Diminishing The Risk Of Secondary Victimization
Insights from A Homicide Victim Survivor’s Journey Though The Criminal Justice System

By: J.E. Gorski

Note: This is an excerpt from a larger document and based on a case handled in Lake County, Illinois

My assessment of the criminal justice system is that of a homicide victim survivor. On December 23, 2016 my son, David, was targeted for violence. He was shot and killed while driving home from the movie theater. Five days later the perpetrator appeared in bond court. It took 2 years and 8 months for the perpetrator of this crime to be tried, convicted and sentenced to 78 years in prison for the murder of my son. In addition, I have been active in two homicide victim survivor support groups, participated in a homicide victim survivor grief retreat and attended a national conference for homicide victim survivors.

While my experience is only limited to one case it is my hope that by outlining some practical guidelines taken from one homicide victim survivor’s perspective, other victims of crime will be able to complete the long journey through the criminal justice process with a reduced risk of becoming re-victimized. It is my intended desire that this will also evoke additional discussion amongst the appropriate professionals with a focus on setting processes, controls and/or standards to assure that all victims are treated fairly, and their rights are consistently administered.

Guideline 1: Treat each survivor with dignity and respect. Be thoughtful, sensitive, caring and positive. Continually demonstrate that you are taking their case seriously.

- Attempt to understand how the surviving victim(s) are dealing with their trauma (i.e. counseling, support groups) and how this has impacted them to maintain their standard of living. Know that I am not asking you to take on the role of a social worker but if you can comprehend what a victim is experiencing this will allow you to put things into proper context. It may also allow you the opportunity to refer them to social agencies that may be of assistance to them.

- Our first appearance in bond court was only days before we would bury my son. We were still in shock with all that has happened, our world seemed to be spinning out of control and with a sense of helplessness. It was difficult to comprehend all that was going on. Several times the prosecuting team had to repeat themselves, but they did so in a compassionate manner.

- As a victim survivor there is no returning to the way life used to be; no going back to normal. We have been affected by this physically, psychologically, spiritually and emotionally. Moving on from this may be viewed as a new chapter, a new normal or a new path on one’s life journey. With the passages of time, a new normal will develop. Whether that “new normal” tilts towards the positive end of the scale or the negative end is dependent on many factors, one of which is how the victim survivors are treated during the criminal justice process.

 Guideline 2: Take the time to educate and keep the survivor victims informed.

Our criminal justice system is built on the premise that the defendant is innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. As the victim enters the criminal justice system, because of their strong emotional attach-
ment to the case, they will have a natural bias towards seeing this resolved in a relatively quick manner and they may not fully comprehend all that is necessary to see that justice is administered. From someone not familiar with the system this can prove to be daunting and confusing. The legalese used within the criminal justice system may also be difficult for the victim to understand. As I began my journey, I was apprehensive because I was not familiar with the system and I did not know what to expect. As it turned out we had an excellent prosecuting team and victim/witness coordinator. My wife’s and my initial interaction with the prosecuting team was a 35-minute telephone conversation a week before the arraignment. This conversation laid the foundation for establishing a good relationship with the team.

During our conversation the team took the time to:

1. Explain the charges being made against the defendant and the range of penalties
   - In our case the perpetrator was charged with three counts of first-degree murder. They went on to differentiate between each charge. Because a firearm was used in the commission of the crime, there was a firearm enhancement which would increase the sentencing term. Depending on the charges consider providing the victim survivors with a printed explanation on the charges.

2. Outline their goals for the case
   - In our situation there were two goals: 1) To convict the perpetrator of first-degree murder and 2) To try the case only once.
     - At the time we were all in agreement on the first goal. Though I understood the State’s second goal, I did not begin to appreciate it until we were further along in the process. Once I saw how much time, effort and resources were being committed to this case only then could I understand why certain steps and precautions were being taken. With the exception of the defense nobody wants to see a conviction overturned on appeal. Taking the necessary precautionary measures added to the length of the process. As a victim survivor this meant having greater patience and developing a resilience to the defense’s delay tactics which I viewed as “kicking the can down the road”. With the perpetrator out on bond each delay meant another day being spent at home, not behind the bars of a jail cell.

3. Provide a brief explanation of the court process and proceedings
   - Members of the State’s Attorney Office provided us with an overview of Bond Court, the Grand Jury Hearing/Indictment, Arraignment and the long pre-trial phase (involving discovery, pre-trial motions, and the monthly case management/status hearings) which would lead up to the trial and sentencing. We were also provided with their opinion as to whether a plea bargain was going to be a viable option that would be considered. As the case moved forward, we were asked, on two occasions, for our thoughts on a sentencing range if a plea agreement could be reached. Our input was used in the prosecutor’s offer.

4. The estimated time frame in which the case will be resolved
   - At the time we were told this could last upwards of two years. Given the magnitude of our loss it hurt to wait for a resolution, but I realized it was necessary for the goals of the case to be attained. I appreciated the team’s honest opinion as this allowed me to mentally prepare for what lay ahead.

**Guideline 3: Understand what the survivor victims are looking to obtain from the case and from the criminal justice system.**

- Do their goals align with the State’s goals? If there is a misalignment of goals this will need to be resolved at some future time. Like the State’s goals, I had two goals as well. If the defendant was not going to take responsibility for his actions, than I was looking for the criminal justice system to hold him accountable with a guilty verdict. Once convicted, I was then looking for him to be sentenced such that he would never have the opportunity to do harm to anyone else.

- Is civil court, an option for the victims? In our case we did discuss the possibility of filing a civil suit. The prosecution asked us to consider the timing of the suit because many of the same witnesses in the criminal case may be deposed in a civil case. If there were differences in their depositions this could adversely impact the criminal case. We eventually decided not to pursue a civil case. We also saw in a domestic violence homicide how the parents of the victim used a civil suit against the murderer to protect the surviving child (their grandchild) from being contacted by the murderer after he was released from prison.
Guideline 4: **Understand how involved the survivor victims intend to be as the case progresses through the system.**

- Do they intend on being at all, some or none of the case management/status hearings and pre-trial motion hearings, trial?
- Understand how being out of the judicial district or out of state impacts the victim.
- Establish points of contact for communication, preferred means of communication and frequency of contact/communication. How much or how little communication do they want?

We established good lines of communication with the team early on. When there was a court date, the team took the time beforehand to explain to us what would be happening and then answered any of our questions. Afterwards they took the time to meet with us and address concerns or questions. Although they had a heavy caseload to manage, at that time, they made us feel as though we were the only case they had. In between court dates we were encouraged to call or email any questions/concerns that might arise. Each and every time we received a timely response.

Guideline 5: **Emphasize the importance of Victim Impact Statements and encourage the victim to start early in the process.**

One of the most powerful tools available to the victim survivors is the Victim Impact Statement. Our Victim Assistance/Witness Coordinator spoke to us early on in the process about the importance of these statements. This was our opportunity to tell the Court about our son and how his murder affected us. We were strongly advised to work on this throughout the criminal justice process by journaling our thoughts and feelings along the way. My Victim Impact Statement allowed me to express my emotions, thoughts and feelings to the Court but there was also something therapeutic about writing and reading it in court. I felt a sense of relief after delivering my victim statement. While my impact statement was 3 pages in length and took 13 minutes to deliver it took 2.5 years to create.

**Guideline:** In addition to advising the victim survivors to journal their thoughts and feelings early on, they should be encouraged to provide written statements directing them to the Court, not the perpetrator. Written statements become a part of the Pre-Sentencing Report which is reviewed by the judge prior to Sentencing. Victim survivors should be advised the day of sentencing can be a stress filled, emotional time. In the event they are unable to deliver their impact statement they may opt out and have someone (i.e. a member of the prosecuting team) deliver their statement in court.

Closure-Is It Really Closure?

From my point of view at the end of a journey, one typically does not talk about closure. People may discuss their feelings, experiences and memories but not closure. As a homicide victim survivor, I have heard this term used many times, but I have **never** heard this term used by a fellow survivor because the door never closes shut for someone who has lost a loved one to violence. Whether the loss occurred 5, 10, 20 or even 30 years ago there is no closure. Murder is a horrific crime. It cannot be resolved. To a victim survivor, the term “closure”, can seem callous and insensitive as it presumes the party using the term understands how the victim survivor feels. It may be misinterpreted as “getting over it”. In my particular instance when the perpetrator was convicted and sentenced, I experienced a significant sense of relief, as though a heavy weight had been lifted from my shoulders, the person responsible for my son’s death would be held accountable and that he would not be in a position to do this to anyone else. The jury’s decision and the Court’s sentence had affirmed my sense of justice, but it did not alleviate the pain of my loss. I do not view my relief as closure but rather an ongoing part of the healing process.

**Guideline:** Unless the victim survivor uses the term “closure” in their discussions with you, I would caution against using the term in any of your discussions with them. If you do use the term, I would suggest you be very specific as to what you mean, or you may be misinterpreted. Consideration should be given to using the term “resolution” as this has a more empathetic meaning to the completion of the criminal justice process.
Hi everybody,

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and the New Year is happy and healthy. As this is being written, the National Staff and Conference Committee is busy with advance preparations for the 2020 National POMC Conference in Atlanta, Georgia at the Hilton Atlanta Airport Hotel from 23 to 26, July 2020. Currently the daily workshop schedule is being worked on with the goal of having as many workshops scheduled as possible.

At our November 2019 National Board of Trustees meeting a prospective Board Member was nominated for a position on the National Board. We would like to welcome Leslie BoonE of Cabot, Arkansas to the Parents Of Murdered Children National Board of Trustees. Leslie’s tenure on the Board began on January 2020. We on the National Board of Trustees, look forward to working with Leslie, and we hope she finds her tenure on the Board to be a rewarding experience.

Also, at the November meeting the Board discussed upgrading the POMC National website. The transition to the new website will take some time to complete but we expect it to go very smoothly. Our website will always be available throughout the entire process.

The POMC National Board of Trustees has a couple of open positions. If you feel you would like to become a member of the National Board please contact our National Staff for information on how to become a member.

Best Wishes
Howard S. Klerk Jr.

P.S. I wish to thank everyone who signed our Parole Block Petitions over the many years. You were an important part of keeping our murderer, Matthew Solomon, in prison for 32 years. Unfortunately, the New York State Parole Board saw fit to release him. Signing the petitions is very important and they do work in most instances. Thanks again for your help.

Howard S. Klerk Jr.
President POMC National Board of Trustees
Hi,

Hope everyone has made it through the holiday season and the New Year. Hard to believe that the year is 2020. Parents Of Murdered Children as usual has been very busy these last couple of months. We have had several calls for interviews about the changing laws for juveniles. There are about 24 states that have banned life sentences without the possibility of parole for juveniles. We are being told that the research on an adolescent brain development confirms the commonsense understanding that children are different from adults in ways that are critical to identifying age appropriate criminal sentences. The Supreme Court ruled that juveniles cannot be sentenced to death, the death penalty is a disproportionate punishment for the young, so life without parole was the maximum sentence they can receive. At this time many states are changing the sentence of life without parole because it is an especially harsh punishment for a juvenile. The reporters that did the interviews wanted our opinion on the changes being made. Everyone is entitled to their opinion and usually everyone has different opinions on things like that but for our survivors, who have to live without their loved one because a juvenile murdered them, then it’s a different opinion than from someone who has never experienced murder.

I have read that some of the research done on the financial cost of Juvenile Life Without Parole sentences is significant. Nationally it costs $34,135 per year to house an average prisoner. Therefore, a 50 year sentence for a 16 year old will cost approximately $2.25 million. Isn’t that an unbelievable amount which I am finding very hard to believe. This is another one of the reasons that they don’t want to keep juveniles in prison for decades because of the costs. Believe me I am not agreeing with any of this just sharing the things that we have read and are hearing about in the office.

Our 4th Grief Retreat will be the weekend of April 17, 18 and 19 for which we have scholarships available. It is a weekend of sharing your pain, anger and grief, and home cooked meals. We also have the Grief Retreat in Phoenix, Arizona, so whichever one you are close to, think about attending.

The 34th Conference is going to be in Atlanta, Georgia, on July 23 to 26, 2020, at that Atlanta Hilton Airport. The Conference Committee is working hard on having this Conference be the best one ever. The Compassionate Friends Conference is also in Atlanta on the same weekend. Hope that many of you can attend the Conference and attend the workshops and get the support and education that you need to deal with your life after homicide. We know it isn’t easy to think about attending a conference and not knowing anyone, but believe me after that weekend you will have many new POMC friends and family that you have not had before.

Sadly, we have to report that another Chapter is closing as of March 2020, the Durham Chapter that has been open for 23 years and supported so many people after the murder of their loved one. For awhile they have had very little attendance at their support group meetings and no help for them. The Chapter Leaders had been with the Chapter for a long time and were struggling to keep it open. We need to support our Chapters because it is important to keep them open for future survivors. See page 6 to learn more about the Durham Chapter.

Sincerely,

Bev
After a homicide, the families of victims are left to pick up the pieces. For the past 22 years, the Durham Chapter of Parents Of Murdered Children has been providing resources to grieving families. Diane Jones leads the chapter with Mina Hampton. Jones joined in 1998 after her son David was murdered the year before.

"The organization, to me, pretty much saved my life because after my son was murdered, I didn't know how to process the grief. I didn't know what to do with this thing called murder," Jones said. The local chapter was opened in 1993 by Nellie Taylor Jones, the co-owner of Ellis D. Jones & Sons Funeral Home. After working with many families of homicide victims, she decided to start an organization to help these families work through their grief. The group met once a month on Tuesdays and provided resources for families. When Jones started leading the chapter, she trained to become a grief counselor. "I stayed on because I wanted to help other mothers and families that were experiencing the same pain that I had gone through at the loss of my child," Jones said.

Police officers also came to these meetings and answered questions about how to navigate the criminal justice system and provide information on murder trials. Jesse Green, a Corporal in Durham Police Department's Homicide Unit, has been coming to these meetings for the past few months after recently joining the homicide unit. "It also gives us motivation and a visible reason why we continue to do our job on a daily basis," Green said.

In the past 5-7 years, however, Jones says membership has been slowly declining. Without new members, she feels she's forced to close the chapter for now. "With all that's going on in Durham, we haven't gotten a new family this year," Jones said. She's not sure why people aren't seeking out her support group, but she thinks the culture of grief is changing. In fact, across the country, chapters of Parents Of Murdered Children have been closing due to low membership, with a chapter in Dallas, TX also closing this year.

Christine Weeks has been coming to these meetings in Raleigh for the past few months. Her 18-year-old son, Joshua, died in February. "[He was] a brilliant young man with incredible, incredible goals. An Eagle Scout who graduated from high school... with a great desire to help society," Weeks said. Weeks said this group has helped her create a network of support quickly, but now that this group is closing, she isn't sure where she'll go for support. "It's all a process," she said. "I am still navigating my loss, but this was a place that I could come and listen and collaborate with people who had experienced a similar loss." Weeks hopes one day, there might be enough support to reopen the chapter. In the meantime, the National POMC organization provides online counseling and resources for families in grief.
Castorville man pleads guilty to 1990 murder, 1993 attempted kidnapping
Written by: Avery Johnson from KION5/46 News Channel
October 9, 2019

SALINAS, Calif - The Monterey County District Attorney’s Office announced that 57-year-old Arsenio “Archie” Pacheco Leyva, of Castorville, pleaded guilty to a 1990 murder and 1993 attempted kidnapping.

He was charged with the first-degree murder of 14-year-old Christy Sue Pina, whose body was found in an artichoke field in Castorville in February 1990. Pina had turned 14 the month before her naked body was found by workers in a field near Highway 1. She had been raped, strangled and stabbed to death.

Leyva was on probation for unlawful intercourse with two 14-year-old girls in 1987. Leyva's family owned multiple businesses in the area where Pina’s body was found. DNA testing in 1990 was not advanced enough to identify Leyva as the killer, but also did not rule him out.

Leyva also pleaded guilty to a 1993 attempted kidnapping of a minor with the intent to commit rape and assault of a minor with the intent to rape. In September 1993, a 13-year-old girl was walking to school on East Bolivar Street in Salinas. She walked past a Dodge van parked along the curb, and Leyva jumped out, grabbed her and tried to pull her into the van. He tried to grab her jacket and forced his fingers into her mouth to try to get her in. She tried to fight Leyva off and was able to grab the bumper of the van. She held on until a good Samaritan saw what was happening and went to help her. Leyva got away before he could be caught, but the good Samaritan got a partial license plate. The van was found abandoned at a nearby apartment complex later. Both the girl and the witness identified Leyva in photo lineups.

After the attempted kidnapping, Leyva went to Mexico, where he lived under the assumed name of Rogelio Pacheco Ibarra. DNA testing later identified him as the source of DNA on Pina’s body, and a warrant was issued for his arrest in 2007. Leyva was arrested in Mexico in 2014 but fought the extradition of the United States until May 2018.

As part of his plea, Leyva said he killed Pina during a rape and that her murder was willful, deliberate and premeditated. Her clothing and the murder weapon were never found.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR
2020 POMC NATIONAL CONFERENCE!

The POMC National Conference Committee members are excited to invite you to join us for the 2020 National POMC Conference in Atlanta, Georgia!

