



Victim Rights Law Center

February Newsletter

Dear Friends,

This week, VRLC joined 9 other advocacy organizations to urge the U.S. Department of Education to end targeted attacks against transgender students under the guise of protecting sexual assault victims.

The Department resolved zero sexual harassment and violence complaints in 2025, despite persistent and staggering prevalence rates. Since gutting the U.S. Department of Ed, and specifically the Office for Civil Rights, the Trump administration has opened fewer than 10 sexual violence investigations across the country and has failed to address the backlog of complaints that have sat idle with the Department for months and, in most cases, years.

Federal agencies are meant to serve the public interest, not to advance political agendas. We are grateful for the support of the 100+ organizations that joined this effort. Read the full letter [here](#).

In solidarity,

Stacy

NEWS

A Failing Grade for Harvard

Lawrence Summers to retire as Harvard professor, resign from Kennedy School post following Epstein revelations

By Brooke Hauser, Laura Crimaldi and Travis Andersen | Globe Staff | Updated February 26, 2025, 10:06 p.m.



Harvard University announced this week that professor and former president Lawrence Summers would step down following pressure stemming from his ties to Jeffrey Epstein. The nature of Summers' departure, however, spotlights Harvard's failure to pursue real accountability.

"'Resigned' and 'retired' is such specific language," VRLC Executive Director Stacy Malone told The Boston Globe. "It's not saying that Harvard is punishing

him — they are giving him the opportunity to make his own decision and exit respectfully, and I don't know why he deserves that, honestly."

Students, however, do deserve to see clear and decisive action from the institutions that claim to protect them. Harvard failed to demonstrate either. Read more of *The Globe's* coverage [here](#).

EVENTS

Save the Date: Legal Insights 2026



Legal Insights 2026:
Key Issues in Sexual Violence Law
Wednesday, April 15, 12:00-1:00 pm EST

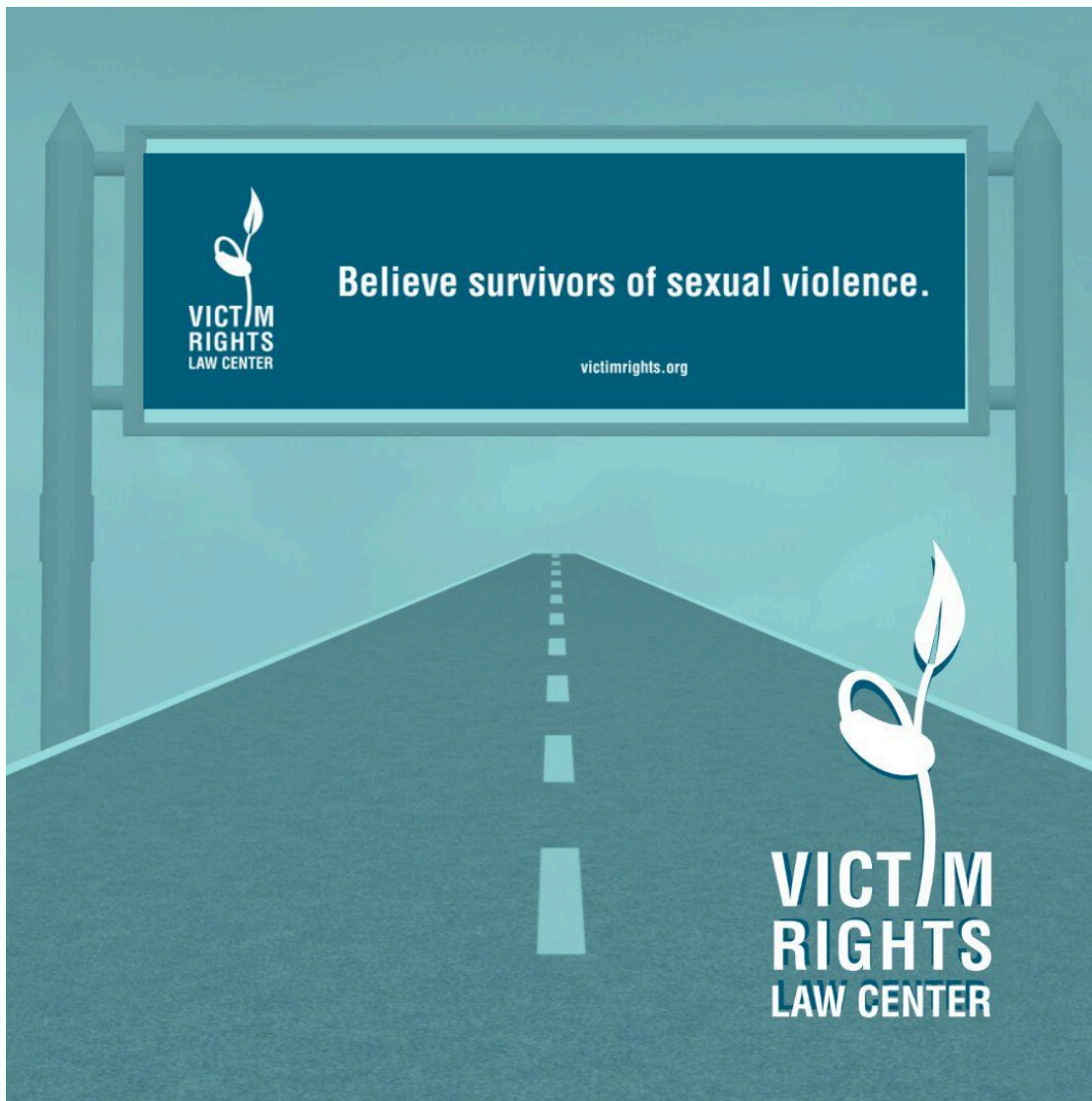
Join us online for **Legal Insights 2026: Key Issues in Sexual Violence Law**, our annual virtual panel held in conjunction with **Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM)**. This year's discussion will examine key legal developments in sexual violence law amid today's political landscape.

The 2026 SAAM theme, "25 Years Stronger: Looking Back, Moving Forward," honors survivor resilience and the progress advocates have made — while reaffirming our commitment to the work ahead.

Registration opens March 18. Learn more [here](#).

MISC./FUN NEWS

Spreading Awareness Through Massachusetts




We've been spreading our message of support for survivors along major roadways throughout Massachusetts this winter. Billboards in Canton, Foxboro, Tewksbury, and Dorchester have carried this powerful message. Thank you to [OUTFRONT Media](#) for their partnership in helping to spread this important reminder.

[DONATE](#)

Thank you to our Funding Partners!



 Share This Email

11 Beacon Street, Suite 520
Boston, MA 02108
Phone: (617) 399-6720
Fax: (617) 399-6722



Victim Rights Law Center | 11 Beacon Street Suite 520 | Boston, MA 02108 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!