



Department of Justice



Office of Justice Programs

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Justice Department Honors Michigan State Professor for Research on the Neurobiology of Trauma

WASHINGTON—The Department of Justice will recognize Michigan State University professor Rebecca Campbell, PhD., with the Vision 21 Research Award for improving the nation's understanding of sexual assault and medical and criminal justice professionals' response to victims, during the National Crime Victims' Rights Service Awards ceremony Tuesday, April 21, in Washington, D.C.

As one of the first researchers to focus on violence against women, Campbell has for the past 25 years conducted research with an emphasis on sexual assault, coordinated community responses, untested rape kits and the neurobiology of trauma. Her research focuses on gathering data that helps victim advocates develop effective and appropriate responses to victims that minimize trauma and revictimization. Her work on the impact of trauma on a survivor's ability to participate in the criminal justice process has transformed the way law enforcement responds to victims in several communities, including Cleveland, Detroit, Houston, Memphis and Salt Lake City.

At the April 21 ceremony the Justice Department will also recognize 11 other individuals and programs for their outstanding efforts on behalf of crime victims. Descriptions of the honorees are available at the Office for Victims of Crime's Gallery: <https://ovcnvrvw.ncjrs.gov/Awards/AwardGallery/gallerysearch.html>.

The Department's Office for Victims of Crime leads communities across the country in observing National Crime Victims' Rights Week and hosts an award ceremony each year. President Reagan proclaimed the first Victims' Rights Week in 1981, calling for greater sensitivity to the rights and needs of victims. This year's observance takes place April 19-25, with the theme *Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims*.

About the Office of Justice Programs (OJP)

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP), headed by Assistant Attorney General Karol V. Mason, provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice and assist victims. OJP has six components: the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; the Office for Victims of Crime and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking. More information about OJP can be found at www.ojp.gov.

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