What: 34th Annual POMC National Conference
When: July 23-26, 2020
Where: Hilton Atlanta Airport, 1031 Virginia Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30354

To register go to the link on the main page: www.pomc.org. For more information, contact Bev Warnock at bwarnock@pomc.org or by phone at (513) 721-5683
Welcome to the National Board

Leslie Boone

Leslie Boone has worked and volunteered with crime victims over three decades in various capacities and in a broad range of settings. She graduated from the University of Central Arkansas with two degrees: a B.S. in Psychology and a degree as an Allied Healthcare professional. She traveled extensively and lived abroad due to her husband’s military career. Her educational background includes courses and specialized training on trauma, neuroanatomy, gross anatomy, and victim advocacy.

It was early in life that her family experienced the killing of her grandparents, on Christmas day, as a drunk driver altered the course of many lives. Decades later, when her twin sister was run over multiple times by a vehicle in a domestic violence attack, the family would experience the challenges of the judicial system. She endeavors to understand the impact of crime on victims as well as those that work as first responders, health care providers and victim advocates. Also, her life experiences as a military spouse enabled her to volunteer in many settings with victims of crime; military members as well as families and victims from various countries and cultures. Leslie is a nationally credentialed victim advocate through the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA); she has graduated the NOVA Victims Assistance Academy (NVAA) as well as both levels of the state Victims Assistance Academy. She actively supports State and National POMC levels by writing anniversary notes. She also volunteers with Victims' Rights Arkansas, a grassroots group that promotes educating people about victims' rights and standing for victims through a constitutional amendment. Additionally, Leslie is a trainer for the HOPE Suicide Prevention for Crime Victims.

One Success Story On Getting A New Law Passed
By: Ben Rison

YES YOU CAN

YOU are a victim of a murdered loved one or you wouldn’t be reading this. Did you sit outside the court room while the accused family got to sit through the whole trial? This is usually the case for a lot of murder trials because the defense does not want the jury to see the victim’s family and the terrible grief they are enduring. Did you go to the Co. Clerk’s Office to request copies of the trial? Were you shocked to find out you would have to pay for those copies? Were you hurt and angry that the system is victimizing you once again?

In 2014 after waiting for over 20 years to get SOME answers as to why our daughter was murdered. October 2014 the two week trial began and the witness list had been set. My wife and daughters (2) were on it and were only allowed in the court room for the opening and closing arguments. My daughters were called during the second week and yet none of the accused family were put on the list. I was angry. After the trial I asked for copies of the trial so that our family could read witnesses testimony….no problem they wanted a $1.00 a page. Doesn’t sound like much but they estimated that there were 2500 pages in the file but that’s $2500.00 who’s the victim here?

I called my State Representative and asked him to help me get a law passed so that the VICTIMS family could get a free copy of the court records. We looked at many options, video tapes (if done) audio tapes or paper or digital copies. We settled on digital copies. At that point House Bill 1173 was written and was presented to the Judicial Committee to be read. After reading of the bill I was given 5 minutes to plead my case. They then voted on the bill and it was unanimous. The bill then goes to the floor of the House for a vote. Again unanimous. At this point the House bills and Senate bills are swapped. Again it goes through the Senate Judicial Committee for reading and a vote. I was not able to attend due to another death in the family. One committee man voted against the bill. It then went to the Senate floor for a vote. Same dissenter. After the bill is passed by both the House and Senate it then goes to the Governor for signing. If the Governor signs it then it becomes law at the date prescribed on the bill. The new law states that the parent or sibling or guardian is allowed one free copy of the trial records minus any photos or videos.

YES YOU CAN get a law passed. You must keep tabs (call or email once a week) on where the bill is so that it doesn’t fall in a crack or get lost in a pile of other bills. Also it can and probably will take up to a year from start to finish so don’t give up.
The murder of an Oblate priest in Guatemala was the genesis of an artistic movement to bring awareness to the victims of gun violence.

Father Larry Rosebaugh, O.M.I. was a living witness to non-violence and concern for the poor. He spent many years living on the streets in South America to minister to people most in need. In the United States, he was active in the peace movement and opposition to nuclear weapons.

On May 8, 2009 Fr. Larry was killed by two men attempting to steal his van in Guatemala. The murder deeply affected Fr. Larry’s admirers around the world, including Christine Ilewski.

Christine and her husband Gary Huelsman, had become good friends with Fr. Larry when he lived at the Oblate Novitiate in Godfrey, Illinois. Gary is a member of the Oblates’ Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation Committee and along with Christine have been active for many years in the Oblate community garden and ecology programs that are based at the novitiate.

“When Fr. Larry was living at the novitiate he would often come over to dinner at our house,” said Christine. “His life was devoted to the resistance of violence and injustice and he was truly a gift to us and to everyone who met him.”

Christine turned how sorrow over the death of Fr. Larry into a cause to put a face on the tragedy of gun violence. An accomplished artist and art instructor, Christine painted a watercolor portrait of Fr. Larry to memorialize him.

As she grieved for Fr. Larry, Christine began to do research about gun violence and was horrified to learn that so many young people are gunned down every year. She came across a website about William Jenkins, who at age 16 was killed in Chicago by robbers on his first day of work at a fast-food restaurant.

Christine contacted William’s father and asked if she could paint a tribute to his son. That painting started a passion for Christine to honor children, age 20 and under, who had died because of gun violence. The passion eventually became a non-profit program—Faces Not Forgotten.

Christine began receiving requests for paintings from across the country. She painted about 15 and then realized that she needed the help of other artists in order to meet the demand.

The volunteer artists paints a portrait, the “face” of each child, and the painting is then donated to the family. A copy is made which is then sewn into a Faces Not Forgotten quilt. Each quilt features eight portraits, symbolizing that eight children die each day from gun violence.

In recent years, quilts have been displayed throughout the country including at universities, houses of worship and cultural centers. Christine said it is a goal of the volunteers to have a quilt (eight portraits) made for every state.

“These children are not just numbers or statistics,” said Christine. “Each of them was a life ended. Each one has a face.”

*For more information about Faces Not Forgotten, visit the group’s Facebook page where you can also fill out a submission form to have a portrait painted of a child killed by gun violence.

In order to submit a photo and receive a portrait of your child lost to gun violence (age 20 and under) please click on the link below. ❤️
https://goo.gl/forms/goAJynLobo6twwEj2
Donations to Maintain the Beauty of the Murder Wall… Honoring Their Memories

Thank you for your donation to maintain the Murder Wall:

- Denise Coleman
  In memory of Timothy Staunton
- Catherine Familathe
  in memory of Anthony Ray Maynez
- LC & Sherry Nolan
  in memory of Shannon Marie & Alexandra Jordan Nolan-Broe
- Joan Roback
  In memory of Jim Roback
- Karen Story
  in memory of Lee R. Story
- Howard & Ann Klerk
  in memory of Lisa Marie Weaver

WALL BOOKLETS HONOR THEIR MEMORIES

POMC’s Murder Wall...Honoring their Memories is a beautiful memorial to the more than 4,000 murder victims whose names appear on the Wall. Behind each name there is a face and a story of a person whose life was taken prematurely. It is time to tell those stories.

Memorial booklets, which travel with the Wall, are compiled as an ongoing project of National POMC. Cost is $20.00 to include one page, front and back without a photo, or $30.00 if you wish to have a photo included. The photos are non-returnable and must be no larger than 2 1/2 by 3 1/2 inches.

Forms are available on the POMC Web Site at: www.pomc.org or by calling National at (513) 721-5683.

Maintaining the Beauty of the MURDER WALL...Honoring Their Memories

Time and much travel have put stress on the many panels of the Murder Wall... Honoring Their Memories, and scratches, nicks, and dents need to be repaired. Many of the cases that are used to transport the Wall have split or broken, handles have fallen off, and the protective material inside each case needs to be replaced.

Currently, the Wall is made up of 33 panels, displaying over 4,000 victims’ names, dates of birth and dates of death.

In order to maintain the beauty of the Wall, POMC continues to seek donations to help make some of the repairs. To help, please use the form below.

Donations made in memory/honor of, will be in the next issue of Survivors.

POMC-Wall Repair
(Please Print)

Name:

In memory/honor of:

Address:____________________________________
City, State, Zip:______________________________
Email Address:______________________________
Amount enclosed: $_________  Check:____
Money Order :____  Visa:_____   MC:______
Am. Express:______  Dis:_______
Card Number:_______________________________
Expiration date:________________
Security Code (back of card):________________

Return to:
Parents Of Murdered Children, Inc.
635 W. 7th Street, Suite 104
Cincinnati, Ohio 45203
The names that appear in this issue of *Survivors* are those that have been submitted to the National Organization of POMC, Inc., with full or partial payment before January 13, 2020. Names after this date will appear in the next issue.

The Wall consists of solid walnut panels with each holding 120 brass plates inscribed with the name of the victim, along with the date of birth and the date of death. A donation of $75 is required before a name will be inscribed on a plate and permanently mounted on a panel. (See order form inside this edition.) Not only is this donation a tribute to the memory of your loved one, but it is a tribute that will guarantee that the memory of those we miss so deeply will survive forever. The Wall is a powerful statement of the violence in our society and of the numbers of loved ones senselessly killed by others. Not only does it give comfort, but also hope, because every name on it cries out silently for awareness, prevention and justice.

### Murder Wall...Honoring Their Memories Order Form

Anyone interested in having their loved one’s name inscribed and permanently mounted on the Wall should fill out the order form below. Make checks payable to “POMC Wall,” or for your convenience, Discover, Visa, MasterCard, and American Express are accepted.

Send to: Parents Of Murdered Children, 635 W. 7th Street, Suite 104, Cincinnati, Ohio 45203

#### LOVED ONES INFORMATION

Loved ones name ____________________________________________

Date of Birth ___________________________ Date of Death ___________________________

#### PAYMENT INFORMATION

Choice of payment (check one): _____ Pay in full for $75.00 OR _____ 3 payments of $25.00 each

Payment type: _____ MC _____ Visa _____ Am. Express _____ Discover _____ Check

Card Number ___________________________ Exp. Date _________ Security Code ____________

#### SUBMITTERS INFORMATION

Name ____________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________

City, State, Zip ____________________________________________

Phone Number ____________________________________________

Relationship to victim ______________________________________

The name will be added to the panel upon payment in full. Once your plate has been permanently mounted on the panel, you will be notified. New panels join the Wall as they are completed.
Parole Block™ is a program of the National Organization of Parents Of Murdered Children, Inc.

Parole Block Program

With
Bev
Warnock

1704 Convicted murderers have been denied parole through POMC’s Parole Block Program!

Parole Block Program

Support for the Parole Block Program

In memory of:

- Jarrod Chrisman from Susie & Rodney Chrisman
- Kim Martello from Elizabeth Wilson for 2017 and 2019
  - Timothy Staunton from Denise Coleman
  - Lisa Marie Weaver from Howard & Ann Klerk

Hearing Results:

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<td>Thomas Lester Wright</td>
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<td>Thomas Donald Miller</td>
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Letters from The Parole Block Program

Bev,

Please find attached the notification letter from the Victim Services with the State of Missouri Department of Corrections regarding the Parole Board’s decision concerning the offender Carlos Allen. He is scheduled for release on 10/4/2023. Upon his release, the reminder of his sentence will be served under parole supervision.

I appreciate all the help with the Parole Block Petitions from the POMC Chapters across the country. Thank you for the support everyone has provided all these years.

Regards, Nancy Whitmarsh

PAROLE HEARINGS TO BE HELD

Hearing Date: April 15, 2020
Eric Moreno Cazares ID#: K66412

On January 12, 1997, Devin Jay Garza was coming home from a birthday party and decided to cruise the “Boulevard” before coming home, since he was out for a night of fun. When he stopped at a stop sign, Eric Moreno Cazares pulled up alongside of him and started shooting. Devin was killed, even though the window wasn’t down.

Cazares pled guilty to second degree murder and was sentenced to 17 years to life in prison. He will have served only 23 years when he is considered for parole.

