

Blair County Office of the District Attorney Victim/Witness Office 423 Allegheny Street, Suite 421 Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

### Overview:

The Victim Witness Department of the Office of District Attorney Peter Weeks provides comprehensive advocacy and support to victims and witnesses of crime. Our Victim Advocates work to ensure that crime victims and their families are provided the services and information necessary to be an integral part of the criminal case process. It is our mission to ensure that victims are treated fairly and that their voice is heard.

### **Victim Advocacy Services:**

- Information on rights as a crime victim
- Guidance in navigating the criminal justice system
- Referral to local resources and services
- Assistance in filling out applications for restitution and the Victim Compensation Assistance Program
- Crisis support services

## Job Responsibilities:

- 1. Assist victims of crime to navigate the criminal justice System.
- 2. Conduct crisis counseling and intakes with victims of crime including assistance in filing restitution and compensation claims
- 3. Provide court support and escort victims to the Courtroom when needed to testify. Offer emotional support throughout the day when the victim is testifying.
- 4. Assist with front office responsibilities, including: answering phones, transferring calls to Advocates, filing, receiving, copying, and submitting documents (i.e. medical bills, appeal letters, receipts).
- 5. Assist with client intakes.
- 6. Accurately gather, organize and record data relevant to advocacy cases.
- 7. Provision of case status updates.
- 8. Offer information and make appropriate needs-based referrals to: hospitals, clinics, mental health facilities, emergency resources, and community based organizations.
- 9. Work with Assistant District Attorneys, Investigators, and Police Inspectors on case development.
- 10. Conduct other duties required by management to guarantee the successful operation of the unit (i.e. generating reports, collecting and analyzing data).
- 11. Serve as liaison between the Victim Witness Unit and victims, witnesses, other law enforcement agencies, community agencies, service providers and other governmental personnel as such relate to advocacy.
- 12. Assist Victim Advocates updating and conducting outreach for new cases.

#### **Qualifications:**

We are looking for highly motivated, responsible candidates from the criminal justice, social work, psychology and legal academic studies fields. Candidates will be required to work a minimum of 16 hours per week, days/times to be determined by the department. Internship may meet the requirements of academic courses or departments. Bilingual skills are highly desirable.



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# STUDENT INTERNSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Please print and provide all information below. Student's Name: City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_ Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: Is this for credit? List the beginning and end dates you want to do an internship: List the days and times you are available for work? What is your current major/area of study? Describe any student organizations, job experiences, additional course work (undergraduate or graduate), skills, degrees, certifications, or licenses that you have that will help you with this internship.



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experiences you want to gain through this internship and why you believe this internship can provide such an experience.				
What is your current status (circle one)?				
Sophomore	Junior	Senior	Graduate Student	Other
When do you expect to graduate?				
Do you consent to a criminal background check and child abuse clearance?				
Student Signature:				Date: