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December 21, 2014

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

I am one of your constituents, and I am glad to hear that addressing criminal domestic violence (CDV) will be a priority as you enter your second term. CDV was the topic I chose for my senior thesis. My professor challenged me to find a solution to CDV. He gave me the freedom to explore the "big picture." I spent literally hundreds of hours researching the issue from every angle. Once completed, one of my professors made the comment that the plan I developed to fight CDV in South Carolina could provide a national platform for you to run for president. I am enclosing a copy of my senior thesis for you to use as you deem fit. Likewise, the plan could serve as a pilot plan for other states.

During my profiles in leadership class, I had the good fortune to meet and interview Ombudsman Veronica Swain Kunz. My professor encouraged me to incorporate her quotes and perceptions from the interview into my senior thesis. I emailed Ms. Kunz a copy of my paper in early November for her review and noted in another email that she could use the ideas and suggestions that she deemed worthy. Unfortunately, my emails have gone unanswered. I do not want to become a pest; however, I think you will find the suggestions offered are common-sense approaches that are doable and complement existing efforts to fight CDV in South Carolina. Along with each suggestion, I researched sensible funding sources to underwrite each aspect of the plan.

As you move forward with your plan, I hope you will keep me in mind for any leadership positions created to manage your network. I discovered through my work in the nonprofit sector that research and development along with organizational skills are among my strongest talents. Likewise, I enjoy research and generating practical solutions to complex problems. At each juncture of change in my career, I sought opportunities to broaden my knowledge and skills; however, a few changes were made just to offer a helping hand, which I learned is one of the best ways to open doors of opportunity. I have more than 25 years experience working in leadership positions in the public and nonprofit sectors. I completed my Bachelor of Arts in Community and Organizational Leadership on December 12, 2014. In addition, I received my letter of acceptance into Columbia College's Master in Arts in Organizational Change and Leadership program. The one-year program makes it possible for working professionals to earn their master's while maintaining full-time employment. Classes meet one weekend out of the month.

As you will note, I did not provide detailed components for each proposal element because of length guidelines for the research paper. However, I think it is important to mention that a key to the success of the overall proposal is a well-structured communications plan to keep everyone in your network informed. If you find I am a qualified and a well-suited candidate for a leadership position on your CDV task force, as I learn about organizational change and leadership during the master's program, so will other members within the CDV network. Change is one of the most difficult challenges a leader faces, and everyone in your network is a leader. By empowering members of the network with the latest research about leadership, they will become skilled agents of change.

Thank you for this opportunity, and please let me know if I can be of further help.

Sincerely,



Gail Wright

Enclosures: Thesis Paper, Résumé, Transcripts

# Criminal Domestic Violence:

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Weighing collaborative approaches for better solutions to a complex problem

Gail Wright

DR. ED SHARKEY | POSC 498 C1 | SENIOR SEMINAR | NOVEMBER 10, 2014  
COLUMBIA COLLEGE

Can a changed perspective and approach toward collaborative efforts to combat criminal domestic violence (CDV) in South Carolina generate tangible results? CDV is a convoluted problem that wreaks havoc on the lives it touches and dumbfounds those who seek to end its devastation to society. The complexities of CDV requires multidimensional approaches and teamwork among various professions such as those who work in the criminal justice system, state and federal government and nonprofit entities, mental health, child welfare, healthcare, community leaders, clergy, and others. Combating CDV is an enduring process of trial and error that requires collaborative intervention to help communities address problems related to increased risks of CDV. Weighing solutions to CDV requires a reexamination of current collaborative approaches to determine their effectiveness or inefficiency in curtailing problems to generate tangible results.

## CDV Research

Unquestionably, the most important element in addressing CDV is reliable statistics and research to identify contributing factors related to CDV and to weigh the success of current approaches to stop CDV. Research is an on-going effort that requires considerable resources. Further CDV research is essential to analyze societal factors that may escalate CDV occurrences such as alcohol and substance abuse, pornography, and violent video gaming. Victim secrecy about acts of domestic violence creates a roadblock when it comes to stopping the cycle of violence from one generation to the next and to identifying other contributors to CDV. “Domestic violence is one of the most chronically underreported crimes” (National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 2007), which requires the use of surveys to supplement actual reporting to gain a more comprehensive assessment of those unreported crimes. The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) *Domestic Violence Facts* estimates that only one-quarter of all physical assaults, one-fifth of all rapes, and one-half of the stalkings perpetrated against females by intimate partners are reported.

## Poverty and Education

Consequently, “24/7 Wall St. said the apparent relationship between income, education and crime rates has been well documented, ‘although identifying the cause and effect is still a matter of debate’” (Dykes, 2013). Therefore, the impact of high unemployment and poverty in a specific area with a high CDV rate may require collaborative planning and investing in a community to help the community and people prosper by creating jobs and improving the education system opposed to just treating batterers and then returning them to the same oppressive environment. Those areas should be prioritized by South Carolina’s governor for block grant funding through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program “that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs” (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2014). “The CDBG program works to ensure decent affordable housing, to provide services to the most vulnerable in our communities, and to create jobs through the expansion and retention of businesses.” The Center for Problem-Oriented Policing at [www.PopCenter.org](http://www.PopCenter.org) provides specific guidelines for communities to assess their community’s CDV problem. Correspondingly, the top ten states for the number of women murdered by men had one or more of the following characteristics in common *high unemployment rates, high poverty rates, and lower educational attainment rates* than other states, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2012), the U.S. Census Bureau (U.S. Census Bureau, 2012), and Spotlight on Poverty and Opportunity (Spotlight on Poverty and Opportunity, 2014).