To protest, please write to:
Board of Parole Hearings
Attn: Pre Hearing Correspondence Unit
PO Box 4036
Sacramento, CA 95812-4036
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hearing Date: June 2020</th>
<th>Ronald D. Brook</th>
<th>ID#: B73494</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On November 25, 1975, Susan Worthan and her boyfriend were driving around in his car when Ronald D. Brook, at gunpoint, forced them to drive to an isolated stretch of the highway. He ordered the boyfriend to pull over and he was ordered out of the car and locked in the trunk. After about 15 minutes, he was let out of the trunk and he escaped and ran to get help. Brook shot Susan in the back with a high powered modified 44 magnum handgun revolver and dragged her over a fence and left her half-clothed body in a muddy pasture and began searching for Susan’s friend who had escaped. Susan’s body was not found until the next morning. Brook was convicted of first degree murder and two counts of kidnapping and was sentenced to life with parole. In 1978, Brook escaped from a California prison and was captured in Tennessee in 1983 and was extradited back to the California prison. He received an additional 16 months for the escape. He has served only 44 years when he is considered for parole. His parole was denied in 2019 for 3 years but he was granted an early parole date of 2020.</td>
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<td>To protest, please write to:</td>
<td>Board of Parole Hearings</td>
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<td>Attn: Pre-Hearing Correspondence Unit</td>
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<td>Sacramento, CA  95812-4036</td>
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<tr>
<th>Hearing Date: June 2020</th>
<th>Rene Enriquez</th>
<th>ID#: H69471</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On December 24, 1989, and after being released from prison in 1989 and while on parole, Rene Enriquez, AKA Boxer, ordered the murder of Cynthia Figueroa Gavaldon over $10.00. Her body was found in a vacant lot in Boyle Heights, CA, shot between her eyes with her arms crossed over her chest. Cynthia was only 27 years old and the mother of two small children ages 8 and 6. They have grown up without a mother. Enriquez was a strong member of the Mexican Mafia. Since the age of 12 he has led a life of crime. Enriquez pled guilty to 2nd degree murder and was sentenced to 20 years to life. He will have served only 16 years when he is up for parole.</td>
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<td>To protest, please write to:</td>
<td>Board of Parole Hearings</td>
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<td>Attn: Pre-Hearing Correspondence Unit</td>
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<td>Sacramento, CA  95812-4036</td>
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<tr>
<th>Hearing Date: May 2020</th>
<th>Melissa Grasa</th>
<th>ID#: W034713</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On December 3, 1993, Melissa Grasa and her boyfriend, Ronald Branham waited until Michael Grasa went to sleep in the upstairs bedroom of his house in Liberty Township, Ohio. After he was asleep, Melissa Grasa called her boyfriend, Ron, who was hiding in the basement, to come upstairs where he shot Michael Grasa in the head with a crossbow arrow while his three small children were sleeping in their bedrooms right down the hall. Realizing the first arrow had not killed him, Melissa told Branham to go back and shoot him again. The second arrow severed the spinal cord and he was dead. Melissa Grasa was convicted of aggravated murder and was sentenced to 20 years to life. Grasa has only served 25 years when she is considered for parole.</td>
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<td>To protest, please write to:</td>
<td>Ohio Parole Board Office of Victim Services</td>
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<td>4545 Fisher Rd. Suite D</td>
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<td>Columbus, OH  43228</td>
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<tr>
<th>Hearing Date: April 2020</th>
<th>Angelo Wilbert Pavageau</th>
<th>ID#: B58812</th>
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<tr>
<td>On the night of April 18-19, 1974, in the Potrero Hill neighborhood of San Francisco, CA, Frank Carlson was brutally murdered while his wife Annette Carlson, was raped, tortured and left for dead. The attacker, Angelo Pavageau beat Frank so badly that every inch of his skull was crushed. After attempting to kill Annette by cutting her wrist, Pavageau poured paint thinner around the house and set it ablaze. Annette managed to crawl out of the window onto the roof, where she collapsed screaming. Three neighbors heard her screams and climbed onto the roof to help her. They arrested Pavageau after tracking stolen jewelry from their house during the crime back to him. Pavageau was convicted of first degree murder, rape, arson, burglary and mayhem and was sentenced to the death penalty plus 54 years. Two years later the death penalty was abolished by the California Supreme Court. Pavageau has only served 45 years when he is considered for parole.</td>
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<td>To protest, please write to:</td>
<td>Board of Parole Hearings</td>
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Thank You

Thanks to all those who have chosen POMC as their charity of choice. Your donation has helped thousands of surviving family members; stopped the early release of 1,704 convicted murderers; assisted in POMC’s Second Opinion Services; provided the National newsletter, Survivors, to those who cannot afford it and so much more. POMC’s outreach would not be able to exist without your continued support.

