



Victim Rights Law Center

October Newsletter

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Last week, we hosted the National Sexual Violence Law Conference in Chicago. The night before the conference began, I was sitting at the registration table and a woman approached us. She looked at the sign and asked us to share more. I told her we were spending the week with over 230 advocates, attorneys, and others who support people who have experienced sexual violence. She immediately started to cry and said, "You have no idea how that makes me feel. Knowing all of you are in this hotel heals me in ways I cannot say."

She put into words why we host NSVLC. Joining together to learn, heal, and uplift each other so we can do the same for survivors. And so, we begin planning for our next one...

In solidarity,
Stacy Malone
Executive Director

EVENTS

Scenes from Chicago: NSVLC 2023



Above: Conference attendees ready for the day's workshops.

"We do not share our stories because it is healing, but because it is necessary in a society that underestimates the scope and

scale of gender-based violence.”

- Anne K. Ream
Writer, Activist, and Founder of The Voices and Faces Project
NSVLC 2023



We were honored to host leaders from all over the country for the nation's only National Sexual Violence Law Conference (NSVLC), October 25 - October 26 in Chicago. Over two days of education, networking and community we explored urgent issues in anti sexual violence law including privacy, safety, immigration, education, and employment - all with the goal to strengthen our legal expertise and better meet survivor needs. Thank you to our presenters and attendees for helping create a successful and inspiring NSVLC 2023.

Above: VRLC Executive Director with NSVLC Closing Speaker Anne K. Ream



Above: Ready for registration at NSVLC 2023. Below: VRLC's 2023 Attorney Cohort.



IN THE NEWS

From the VRLC Blog



NSVLC overlapped with Pro Bono Legal Services week (October 22-28th). Anti-sexual violence work is uplifted through the support of our pro bono attorneys and their firms. Check out our recent **[blog post](#)** authored by one of our colleagues and a longtime pro bono partner to learn more about **[pro bono opportunities](#)** at the VRLC.

VRLC on Records Ruling Victory

A recent Massachusetts Supreme Court **[decision](#)** solidified protections for sexual assault survivors counseling records in out of state proceedings. VRLC Deputy Director of Operations Stephanie Holt discussed the necessity for this continued privacy with **[Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly](#)**.

"[A decision to the contrary] would render the rape crisis statute meaningless for anyone assaulted outside Massachusetts," she said. Check out the full article **[here](#)**.



DIRECT SERVICES

Deputy Director Named to Top Women of Law



Congratulations to VRLC Deputy Director Stephanie Holt for her selection as a [2023 Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly Top Women of Law](#)! The Top Women of Law event celebrates the achievements of exceptional women lawyers who are pioneers, educators, trailblazers and role models. Stephanie is very much deserving of this distinction and we're proud to have her on our team.

Sharing Pro Bono Opportunities in Boston

VRLC staff attorneys enjoyed meeting with potential pro bono attorneys and law school interns at the [Suffolk University Law School/Boston Bar Association Pro Bono Fair](#) held earlier this month.



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](#).

DONATE

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