FAQ’s for POMC National Conference

FREQUENT REGISTRATION QUESTIONS
Are there scholarships available to attend the Conference?
In the past we have received grant money from the Department of Justice and been able provide scholarships. We usually do not hear if we are awarded this grant until March. After March, please contact the National POMC Office. (888-818-7662)

I’m uncomfortable paying by credit card online. May I pay by check?
You can still register online and pay by check. Go to pomc.org and click on the red button that says: “Click here to Register.” At the end of filling out the online form, there is a dropdown menu where you can choose to pay by credit card or pay by check. There are instructions as to how to proceed.

Do I get a receipt?
Yes you will be sent a confirmation email with receipt and additional information.

What is the refund policy?
Refunds can be made up to 7 days before the beginning of the conference. After that it would be addressed on an individual basis.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE
Is this Conference a depressing event?
Survivors (and professionals) have found this conference is very helpful in dealing with the reality of murder and is extremely supportive and inspirational. At this conference people have found HOPE that they can survive this seemingly “unsurvivable” event in their lives. Being in the same rooms with those who truly understand is a powerful and unique form of support not to be found anywhere else. There will be a "Comfort Room" available for anyone wanting or needing to "take a break". There are many people available to talk with who have had time with the same tragedy, who have a compassionate ear and experience to share. People find, especially in this national setting, that they can find people with similar tragedies. They may have felt they were the only ones with a particular set of circumstances, but find support and strength when they see they are not alone and others are surviving.

What happens at the Conference?
Thursday night starts with a beautiful unveiling of the National Murder Wall ceremony which is open to the public. Friday begins with an opening ceremony, continues with a variety of
workshops throughout the day, and a Memorial Video. Saturday is workshops and an Awards Banquet. Sunday is an inspirational program with brunch.

**Do I have to share my experience or talk?**
No, there is absolutely no requirement to do so. Many people find just listening and being around others is very helpful. But if you have questions in workshops you can certainly ask or share, but there is absolutely no requirement to do so.

**Is it appropriate to bring children to the conference?**
Our National Conference is geared towards adults (18 and over), therefore children under the age of 18 are not allowed in workshops. Also, children must have a paid child’s registration to be allowed in the dining room during meals. Children under the age of 18 are not allowed in the workshops. There is no childcare or children's program so parents are solely responsible for their children at all times.

**My I bring someone to join me just for a meal?**
Yes, except you must go to the Registration Table to pay for their meal beforehand. There they will get the necessary items which will allow them into the dining room for the meal.

**What kind of workshops does the POMC Conference present?**
Our conference provides numerous workshops on traumatic grief; navigating the confusing maze of the judicial and investigative process, and trainings for survivors and professionals who serve them; cold cases; specific grief workshops (ex: mother's, father's, sibling’s grief, to name a few); creative and healing workshops (ex: scrapbooking, yoga, dance, poetry writing, to name a few); workshops to get questions answered (medically, legally, etc). We also have workshops for professionals who support survivors. The wide range of workshops meets most needs of all different types of survivors with different types of cases.

**Is there a "Dress Code?"**
Comfortable attire is what most attendees wear. Some people choose to be more dressed-up for the Saturday Awards Banquet. Remember that some meeting rooms can run on the cool side (even in summer).

**Will there be people there who can answer questions I have during the conference?**
Yes, we have a wonderful group of volunteers and past conference attendees who will be more than happy to help you.