In Memory of

Melissa D. Baker
from Lois Baker

Norman Alexander Boudewyn
from Adri & Waltrut Boudewyn

Captain Victor Brown
from Anita Jo Brown

Jarrod Chrisman
from Rodney & Susie Chrisman

Larry Cole
from Carol Cole

Daniel Everbeck
from Bonnie Everbeck

Brett Joseph Foley
from Joseph Foley

Brian Glick
from Barbara Glick

Laurel Susan Gram Rau
from Gary & Renee Bennett

Lisa
from Ilene Freeman

Ryan Charles August Hargens
from Robert & Jane Hargens

James “Jay” Hitt
from Debbie Hitt

Lisa Hullinger
from Bob & Charlotte Hullinger

Luann Irby
from John & Jean Irby

Kimberly LaShara Jacobs
from Linda Jacobs

Sgt. John Kugelman
from Bill Kugelman

Jenise Christine Landolfa
from Deborah Landolfa

Jessica Lange
from Gay Hynds

Darvis Lee
from Sandy Lee

Owen Lynch
from Anne Coughlin

Michele Matteucci
Gwen & Dante Matteucci

Richard Maxwell
from Norma Maxwell

Richard McGann
from Laura Miller

Travis Monroe
from Christi Berry

Greg
from Diane Murphy

Peter Dodd Nichols
from Lee & Terry Freeman

Shannon Marie &
Alexandra Jordan Nolan–Broe
from LC & Sherry Nolan

David Pottinger
from Carolee Hildenbrandt

Becky Reed
from James & Ann Reed

Michael Reichert
from Jerri Reichert

Andrea Sax
from Shirley Sax

Cynthia Sedgwick
from James & Barbara Sedgwick

Stephen Eric Senator
from Stewart Senator

Timothy Staunton
from Denise Coleman

Lisa Tyson
from Bill & Carole Tyson

Lisa Marie Weaver
from Howard & Ann Klerk

Patrick
from Patrice Zeissler

In Honor of

Susan McGhee for her birthday
In honor of Julian Smith
from Desiree Curry

Richard Waldman
for his birthday
from Dale O’Neil

In Honor of

Donations

Joshua Bergstrom

Julie Carlson

Nancy Greiwe

Cheryl Peckenpaugh

Holly Brians Ragusa

David Rein

Texas Wake N Scrape 2019–
Marian & Dan Spence
How the Parents Of Murdered Children Online Support Group Through Facebook Brings Hope to a Survivor

Dear Bev Warnock and staff at POMC,
I just wanted to thank you for getting the chat site back up again. After more than 12 years POMC has helped me navigate and given me comfort through the nightmare. I still find myself back at the site from time to time where we all open up to one another and try to give support and comfort. I found myself on the site today, needing to express my grief and looking for comfort and there is immediate response.
Thanks again, I am forever grateful.
Stacey Richards

Letters from The Parole Block Program Continued:

Hi Beverly,
I want to let you know that the parole for Thomas L Wright was denied for one more year. Usually NY has a two year hold but for the last two hearings they’re only holding him for one year. It makes our fight harder. Thank you for all your help and the help of all the letter writers that helped us in this fight. I will be contacting you again next year.
Thank you and God Bless you all, Donna Branch

The parole hearing held July 2, 2019 had 3 parole commissioners, 2 of which leaned toward letting inmates out. Matthew Ferguson was given 3 more years. He also had a 2015 pornography charge while in prison. The commissioners concluded that Ferguson hadn’t changed his viewpoint towards female violence within the last 5 years. The commissioners did give the option of Ferguson having parole hearing after one year. Blessings, Colette D. Krinock

A Very Big Thank You! Yesterday CDC&R Inmate K 44845 received 7 years until his next parole board hearing. A Fantastic Team Carl was Present. Warning: California inmates can demand another parole hearing sooner. Imagine grounding your kid for a week and one day in they say “No Mom I want my ground to end now.” God help California. Life Without Parole no longer really means LWOP, watch your legislators closely and the Death Penalty a concept only working in places like Texas. The AB runs the prisons these days. Thank you for your letters and petitions they do matter and the Commissioners referenced them. I know we asked for 15 years but in todays climate in California due to an order to reduce overcrowding from an inmate lawsuit managed by a 3 Panel Judge group, 7 years is like 20 years.

Carl and I always celebrated New Year’s Eve at home watching Dick Clark. We went to the party store and loaded up. I wanted to reflect Carl’s exuberance for yesterday’s result. I will still pursue a new re-sentencing hearing to get back LWOP as so many errors happened, most importantly, my Marsy’s Law rights. The Judge in 2015 also forgot the Special Circumstance of For Financial Gain as well as PC 1197.2. K44845 continued his lies on the false narrative he was allowed to do at the 2015 Resentencing Hearing by the hearing Judge. No one bought it at the Board of Parole Hearings. In my Victim Impact Statement, the last 3 words were Carl Dan Claes. Danella George
There are hundreds of survivors across the U.S. who volunteer for the National Organization of POMC as Chapter Leaders, Co-Leaders, Contact Persons and State Coordinators. If you are at a point in your life where you are ready to reach out to others who have suffered the loss of a loved one due to violence, please contact me.

The following states need someone to offer support services through phone, email, support group meetings, & court accompaniment, etc.:
- Alabama
- District of Columbia
- Hawaii
- Mississippi
- Montana
- Nebraska
- New Jersey
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- Rhode Island
- Tennessee
- Utah
- Vermont
- Wyoming

Thank you to the following Chapters for dedication, compassion and selflessness shown through their continued efforts to provide ongoing emotional support to others through phone calls, email, support group meetings, court accompaniment, local events bringing about awareness, education, and advocacy to victims of crime, and remembrance programs for the survivors family members whose loved ones lives were taken from them.

In this 2020 anniversary, POMC acknowledges those Chapters with Articles of Association that were signed between January 1 and April 30 of the year they became a probationary POMC Chapter:
- Central Minnesota Chapter/ MN - 20 years
- Central Ohio Chapter/ OH - 30 years
- Delaware County Chapter/ PA - 25 years
- DuPage County (and Beyond) Chapter/ IL - 15 years
- Greater Cincinnati Area Chapter/ OH - 19 years
- Greater Portland Area Chapter/ OR - 38 years
- Kansas City AreaWide Chapter/ MO & KS - 30 years
- Kentuckiana Chapter/ KY-IN - 1 year
- Los Angeles Chapter/ CA - 8 years
- Maine Chapter/ ME - 30 years
- Metro Detroit Chapter/ MI - 38 years
- Queens Chapter/ NY - 17 years
- Miami-Dade County Chapter/ FL - 37 years
- Sacramento California Area Chapter/ CA - 12 years
- Sampson County Chapter/ NC - 1 year
- Southeast Minnesota Chapter/ MN - 22 years
- Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter/ MA - 12 years
- Southwest Florida Chapter/ FL - 21 years
- St. Louis Area Wide Chapter/ IL & MO - 35 years
- Sumter Chapter/ SC - 6 years
- Valley of the Sun Chapter/ AZ - 34 years

CP/SC/CL UPDATES
If you have a message of interest, a great fundraising idea, upcoming Chapter events, special awards or recognitions received or ideas that you would like to share with our “POMC family”, please mail them to my attention: Sherry Nolan at National POMC or email them to snolan@pomc.org. The deadline for receipt of the next newsletter articles is April 1, 2020. Please note: due to deadlines or overflow of articles, etc., we may not be able to include all of those received in the next SNL, but may keep them for future newsletters.
Volunteers are essential in fulfilling our mission!

Nothing teaches hope, kindness, courage, and compassion like helping others.

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time...they just have the heart.

We celebrate the life of Sylvia Banks, Chapter Leader of our Metro Detroit, Michigan Chapter who passed on January 22, 2020

Sylvia became involved with POMC as a member shortly after her son, Deon Glover, was murdered in January, 2003. Approximately, 2 years later in 2005, Sylvia became Chapter Leader. She held the Chapter Leader position continuously until her passing on January 22, 2020...about 15 years.

Her son, Deon Latelle Glover, was in college in Grand Rapids, MI, and was out at a club celebrating with football teammates. While standing in the parking lot, a person, who was just released from prison, was angry because his car was blocked in and he couldn’t get out. He pulled a gun out and began randomly shooting into a crowd. Deon was the innocent bystander, who was shot and killed. His murderer was in prison for 15 years and was released about 2 years ago and now supposedly resides in Arizona. Sylvia is survived by her immediate family...husband, Willie “Bill” Banks, 2 other children, Elroy “EJ” Daffin Jr and Elriana “Shae” Daffin and one 5 month old granddaughter, Leilani Sims.

Words from her fellow POMC Members: “Sylvia Banks was a great leader and always helped every member as much as she could. Sylvia will truly be missed. We became good friends. I will always remember her encouraging words and being supportive. She will always be my role model. Rest in heaven Sylvia, gone but never will be forgotten.”

“As a professional having contact with POMC, I would like to say Sylvia was always diplomatic and thoughtful. She knew how to handle distress and anger of those she served, in a way that did not worsen the situation. She was patient and kind, the Metro Detroit Chapter was blessed to have her as their leader for so many years!”

“I knew Sylvia for 17 years, both as a friend and as a board member for the Metro Detroit Chapter of POMC. She was one of the most compassionate, caring and dedicated people I ever knew. As a Chapter Leader, Sylvia always had time for anyone that needed help, always putting their needs before hers. The world is a better place because of her contributions, while being the Chapter Leader for the Metro Detroit Chapter of POMC. Both the members, community and myself are really going to miss her...”

“Sylvia always had deep compassion and vast knowledge of the horrible grieving process which we all face, this was always shown at the monthly meetings. Though she was gravely ill, she kept in touch as a leader. Sylvia We Will Miss YOU.”
ATTENTION:
NEW ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP THROUGH FACEBOOK.

Are you on Facebook? If so make sure to join our Facebook support group which is being used as a topic forum to talk among one another, share stories of your loved one and lean on one another for support. You can join the group at www.facebook.com/groups/POMCOFFICIAL

Please note, this is the ONLY official online POMC support group. If you belong to other groups claiming to be POMC please be aware that they are not affiliated with or representatives of POMC.

We still have our National page on Facebook as well which is used for updates within the organization and National Office as well as other important information. Again, this is the ONLY official page for POMC (besides Chapter pages) so please be aware if you are linked with other pages claiming to be a POMC Facebook account. You can access our National Facebook page at www.facebook.com/POMC1978

*REMINDER*

Has something changed? Please, let POMC know if your name, address, email or phone number have changed. Call us toll free at (888) 818-7662 or email us at natlpomc@pomc.org

POMC Catalog Available

POMC’s “Journey Through Grief” catalog is available by contacting POMC at: (513) 721-5683. The catalog can also be downloaded from our website at: www.pomc.org.

The catalog provides color photos and a listing for all POMC items: books, bumper stickers, brochures, clothing, magnets, music, etc.

Information on items for POMC’s National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims, special gifts, memorials, and tributes are also included in the catalog.

Contact POMC today for your free copy.

Did you know Amazon.com is a POMC sponsor?

POMC receives 4-13% depending on item of all Amazon.com purchases made through the amazon link on our webpage. The use of this link does not increase the cost of your purchase.

Our future depends on you!

Please remember the National Organization of Parents Of Murdered Children in your will and estate planning.

Thank you for keeping us in mind.

Dedication Page Information

Dedication Pages are included in each publication of the Survivors Newsletters. Not only is this a way to memorialize our loved ones, it also helps to defray the cost of publishing the newsletter. We offer this opportunity to pay tribute with poems, photos (black and white only), letters/loving thoughts or special requests.

The prices for dedication pages are as follows: $35.00 for a quarter page, $65.00 for a half page or $125.00 for a full page.

Send item and appropriate donation to “Dedication Page,” POMC, 635 W. 7th Street, Suite 104, Cincinnati, OH 45203. Please include your name and daytime phone number in case we have to contact you for clarification.
Survivors Newsletter Subscription

Please find enclosed $10.00 for my annual subscription (three issues) for the Survivors Newsletter ($25.00 outside the United States). Please consider adding an extra subscription fee to help defray the cost for someone who cannot afford to subscribe.

(Please Print)

Name:_____________________________________
Address:____________________________________
___________________________________________
City, State, Zip:______________________________
Email Address:______________________________
Phone number: (____)________________________
Amount enclosed: $_________ for _______ year (s)
Payment method: ___Check    __Visa   __MasterCard
                  __American Express    __Discover
Card number:________________________________
Expiration date:_____________________________
Enclosed is an extra $__________ donation for someone in need and is given in:

Memory of:_________________________________
Honor of:___________________________________

All those donating an extra gift ‘in loving memory of’, or ‘in honor of’ will be listed in the next issue of the Survivors newsletter. To have POMC send a letter acknowledging your gift to the family, please provide family’s name, address, city, state, and zip code.

Return to: Parents Of Murdered Children, Inc.
35 W. 7th Street, Suite 104
Cincinnati, Ohio 45203
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