent **Crimes Against Children and** Human Trafficking Taskforce. He is the recipient of a Department of Justice Investigative Achievement Award. Sergeant Detective D'Alba's work is motivated by a powerful desire to protect others, as well as a deep commitment to serve his community.





# THE SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

recognizes a survivor of crime who has transformed their experience of victimization into positive change, healing, and leadership through promoting rights and services for victims and survivors.



**CHARMISE GALLOWAY** 

**Legacy Lives On** 

Charmise Galloway is a powerhouse when it comes to community care and advocacy. As a **Restorative Justice Practitioner and Circle** Keeper/Facilitator, she's all about bringing people together, creating safe spaces, and fostering healing. But that's just the start! In her role as Public Health Advocate II. Charmise is dedicated to harm reduction and ensuring people get the support they need. especially those dealing with homelessness. She helps place the most vulnerable members of the community into detox facilities and programs. With a heart as big as her laugh, she's not just a Case Manager; she's a champion for the underserved. And when she's not out making a difference, she is the proud mother and survivor of Da-Keem, truly embodying the definition of turning pain into purpose.





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**NATHACHA LOUIS** 

Finex House

Nathacha Louis is from Hinche, Haiti and is a compassionate person. When she was in Haiti. she studied business administration at Quisqueya University. She never thought that she would become an advocate for survivors of domestic violence. Her interest in that field developed after she. herself, became a survivor of domestic violence. Twenty-one years ago, she was shot by her ex-boyfriend.. As a survivor, she decided to change her career orientation. She graduated from UMASS Boston in 2016 with a degree in psychology. She has been working with survivors of domestic violence for more than ten years now and actively involved in helping women from different countries.





# THE INNOVATION AWARD

recognizes an individual survivor, service provider, agency, or organization (criminal justice and/or community-based) who has developed an innovative program or policy that helps crime victims.



### **PAULA KULARSKI**

Behavioral Health Network Domestic Violence Services

An experienced social services manager/ supervisor, Ms. Kularski has worked across multiple disciplines within the social service field. Obtaining a dual major in Psychology and Sociology from Smith College she has excelled at working directly and in directly with a variety of populations and program settings to include hospital settings, hospice care, geriatric, mental health and survivors of domestic violence and their families. With program development and execution of the P.A.T.C.H program as her core skill. Her almost 40 years of experience working with (in) such diverse populations and settings, lends to Ms Kularski's breath of knowledge and unique perspective to the social service field.





# THE CORPORATE LEADERSHIP AWARD

recognizes a business, organization or individual from a discipline outside of the victim assistance field for their dedication to supporting crime victims and advancing the victim services community. These allied professionals are committed to innovative approaches to ending violence and supporting those impacted by it.



ISSUES MANAGEMENT GROUP

**CEO Daniel F. Cence** 

Dan has worked in both the public and private sectors in communications, politics, and government affairs for over 30 years. Dan founded and managed two successful political consulting and government affairs firms, where he represented a wide array of clients including Congresswoman Katherine Clark, New Balance, Suffolk Downs, and Microsoft. In 2020, Dan became the CEO of the successful Bostonbased communications firm. SM&C. Under Dan's leadership, the firm merged in 2022 with Murphy Donoghue, one of Boston's predominant government relations firms, to operate as Issues Management Group, Inc. Dan has been recognized by legacy organizations for his work to support vulnerable communities across the Commonwealth. For two decades, Dan has proudly served on the Board of Directors for the non-profit Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County, which works to raise funds and awareness for children and families dealing with violent and sexual offenses committed against their loved ones.





# THE ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD

recognizes an individual from a public and/or community-based agency who has made extraordinary contributions to the lives of victims and survivors.



Sonia Arrubla Safe Passage

Born in Bogotá, Colombia, and immigrated to the United States in 1994, Sonia Arrubula holds undergraduate and master's degrees in Film and Television from New York University, and a **Master of Social Work** from Yeshiva University. She joined Safe Passage in 2017 and helped establish its immigration legal services, registering the organization under the Department of **Justice's Recognition &** Accreditation program in 2019. In 2020, she became a DOJ partially accredited representative and began representing undocumented survivors of domestic violence before USCIS. Currently. she serves as Director of **Immigration Services.** focusing on VAWA, U and T visas, and asylum cases related to gender-based violence.





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### **CORINN CROWNINSHIELD**

Massachusetts
Probation Service

Corinn is the Statewide **Manager of Victim Services** for the Massachusetts **Probation Service (MPS).** Corinn helped establish the first Victim Services Unit which is responsible for providing direct service, crisis intervention, safety planning, court accompaniment and advocacy to thousands of victims and survivors of crime across the Commonwealth, Prior to MPS. Corinn was the **Director of Outreach and Training and Victim Services Coordinator for the** Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA) and a Victim Witness Advocate for the Plymouth **County District Attornev's** Office. She earned both her bachelor's and graduate degrees in criminal justice from Bridgewater State University. She is a Board **Member for Employers Against Domestic Violence** (EADV), a non-profit organization committed to proactively addressing domestic violence in the workplace.



MOVA

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**MARY KROL** 

Hilltown Community Health Centers, Hilltown Safety at Home

Mary Krol is a dedicated domestic violence advocate with a passion for supporting survivors. With expertise in safety planning, court support, and providing essential resources, Mary is committed to empowering individuals and ensuring they have the support they need during challenging times. Her work is driven by a strong belief in justice and advocacy for those affected by domestic violence.





# The Massachusetts Victim Bill of Rights M.G.L CH. 258B

The Massachusetts Victim Bill of Rights (M.G.L c2588) provides the below rights and services to victims and survivors of crime in order to ensure a meaningful role for them in the criminal justice system. While the Bill of Rights applies to all crimes, victims and survivors of violent crimes are given priority status for services.

Victim assistance programs are available in each District Attorney's Office, the Office of the Attorney General, and several post-conviction agencies. After the crime has occurred the needs of victims and their families often change. The Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA) is committed to working with community providers to find the services that meet a victim's evolving needs.

Below are some of the rights to which victims and witnesses are entitled For a complete listing of rights, please refer to the Victim Bill of Rights (M.G.L c2588).

## You have the right to

- Be Informed about victim rights and services in the criminal Justice system.
- To receive specific Information about the criminal case.
- To be heard and present at court proceedings.
- To confer with key officials at major stages in the court process.
- To financial assistance.
- To be notified of an offender's release or status while in custody.
- · To other protections In the criminal justice system.



#### The Garden of Peace

The Garden is the Massachusetts memorial to victims of homicide, a place where families, friends, and the larger community may remember and honor the lives of those taken by violence. It's an enduring reminder of the impact of violence and a visual testament of the need to eliminate it. At the same time, the Garden serves as a symbol of hope, peace, and renewal.

#### **Support the Garden of Peace**

The Garden of Peace is sustained by the generosity of individuals, groups, foundations, and corporations. A donation will help us maintain the Garden, including providing subsidies for families who can't afford the full cost of engravings. Support from individuals and groups is greatly appreciated as there's currently no dedicated state appropriation for ongoing Garden operations. Donations to the Garden of Peace are tax-deductible as allowed by law. For donations to remember or honor someone special, please provide the relevant information and we'll send an acknowledgment.

For more information click here

#### **Application for Engraving**

Applications may be submitted any time throughout the year, keeping in mind any applications received and verified before August 1st will allow for engraving the same year and read aloud at the Annual Honor Program in September. Any application received and verified after August 1st may be held for engraving the following year and will be read aloud also during the following year.

For more information click here