While poverty is a key element when assessing measures to combat CDV, research shows that “married women are notably safer than their unmarried peers, and girls raised in a home with their married father are markedly less likely to be abused or assaulted than children living without their own father” (Wilcox & Wilson, 2014). Likewise, “women with family incomes less than \$7,500 are five

times more likely to be victims of violence by an intimate than women with family annual incomes between \$50,000 and \$74,000” (Sampson, 2007). “Although the poorest women are the most victimized by domestic violence, one study also found that women receiving government income support payments through Aid for Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) were five times more likely to have experienced physical aggression by a current or former partner during the previous year than non-AFDC supported women.”

Other poverty-related risk factors include, “Being young, black, low-income, divorced or separated, a resident of rental housing, and a resident of an urban area have all been associated with higher rates of domestic violence victimization among women. For male victims, the patterns were nearly identical: being young, black, divorced or separated, or a resident of rental housing” (Sampson, 2007). “Committing partner violence is strongly linked to cohabitation at a young age; a variety of mental illnesses; a background of family adversity; dropping out of school; juvenile aggression; conviction for other types of crime, especially violent crime; drug abuse; long-term unemployment; and parenthood at a young age.”

As for education, a headliner from *Al Jazeera America* puts it in perspective, “Verdict Looms for Education in ‘Corridor of Shame’ Race, Poverty, and Geography Converge in the Longest Trial in South Carolina’s History” (Johnson, 2014). “In 1993, 36 of the state’s poorest rural school districts joined together to sue the State of South Carolina for failing to provide ‘a minimally adequate education; for its students...Although the case has languished more than 20 years, educators and lawyers expect a decision in the forthcoming months that they say could help make things rights” (Johnson, 2014). “The state will provide a pre-emptive stopgap in the year ahead, having approved an education spending plan put forth by Gov. Nikki Haley that will add \$180 million more to K-12 spending, aimed directly at poverty.” Since 2002, the S.C. Education Lottery K-12 program

appropriations “received more than \$731.3 million” (South Carolina Education Lottery, 2014). A portion of the unclaimed prize monies should go toward funding well-developed programs to improve overall conditions in South Carolina’s poorest school districts.

## Criminal Justice System

Research has brought to light other important risk factors that are critical when assessing the threat of further harm to CDV victims. “A verbally abusive partner is one of the most robust risk factors for intimate partner violence. Women whose partners are jealous or tightly controlling are at increased risk of intimate violence and stalking” (Sampson, 2007). “There is a strong link between threat of bodily injury and actual bodily injury, suggesting that abuser threats should be taken seriously.”

Proper research data is essential to law enforcement when evaluating and investigating CDV incidents on a case-by-case basis to determine potential risks for the victim. “The FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program collects data through two reporting systems: the traditional Summary Reporting System (SRS) and the newer National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)” (State Law Enforcement Division and the South Carolina Department of Public Safety, 2013). “South Carolina switched from SRS to incident-based reporting in 1987. However, because of the FBI UCR Program continues to receive the majority of UCR data from states who report via the SRS, the FBI converts all NIBRS data to SRS data to report crime statistics.” In addition, the collected data is “useful only if domestic violence incidents are properly investigated and documented” (Sampson, 2007). “It is important for investigating officers to understand the context and history of domestic assaults to determine if the incident is part of a series of abuse the victim has sustained and if it’s likely to recur or escalate to more serious violence.”

Likewise, South Carolina requires through state statute that law enforcement agencies have a trained victim service provider on staff. Those officers must maintain their certification as a victim service provider through the state's Office of Victim Services and Education (OVSEC). Veronica Swain Kunz is director of the S.C. Crime Victims' Ombudsman (CVO) for the Governor's Office, and she is director of OVSEC. As ombudsman, Kunz oversees the just, equitable, and fair treatment of crime victims by the S.C. Criminal Justice System and its victim-service organizations. CDV is complex because "each victimization brings unique circumstances that do not necessarily follow a predictable and orderly model, or respond to a specific technique of intervention" (Kunz, Governor's Office of the Crime Victims' Ombudsman Annual Report FY 2012-2013, 2014).

## Collaboration

Kunz stresses the importance of building strong networks within communities to bring about positive changes. The problems related to crime and victims of crime are social issues that require coordination through numerous sectors within local communities as well as on the state and national level. "Funding for victim service providers comes from offender's court fines and other fees," said Kunz. "We reach goals through collaborating, chucking egos out the door, and using each other's strengths to develop programs or initiatives to help fill gaps in services to crime victims."

When Kunz coordinates a CDV task force, it involves a process of mobilizing communities through cross-sectoral collaboration. Kunz uses the Appreciative Inquiry Model created by Sue Hammond as a tool that works well for any type of collaborative effort that involves solving problems and bringing about positive changes within communities. The process builds on what works and abandons what fails. Kunz works to include representatives from law enforcement, the nonprofit sector, prosecutors, jailers, court officials, local and state government, businesses, concerned citizens, and others who can make viable contributions to addressing the issue at hand.

## First Responders

As ombudsman, Kunz understands that CDV prevention is an important part of victim advocacy. It is about working to get victims out of high-risk situations before the violence escalates to a life-threatening situation. Kunz uses team leadership when it comes to addressing victim issues. For example, she is working with local leaders to develop a CDV task force in Horry County, which is a high-risk county for domestic violence. In 2011, Horry County ranked first out of the state's 46 counties for the number of women killed by men through domestic violence (South Carolina Department of Public Safety, 2011). Additionally, Horry County's Police Department, which serves the entire county, eliminated "all victim advocate positions in the police department, one of the essential services provided to crime victims no longer existed" (Office of the Governor State Office of Victim Assistance, 2011). The gap in this crucial victim service – first responders to victims of domestic violence – is what Kunz thinks leads to fatalities.

