



Victim Rights Law Center

June Newsletter

Dear Friends,

As we celebrate Pride this month, we also keep in mind that Pride is a protest. Members of the LGBTQIA+ community face sexual violence at high rates, with almost half of transgender individuals reporting to have been sexually assaulted in their lifetime. If you are looking for ways to stand up for LGBTQIA+ survivors this June and year-round, we encourage you to [explore our resources](#) and check out our community partners [Boston Glass](#) and [New Avenues for Youth's Sexual & Gender Minority Youth Resource Center](#).

June is also the one-year anniversary of the Supreme Court's *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision which overturned *Roe v. Wade* and ended Constitutional protections for abortion in the U.S. At the VRLC, we know that the right to bodily autonomy is fundamental. Many other rights, including the rights to seek justice and access healthcare following a sexual assault, are built upon it. We are proud to partner with activists in the reproductive rights movement.

Although this work is hard, it is filled with innovators, leaders, and fierce advocates. We had the chance to join as a community at the Reproductive Equity Now Gala. As you can see, the VRLC staff never says no to a photo booth- see below for proof!

In gratitude,
Stacy Malone
Executive Director

IN THE NEWS

Executive Director to Governor's Council



VRLC Executive Director Stacy Malone was sworn in to the Governor's Council to Address Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Human Trafficking earlier this month.

"I'm grateful to the diverse, experienced members of this Council for stepping up to this opportunity to enact meaningful change in the Commonwealth," Lieutenant Governor Kimberley Driscoll said. "They have dedicated their lives to making our communities stronger and safer, and the Governor and I are eager to receive their input on how we can better protect people from sexual assault,

domestic violence and human trafficking."

The council will advise the Governor's office on strategies to prevent and protect people from these crimes and support victims and survivors. Learn more [here](#).

EVENTS

VRLC Supports REN

VRLC staff were honored to support [Reproductive Equity Now](#) (REN) at their June 6th gala.

It was a privilege to support REN as access to abortion care is a critical option for rape survivors post-assault. We were delighted to join in the celebration of REN's honorees including Dallas Ducar, the founding President and CEO of [Transhealth](#), who received the award for Activism in Action.



Thank you to VRLC Board Member Karen O'Malley for hosting the VRLC team!

Volunteers Refresh Boston Office



[Deloitte](#) employees, led by colleague and VRLC Board member Sofia Hussain, spent their corporate impact day volunteering at the VRLC's Boston office. Deloitte team members created terrariums and digital art to beautify the space and create an inviting environment for survivors seeking services.

Join us for NSVLC 2023!

[Registration](#) for the only [National Sexual Violence Law Conference](#) is now open!

When: October 25-26, 2023

Where: [The Palmer House Hotel](#), Chicago, IL

Who: Both new and experienced lawyers, legal professionals, and victim advocates working with survivors of sexual violence.

Registration Rates:

\$450.00 per person

Groups (3+ registrants): \$400.00 per person (**send us an email** to secure this rate)

Info for LAV Grantees:

While OVW approval remains pending, prospective attendees who would like OVW grant funding to cover their attendance can use our [Sample Cost Estimate Form](#) and [Sample Request Letter](#) to submit to their grant managers for individual approval.



The conference is an opportunity to explore emerging issues impacting survivors alongside a national network of lawyers and advocates. Visit our website for more details [here](#).

Coming Together in Portland



Executive Director Stacy Malone and Deputy Director of Operations Stephanie Holt joined the Portland team for strategic sessions focused on serving survivors in Oregon earlier this month.

Recognizing Jessie Mindlin's 17 years of service to the VRLC was a highlight of this energizing week. It was a wonderful tribute to an incredible lawyer and leader. We look forward to future collaborations with Jessie in her next chapter as a consultant.

GET INVOLVED

Sponsor our 20th Anniversary Celebration

It's the Victim Rights Law Center's 20th Anniversary! Please join us at our Shining Star Gala to honor the last 20 years of providing free legal services to sexual assault survivors. Your support of the Shining Star Gala is critical in continuing our life-changing and lifesaving work.

This year's Shining Star Gala takes place on Wednesday, **September 20, 2023**, at the [Artists for Humanity Epicenter](#) in Boston. Your participation ensures that every sexual assault victim has a trained attorney by their side to help in the aftermath of trauma. **We invite you to partner with VRLC by sponsoring our 20th Anniversary Shining Star Gala.**



Learn more about our sponsorship benefits and how we highlight your support for the hundreds of attendees [here](#).

Since 2003, the Victim Rights Law Center has worked to provide survivors with free legal services to help restore their lives and promote a national movement seeking justice for rape and sexual assault survivors. Learn more about our efforts [here](#).

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