



CHERYL WATSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

MASSACHUSETTS VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACADEMY

ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP: In memory and honor of Essex County District Attorney's Chief of Victim Witness Services, Cheryl Watson, the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance is awarding scholarships for the Massachusetts Victim Assistance Academy (MVAA). Cheryl was deeply committed to the MVAA and was involved as a member of the initial steering committee to create the academy. She then served for many years as an academy mentor and faculty member to share her wisdom and inspire victim advocates. This scholarship will be awarded for both the traditional and advanced academies. Recipients will currently be working with victims and survivors of crime in either the criminal justice or community based fields. Applicants will demonstrate strong leadership qualities, a dedication to victim advocacy, and a commitment to a career in victim services. Selected recipients will be recognized during the Victim Rights Month Award Ceremony in April.

ABOUT CHERYL WATSON: As the Chief of Victim Witness Services for the Essex County District Attorney's Office, Cheryl led by example. Her kindness and brilliance were admired by all who had the good fortune to work with her. Cheryl worked in the field of victim services for over twenty-five years. In 1986, she co-founded the Victim of Crime and Loss Program (VOCAL), at Project RAP in Beverly. Cheryl also worked as a Victim Witness Advocate in the Essex County District Attorney's Office, as Victim Advocate/Outreach Coordinator for the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance and as Director of the Victim Compensation and Assistance Division in the Attorney General's Office. Notably, Cheryl's impact on victim services expanded beyond Massachusetts as she presented on numerous victim-related issues nationally and internationally. These presentations included traveling to Haifa, Israel to participate in a domestic violence conference for Israeli and Palestinian women.

**Cheryl Watson Memorial Scholarship Application
Massachusetts Victim Assistance Academy**

APPLICANT'S NAME (PRINT)

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

APPLICANT'S TITLE

AGENCY

AGENCY DIRECTOR'S NAME (PRINT)

AGENCY DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE

DATE

APPLICATION PROCESS/REQUIREMENTS: To be considered, interested applicants must submit the following:

1. A complete, signed MVAA application
2. A completed, signed Cheryl Watson Memorial Scholarship Application Cover Page
3. A written narrative (no more than 3 pages) that includes the following:
 - a. A brief description of your current position, scope of work, achievements to date, and passion and commitment to victim services;
 - b. A narrative detailing how your professional work, civic/volunteer experience, and/or other efforts demonstrate the qualities and ideals described above about the person whose life is honored by this scholarship opportunity;

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS February 23rd, 2018

Please submit completed application with cover page signatures to:

**MOVA
One Ashburton Place, Suite 1101, Boston, MA 02108
Fax: 617-586-1341, E-mail: MOVA@state.ma.us**