Research supports Kunz's concerns about first responders to CDV complaints. Some researchers think, "Graded approaches to both victim and offender can be effective ways to reduce revictimization" (Sampson, 2007). "The key to reduction is that, at each level, police (and others) must focus equal attention on the victim and the offender....Graded approaches must be applied quickly because the highest risk period for further assault is within the first four weeks of the last assault."

It is imperative for law enforcement to maintain qualified officers in victim advocate positions to assess victim needs and identify high-risk circumstances. However, once law enforcement investigators identify a high-risk CDV case, mental health professionals qualified to diagnose mental health problems should be called in to interview the victim and the perpetrator in order to assess potential revictimization, and in some instances, to help identify the primary aggressor under ambiguous circumstances. Adding this key element to the investigative process could help save lives.



Law enforcement officers are not qualified to diagnose mental illness. Likewise, too much is at risk not to provide law enforcement access to the professional assistance they need to determine the potential for a CDV murder or revictimization. “Thorough analysis of problems often reveals that individuals and groups other than the police are in a stronger position to address problems and that police ought to shift some greater responsibility to them to do so” (Sampson, 2007).

Similarly, there are numerous mental health professionals, who are trained to diagnose mental illness including: psychiatrist, child/adolescent psychiatrist, psychiatric or mental health nurse practitioner, clinical psychologist, school psychologist, clinical social worker, licensed professional counselor, mental health counselor, nurse psychotherapist, marital and family therapist, and pastoral counselor (Mental Health America, 2014). Likewise, this approach would allow law enforcement to be more effective when responding to CDV cases involving underserved populations such as males, undocumented immigrants, and the lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgender (LGBT) community by having a mental health professional assist the police in identifying the primary aggressor in situations where it may not be evident without a professional mental health evaluation.

Unfortunately, South Carolina ranks second in the nation in the rate of women murdered by men, (Violence Policy Center, 2014). South Carolina has ranked in the top 10 states every year for the past 11 years. These statistics underscore the need to review South Carolina’s approach to dealing with high-risk CDV cases. “According to Buzawa and Buzawa, ‘The criminal justice system must develop the capabilities to identify those batterers for whom normal deterrence can be effective, perhaps the majority in terms of numbers of incidents...[i]t should also be able to differentiate, segregate, and incapacitate batterers who must be deterred by special approaches’” (Sampson, 2007).

Since CDV occurs 24/7, South Carolina should establish a statewide network of mental health professionals to be on call during specified periods. A grant should be sought through the Violence

Against Woman Act (VAWA) to fund the state's CDV network of mental health professionals. The VAWA heightens "investigations and prosecutions of sex offenses by allowing for enhanced sentencing of repeat federal sex offenders; mandating restitution to victims of specified federal sex offenses; and providing grants to state, local, and tribal law enforcement entities to investigate and prosecute violent crimes against women" (Sacco, The Violence Against Women Act: Overview, Legislation, and Federal Funding, 2014). The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) was established through the VAWA to oversee grant administration. "Since its creation through FY 2013, the OVW has awarded more than \$5 billion in grants and cooperative agreements to state, tribal, and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and universities" (Sacco, The Violence Against Women Act: Overview, Legislation, and Federal Funding, 2014).

"Since 1996, the South Carolina attorney general's office has used Violence Against Women Act funds on the S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women program which trains law enforcement officers, judges, and prosecutors on how to effectively deal with domestic violence. The program also collects statewide data on criminal domestic violence" (Piepmeier, 2013). "The Violence Against Women Act has funded a national domestic violence hotline which fields around 22,000 calls a month, and it made stalking a felony, which wasn't the case before 1994."

## Underserved Populations

VAWA serves as a primary funding source for programs to help victims and to help prevent domestic violence. "Public concern over violence against women prompted the original passage of VAWA. As such VAWA legislation and programs have historically emphasized women as victims" (Sacco, The Violence Against Women Act: Overview, Legislation, and Federal Funding, 2014). "More recently, however, there has been a focus on ensuring that the needs of all victims are met through

provisions of VAWA programs.” The following list represents some of the revisions to the 2013 reauthorization:

- “It revised the definition of ‘domestic violence’ to specifically include ‘intimate partners’ in addition to ‘current and former spouses.’
- It removed the term ‘linguistically’ from the Culturally Specific Services Grant and amended the definition of ‘culturally specific services’ to address the needs of culturally specific communities.
- With respect to providing VAWA-related services, it added the terms ‘population specific services’ and ‘population specific organizations,’ which focus on ‘members of a specific underserved population.’
- It redefined ‘underserved populations’ to include those who may be discriminated against based on religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity” (Sacco, *The Violence Against Women Act: Overview, Legislation, and Federal Funding*, 2014).

VAWA’s reauthorization by Congress did not receive the usual bi-partisan approach that normally underlines the unquestionable significance of the act. Republicans blocked the bill for including support to “undocumented immigrants, members of the LGBT community, and Native Americans” (Piepmeier, 2013). The VAWA’s reauthorization of 2013 includes protection and services for “all” victims; however, the vastness of the problem makes it extremely difficult to avoid gaps in victim services, especially among underserved populations. Our country has about 40 years invested in the fight against CDV that dates back for centuries. In addition, the resources needed to remove victims from their batterers along with providing long-term follow up and assistance is phenomenal. Domestic victimization is a complex issue, and the faces of victimization no longer consist of only women. Males, undocumented immigrants, Native Americans, and members of the LGBT community fall prey to CDV, as well.

## The Evolution of CDV and Victim Advocacy

“Until recent times, women throughout Europe, the Middle East, and Asia were unable to have any influence over the political, religious, or cultural lives of their societies” (Taylor, 2012). Dating back to 753 B.C., Romans allowed wife beating “under The Laws of Chastisement....the tradition of these laws is perpetuated in English Common Law and through most of Europe” (SafeNetwork: California's Domestic Violence Resource, 1999). More than two thousand years later, the carry over of oppressive views and behavior by men toward women in the United States led to the publication of “‘Battered Wives,’ The First Book Published on the Subject of Domestic Violence in the US in 1976” (Gottstein, 2011). “Women’s groups here and there tried to help victims clandestinely, almost in the style of the underground railway for Black people which existed during the Civil War.” Thanks to “some pioneer work on behalf of domestic victims...by the Brooklyn Legal Services in New York” (Gottstein, 2011), Del Martin the book author and Ruth Gottstein publisher for the Glide Foundation in San Francisco had the data they needed to succeed in their mission to shed light on the atrocities of men against women in the United States. The book is still in publication, and Gottstein noted, “Every word is as valid today as it was then.”

CDV is one of the most demanding areas of victim advocacy, because of the amount of resources needed to help victims. Copenhagen Consensus Center commissioned a report to “estimate global costs of violence” (Doyle, 2014). “Domestic violence, mainly against women and children, kills far more people than wars and is an often overlooked scourge that costs the world economy more than \$8 trillion a year... ‘For every civil war battlefield death, roughly nine people...are killed in inter-personal disputes,’ Anke Hoeffler of Oxford University and James Fearon of Stanford University wrote in the report.”

Domestic violence is “a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner” (U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women). “Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person. This includes any behaviors that intimidate, manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorize, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure, or wound someone.”

Ironically, the criminal justice system's view toward victims did not began to change until the 1970s when Donald E. Santarelli, director of the federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA), learned “the largest cause of prosecution failure was the loss of once-cooperative witnesses who simply stopped helping a justice system that was indifferent to their most basic needs” (Young & Stein, 2004). “This led to an LEAA-funded project by Morton Bard – a psychologist who taught at New York University and who also studied the reactions of crime victims – who published two volumes on *Domestic Violence and Crisis Intervention* that “laid the basis for presenting victim-focused training into many law enforcement academies and the FBI National Academy.” Notably, it took the efforts of powerful-advocacy groups along with the voices of numerous victims to bring about changes on the state and federal level in the 1980s.

Likewise, the movement to enact legislation to protect women from CDV through state and federal statutes in the United States is still in the embryonic stages. For instance, it was not until 1984 that the S.C. State Legislature passed legislation making domestic violence a crime. The Criminal Domestic Violence Code under Title 16 Chapter 25 has seen numerous revisions and additions to address the daunting problem of CDV in South Carolina (South Carolina State Legislature, 2013). However, it “does not include same-sex relationships; dating relationships are included only if the participants are currently living together or have lived together in the past” (Domestic Violence,

Sexual Assault, and Stalking - Data Resource Center, 2014), which impacts the accuracy of incident-based data collected about CDV. Since the reauthorization of the VAWA, the S.C. State Legislature needs to address additional revisions to the CDV Code to encompass underserved populations as well as a growing population of singles who chose not to marry.

“All in a day’s work” takes on new meaning when viewed from the perspective of a victim service provider. Participants from “1,649 local domestic violence programs nationwide responded to the 2013 National Census of Domestic Violence Services” (National Network to End Domestic Violence, 2013). The census covers a 24-hour period of domestic violence shelters and services nationwide. As bewildering as it may be, the following statistics represent a day’s work for victim service providers in the United States managing the turmoil of CDV:

- “66,581 victims were served in one day, [of those] 36,348 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs, and 30,233 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, and children’s support groups.
- 20,267 Hotline Calls Answered – Domestic violence hotline are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources...the National Domestic Violence Hotline answered 550 calls, averaging more than 14 hotline calls every minute.
- 23,389 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings – On the survey day, 23,389 individuals in communities across the United States and territories attended 1,413 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.
- 9,641 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 60% (5,778) were for Housing...Domestic violence programs do not always know what happens when a survivor courageously calls a stranger to ask for a bed or other help and the services aren’t available; however, 60% of programs report that victims return to the abuser, 27% report that victims become homeless, and 11% report that victims end up living in their cars.
- Causes for Unmet Request for Help – 27% reported reduced government funding; 20% reported not enough staff; 12% reported cuts from private funding sources; and 10% reported reduced individual donations.

- Across the United States, 1,696 staff positions were eliminated in the past year. Most of these positions were direct service providers, such as shelter staff or legal advocates. This means that there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help or provide needed services” (National Network to End Domestic Violence, 2013).

Unfortunately, it took several decades for the overlap between child maltreatment and domestic violence to come to the forefront of health and human services professionals as well as to the law enforcement community (Bragg, 2003). Kunz grew up in a domestic-violent environment where she and her sisters became victims of incest. “One in three-to-four girls and one in five-to-seven boys are sexually abused before they turn 18, an overwhelming incidence of which happens within the family” (Fontaine, 2013). “These statistics are well known among industry professionals, who are often quick to add, ‘and this is a notoriously underreported crime.’”

Kunz and her family did not have access to crime-victim services like those available today. Ironically, the first time Kunz saw the term “victim advocate” was on a poster in a government building when she was trying to locate the whereabouts of her father in Maryland to let local authorities know about her family’s nightmare in an effort to stop future pain and suffering for others. It had been 10 years since she had seen her father, and she learned from authorities that someone had murdered him not long before her inquiry. Nevertheless, she never forgot that sign on the wall and victim advocacy became her life calling.

Sadly, there is a great disparity in the number of cases reported by victims of domestic violence because of feelings of shame and fear. “Most victims of crime mistakenly feel they are somehow to blame for the violence perpetrated upon them,” Kunz said. “For some reason, I always knew my father was responsible, not me. That’s why I feel obligated to speak out about my own sexual abuse. Sex offenders rely on us keeping their secret. That way, they can keep on hurting people and never get caught. It’s not our secret to keep.”

## Batterer Intervention

“Witnessing violence between one’s parents or caretakers is the strongest risk factors of transmitting violent behavior from one generation to the next” (National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 2007). “Boys who witness domestic violence are twice as likely to abuse their own partners and children when they become adults,” which makes batterer treatment programs an important factor when dealing with offenders. For a first CDV offense, Under S.C. Code Ann § 16-25-20, “The court may suspend the imposition or execution of all or part of the fine conditioned upon offender completing, to the satisfaction of the court, and in accordance with the provisions of Section 16-25-20(H), a program designed to treat batterers.” For a second CDV offense, “The Court may suspend the imposition or execution of all or part of the sentence, except the thirty-day mandatory minimum sentence” (South Carolina State Legislature, 2008). However, it was not until 2009 that S.C. Code § 16-25-30 made it unlawful for a person convicted of CDV or CDV of high and aggravated nature “to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition” (South Carolina State Legislature, 2009).

Interestingly, the Supreme Court of South Carolina issued an order regarding “Batterer Treatment Programs/Summary Court Sentencing” on January 18, 2012. “It is ordered that circuit solicitors within their respective jurisdictions statewide shall approve, in addition to DSS approval, appropriate batterer treatment programs which are most suitable for magistrates and municipal court judges to order a defendant to attend as a condition of a suspended sentence for a conviction of criminal domestic violence, first offense” (Chief Justice Jean Hoefer Toal, 2012). “Circuit solicitors, in cooperation with DSS, shall provide a list of these programs to the chief magistrates of the counties within their respective circuits as often as is necessary by the solicitors, chief magistrates, and DSS. Upon receipt, chief magistrates shall distribute the list to all magistrates and municipal judges within their respective counties.” The S.C. Department of Social Services (DSS) regulates the standards of



care for batterer treatment programs: however, the need for a Supreme Court Order to involve solicitors in the decision-making process for the selection of appropriate batterer treatment programs raises questions about the uniformity of treatment programs.

In the DSS's *Standards of Care for Batterers Treatment for Domestic Violence* guidelines, there is no mention of data use for statistical research. Batterer treatment should be three-fold, the first objective is to treat the batterer, the second is to help the victim, and the third should be to gather statistical data to aid researchers in finding better ways to help batterers and victims as well as aiding the development of CDV prevention and enforcement measures. DSS should add a release of information for statistical purposes under the waiver of confidentiality clause and establish a statistical data protocol reporting system for all batterer treatment programs.

Unfortunately, the "intake/assessment" (South Carolina Department of Social Services, 2005) of the batterer treatment includes 13 topics; however, assessing pornography and violent video gaming is not included as part of the assessment. Statistical research as to how much those two factors contribute to the escalation of CDV behavior is scarce. "But from both laboratory research and the narratives of men and women, it is not controversial to argue that pornography can: (1) be an important factor in shaping a male-dominant view of sexuality; (2) be used to initiate victims and break down their resistance to unwanted sexual activity; (3) contribute to a user's difficulty in separating sexual fantasy and reality; and (4) provide a training manual for abusers" (Jensen, 2004).

As for pornography, "in a 2004 testimony before the United States Senate, Dr. Jill Manning shared some interesting data....she found that 56 percent of divorce cases involved one party having an obsessive interest in pornographic websites" (Skinner, 2011). "Another source, the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, polled 350 divorce attorneys in 2003 where two thirds of them reported that the internet played a significant role in the divorces, with excessive interest in online porn contributing

to more than half such cases.” Likewise, a great deal of research is available about video games causing violent behavior. “A new review of 130 studies ‘strongly suggests’ playing violent video games increases aggressive thoughts and behavior and decreases empathy” (Jayson, 2014). More research is required to determine how pornography and violent video gaming impacts CDV. South Carolina should consider a user tax on those products to establish a special fund for intimate-partner-violence research, community outreach and education, and victim assistance programs.

## CDV and the Mass Media

Most recently, the Ray Rice CDV scandal created a whirlwind of public outrage and a media frenzy about the incident and how the National Football League (NFL) initially responded with a “slap on the hand.” While CDV normally does not have an audience, the world got a firsthand glimpse of the type of brutality CDV victims endure. Victim advocates seized the window of opportunity through the Rice incident to educate the public about the magnitude of CDV domestic violence in our society. A *Washington Post* headliner read, “Nearly a third of U.S. women have experienced domestic violence” (Izadi, 2014). “That troubling statistic comes from the agency’s [Centers for Disease Control (CDC)] *National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (2011)*, released just last week.” A 2003 CDC study, “estimated physical abuse against a woman by an intimate partner results in 1.8 million injuries each year, with more than 500,000 of such injuries requiring medical care” (Izadi, 2014).

In another timely event, President Obama launched “the ‘It’s On Us’ initiative – an awareness campaign to help put an end to sexual assault on college campuses.... ‘An estimated one in five women has been sexually assaulted during her college years – one in five,’ the President noted. ‘Of those assaults, only 12 percent are reported, and of those reported assaults, only a fraction of the offenders are punished’” (Somander, 2014). “The Obama administration has taken steps to help bring an end to campus sexual assault by:

- Sending guidance to every school district, college, and university that receives federal funding on their legal obligation to prevent and respond to sexual assault
- Creating the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault to work with colleges and universities on developing best practices on how to respond and prevent sexual assault
- Reviewing existing laws to make sure they adequately protect victims of sexual assault.”

Examples like the Rice incident and promoting awareness through programs like “It’s On Us,” demonstrate how the mass media could play an important role in changing social norms. To assist the media, the Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit organization Justice Solutions funded an online media guide for more responsible reporting about crime and victimization. “*A Guide for Journalists Who Report on Crime and Crime Victims* can help journalists fulfill their unique role in helping people understand and work to improve ways in which the United States deals with crime and victimization” (Bucqueroux & Seymour, 2009). “It is intended to explain the role of victim advocates and service providers and explore ways that journalists can work with them effectively to serve the needs of victims in the context of promoting public safety.”

Countless people tend “to believe that domestic violence is a private matter between a couple, rather than a criminal offense that merits a strong and swift response” (U.S. Government, 1996). “Even today, the victim of a domestic assault runs the risk of being asked, ‘What did you do to make your husband angry?’ This question implies the victim is to blame for this abuse.” Something as simple as using the term “criminal domestic violence” instead of domestic violence attaches a stigma to the problem. During a recent victim service provider workshop conducted by the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (SCADVASA), the victim advocates used the term criminal domestic violence or CDV instead of simply domestic violence or DV, because it denotes it as

a crime and not simply as a private matter between couples. That is why the guide for journalists is so important.

## Victim Service Providers and the Need for Shelters

Nonprofit organizations represent the “heart” of victim advocacy. The S.C. Victim Assistance Network (SCVAN) “advocates for all crime victims and those who serve them to ensure they have the help and resources they need” (South Carolina Victim Assistance Network, n.d.). Likewise, “the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (SCCADVASA) is a statewide coalition made up of the 23 domestic violence and sexual assault advocacy programs in South Carolina.” (South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, n.d.). “Since 1981, SCCADVASA has been a leader in representing the critical needs of survivors and their families.”

The prevalence of CDV strains nonprofit shelter resources, which limits the ability of nonprofits to meet all requests for emergency shelter that could result in homelessness in some cases. “Studies and experts clearly show a strong correlation between domestic violence and homelessness” (Betar, 2013). “Overall, 12.3 percent of the sheltered homeless population are domestic violence survivors, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s 2010 annual homelessness assessment report.”

Interestingly, many victim advocates were victims themselves, who have a steadfast desire to stop CDV while helping others in similar situations to survive their struggles. When the Battered Women’s Movement first began, many victims sought refuge in the homes of those involved in the movement. According to the Annual National Census of Domestic Violence Services, more than 36,000 victims received emergency shelter service in a 24-hour period in the U.S. That means there is a national network of previously served victims, who could be potential mentors or victim service

providers to other CDV victims by providing temporary emergency shelter through the establishment of a national program that empowers victims to help victims.

The U.S. has a well-established network of credible national CDV organizations that should consider spearheading a Victims Empowering Victims Network. When local shelters cannot accommodate the need, the overflow should be channeled through the victim-empowerment network. The national nonprofits should collaborate with local communities and shelters to setup the program. A state-approved training program should be setup through local communities to prepare former victims for the program, and of course, background checks should be part of the program requirement. As former victims, they are aware of the dangers, and they understand the need for safety plans. The strength of this program is high-risk victims could be placed in safe locations in other states whenever necessary to increase the victim's safety without running the risk of crossing paths with their batterer. Likewise, this could be a quick approach to open thousands of "short-term-emergency shelters" catered to individual and family needs. It is a far better option than homelessness.

## Evidence of CDV Curtailment

Statistics show that efforts to confront CDV has led to a decline in the U.S. intimate partner violence from about 2.1 million victimizations in 1993 to around 907,000 in 2010, according to a report released by the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). "This was a 64 percent decline in the rate of intimate partner violence over the 18-year data collection period" (Catalano, 2012). "The estimates in this report are based on data from BJS's National Crime Victimization Survey, which collects information from victims of crime. Nonfatal intimate partner violence includes rape, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault committed by a victim's current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend."

## Victim Rights and Resources

In 1998, South Carolinians took to the poles and voted in favor of an amendment to South Carolina's Constitution to provide for a "Victims' Bill of Rights." Those rights are "to preserve and protect victims' rights to justice and the due process regardless of race, sex, age, religion, or economic status" (South Carolina Constitution, Article I, Section 24, 1998). Motivated by victim advocates, the VAWA as well as South Carolina's Constitutional Amendment delineating a Victims' Bill of Rights, the South Carolina Legislature enacted numerous laws outlining victims' rights, roles, and responsibilities as well as enumerating the roles of law enforcement, jails, prosecutors, courts, state agencies, and the attorney general in securing victims' rights protected under the state constitution.

In addition to VAWA resources, there is a national network of organizations that assist victims as well as victim-service providers. The National Crime Victim Law Institute provides a directory of those organizations. National organizations accessible to South Carolina residents and victim-service providers include:

- "National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI) works to ensure that victims of crime are informed of their rights and can find resources to enforce their rights. We provide general information on our website about the rights of crime victims and...referral information to other agencies that may be able to provide direct assistance.
- Office for Victims of Crime: Directory of Crime Victim Services' website provides a comprehensive database designed to help individuals locate non-emergency crime victim service agencies in the United States and abroad. Searchable by location, type of victimization, agency type and/or type of service needed, this resource is available for victims to guide their search for support.
- The Relocation Counseling and Identity Protection Initiative is in partnership with the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) and provides information to individuals and service providers nationwide for victims/survivors who are seeking to relocate for purposes of escaping an abuser.
- National Center for Victims of Crime (NCVC), founded in 1985, is a resource and advocacy organization for crime victims. NCVC's mission is to forge a national commitment to help victims of crime rebuild their lives. NCVC's website contains

numerous resources and links, including to some of its projects such as the Stalking Resource Center.

- National Organization for Victim Assistance's mission is to promote rights and services for victims of crime and crisis everywhere. NOVA's website includes educational materials for victims and links to other victim service organizations. They provide information and referrals through their toll-free hotline.
- Office of the Victims' Rights Ombudsman is where a crime victim may file a complaint against any employee of the Department of Justice who violated or failed to provide the rights established under the Crime Victims' Rights Act of 2004.
- VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) is a service that allows crime victims to obtain timely and reliable information about criminal cases and the custody status of offenders 24 hours a day. Victims and other concerned citizens can also be registered to be notified by phone, email or TTY device when an offender's custody status changes" (National Crime Victim Law Institute, n.d.)

"The South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS) through its Battered Spouse Program has provided assistance for victims of domestic violence for 18 years....The program provides support for crisis intervention and prevention services to victims of family violence, their children and abuser through a network of community based nonprofit service providers" (South Carolina Department of Social Services, 2014). DSS administers funds from the State Battered Spouse Appropriation and Family Violence Prevention and Services Act..."to prevent and/or reduce incidence of family violence and to ensure accessible emergency shelter and related assistance to those in need of services for the prevention of spouse abuse and family violence."

## CDV Community Outreach and Education

Correspondingly, "the mission of the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is to enhance the Nation's capacity to assist crime victims and to provide leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime" (U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs, 2013). In 2010, OVC's "*Vision 21* strategic initiative... competitively awarded funding to five organizations: The National Crime Victim Law Institute, the National Center for

Victims of Crime (NCVC), the Vera Institute of Justice Center on Victimization and Safety, OVC's Training and Technical Assistance Center, and the National Crime Victims Research, and Treatment Center of the Medical University of South Carolina." Collectively, their "discussions and research centered on four topics: (1) defining the role of the victim assistance field in the overall response to crime and delinquency in the United States; (2) building the field's capacity to better serve victims; (3) addressing enduring issues in the field; and (4) identifying emerging issues in the field."

The *Vision 21* report "outlines *Vision 21* stakeholders' recommendations for beginning the transformative change, which fall into the following four broad categories:

1. Conduct continuous rather than episodic strategic planning in the victim assistance field to effect real change in research, policy, programming, and capacity building.
2. Support the development of research to build a body of evidence-based knowledge and generate, collect, and analyze quantitative and qualitative data on victimization, emerging victimization trends, services and behaviors, and enforcement efforts.
3. Ensure the statutory, policy, and programmatic flexibility to address enduring and emerging crime victim issues.
4. Build and institutionalize capacity through an infusion of technology, training, and innovation to ensure that the field is equipped to meet the demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century" (U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs, 2013).

A CDV victim needs accessible information to explore the options they have to choose from based on their rights and services available. Community outreach and education was a focal point of *Vision 21*. "Victim services organizations and providers understand the importance of ongoing community outreach and education. Local residents need to be aware of the existence of support agencies in their community and the range of services provided, so that they know where to turn in times of need" (U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs, 2013). "Effective community outreach and education can also help victims and families efficiently navigate the criminal justice system and reduce the anxiety of participating in that system."



Likewise, a CDV community outreach and education network should target the highest risk population as a preventive measure because most people do not understand the dynamics of a perpetrator's manipulative efforts to control their victims. In South Carolina, "Adults from 18 to 34 years of age accounted for 49.1% of domestic violence victims" (South Carolina Department of Public Safety, 2014). "The domestic violence victimization rate was highest among the 18 to 24 year old age group."

South Carolina should develop a CDV community outreach and education program that includes a CDV speaker's bureau network consisting of victim advocates from law enforcement and the nonprofit sector, and former victims, who experienced CDV trauma around the age of the target audience. The education system should collaborate with the speaker's bureau to schedule one general assembly annually for every high school to educate high-risk youth about CDV. South Carolina has 1,318 high schools with 569,464 students enrolled (High-Schools.com, 2014). Each county should have its own CDV speaker's bureau team. By targeting the youngest of the highest risk group first, it could serve as a cutoff marker for researchers when evaluating the program's long-term effectiveness. Likewise, unclaimed monies through the S.C. Education Lottery should qualify as a potential funding source for this program.

The law enforcement representative from each team should send the S.C. Department of Public Safety a complete data sheet for each event that names the speakers, the date and time of the event, the school's name, the county, and a school administrator's estimation of attendance along with a point of contact for the school. The S.C. Department of Public Safety should maintain and compile the data for comparison to other CDV data over time to weigh the program's preventive benefits. Likewise, each student should receive a simple brochure defining CDV, rights, services, and hotline numbers. Teachers should engage their students in the classroom after the assembly by asking them to make a

bullet list noting important facts about CDV they learned. It could serve as an extra-credit assignment, so students will need to put their names on the paper. In addition, the teacher should ask students to write yes on the back on the paper, if they have concerns about CDV and would like to make an appointment with the guidance counselor to discuss their concerns. Team members need to brief guidance counselors prior to the event about how to handle student concerns and to make themselves available if they need assistance. The program's success rate should be a determining factor when considering expansion of the program to include other community organizations that serve high-risk-age groups.

## Conclusion

By reviewing collaborative approaches to CDV along with other relevant data, it generated several public policy suggestions that fall within the “*Vision 21* stakeholders’ recommendations for beginning the transformative change” (U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs, 2013) to enhance South Carolina’s capacity to combat CDV. Those suggestions include:

- Prioritize impoverished communities with high rates of CDV to receive block-grant funding through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to implement well-developed plans to create jobs and provide affordable housing.
- Establish a statewide network of mental health professionals to assist law enforcement with high-risk CDV cases by interviewing the victim and the perpetrator in order to assess potential revictimization risks, and in some instances, to help identify the primary aggressor under ambiguous circumstances by seeking a grant from the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).
- Expand the Batterers Treatment Program through DSS for the purpose of gathering valuable CDV data to aid researchers in finding better ways to help batterers and victims as well as aiding the development of CDV prevention and law enforcement measures. Likewise, include pornography and video games to the “intake/assessment” as a means to conduct research into how those factors contribute to the escalation of CDV behavior. Impose a user tax on pornography and video games in South Carolina to establish a special fund for intimate partner violence research, community outreach and education, and victim assistance programs.

- Spearhead the establishment of a Victims Empowering Victims Network through a well-established national CDV-focused nonprofit organization in collaboration with local communities. The program would provide victim-service provider training through a large network of former CDV victims, who would be willing to provide temporary emergency shelter to victims when local shelters cannot accommodate the demand to help prevent homelessness among CDV victims and their children.
- Establish a statewide CDV speaker's bureau consisting of victim advocates from law enforcement and the nonprofit sector, and former victims, who experienced CDV trauma around the age of the target audience. Teams in collaboration with the education system should make one presentation a year at a general assembly for every high school in the state. Likewise, the program should qualify for funding through the S.C. Education Lottery's unclaimed prize monies.

CDV is a complex problem; however, the collaborative efforts among those who serve on the frontlines give credence to the possibility of some or all of these suggestions to generate tangible results in the fight against CDV.

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

### Leadership Internship

#### City of Columbia Municipal Court – September-November 2013

- Shadowed Chief Administrative Judge Dana Turner in and out of the courtroom one day a week.

### Estate Clerk

#### Lexington County Probate Court – May-November 2012:

- Court receptionist, issued marriage licenses, assisted with general questions related to the probate of estates and scheduled probate appointments.

### Paralegal Internship

#### U.S. Department of Justice, United States Attorney's Office – Summer 2011:

- Created an electronic-cross-reference database of numerous physical files for a high profile death-penalty case.

### Chief Executive Officer

#### Outdoor Journalist Education Foundation of America (OJEFA) – 2004-2009:

- Managed all administrative duties for the foundation including state and federal government filings to establish the foundation as a non-profit corporation and public charity.
- Researched the nonprofit sector's state and federal regulatory process.
- Researched, planned and developed all education programs and service projects including:
  - *Good Governance: Meeting the industry's standards for operating nonprofits....*
  - *Outdoor Web Network: Expanding the reach of outdoor communications (See enclosed article for more details.)*
  - *Collegiate Outdoor Journalist Education Program (COJEP)*
  - *Operation Wild Fare: A Tribute to America's Conservationists*

### Assistant Executive Director

#### Southeastern Outdoor Press Association Inc. (SEOPA) – 2000-2006:

- Served as a consultant to the executive director and the board of directors.
- Assisted with the annual fall conference.
- Oversaw all financial matters.
- Conducted a needs assessment to determine if an education foundation would benefit the specialized field of outdoor journalism.
- Created a detailed plan that included the purpose, goals and structure of the foundation based on the needs assessment.

### Interim Executive Director

#### Southeastern Outdoor Press Association Inc. – 1999-2000:

- Performed a complete evaluation and reorganization of the association's financial and office records.
- Prepared and presented a 500-page report to the board of all findings with recommendations. The board unanimously adopted all recommendations.
- Trained the new executive director.
- Managed all administrative duties for the association and resolved numerous problems related to management issues.
- Received the association's most prestigious award for accomplishments during that period.

(CONTINUED)



**Administrator/Co-Owner**

**Country Creek Farms Inc. (Family-Owned Business) – 1997-2012:**

- Managed all financial and administrative duties including effective human resource management for 15 years before dissolving the corporation in 2012.

**Executive Director**

**Southeastern Outdoor Press Association Inc. – 1992-1996:**

- Managed all administrative duties related to the operation of the organization.
- Edited, designed, and published the newsletters.
- Compiled, designed, and published the membership directory.
- Managed membership records and actively recruited new members – SEOPA's membership increased by 35 percent from 1992 until 1996.
- Managed all financial records, and prepared the annual budget for board and membership approval. SEOPA ended every year under budget and increased its operating capital by more than 30 percent from 1992-1996.
- Coordinated the annual midyear-board meetings and the annual fall conferences, including handling the bid process and adherence to contractual obligations.

SEOPA is a non-profit corporation – 501 (c) (6) – professional organization for outdoor communicators that promotes quality journalism about outdoor sports, recreation and conservation, hunting, fishing, boating, camping, etc. SEOPA has more than 550 members.

**Executive Director**

**South Carolina Outdoor Press Association Inc. (SCOPE) – 1990-1992:**

- Managed all administrative duties for the association including state and federal government filings to establish the association as a non-profit corporation and as a 501 (c) (6) tax-exemption organization.
- Helped plan the annual spring and fall meetings.
- Maintained membership records and published the membership directory.

SEOPA is a non-profit corporation – 501 (c) (6) – professional organization for outdoor communicators.

**Public Information Director**

**South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) -- 1978-1989:**

- Managed the department's weekly News Release Program.
- Served as a media contact for the department and as assistant chief of information.
- Served as co-editor and assisted in the overall production of *The Resource* newspaper.
- Planned and coordinated seminars, outdoor demonstrations, and contests for special events including the Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic and the Southeastern Wildlife Exposition.
- Prepared major reports for the News and Information Section.
- Prepared awards packages for state, regional, and national contests for the News and Information Section and other SCDNR divisions as requested.
- Coordinated the state's Freshwater Fish Records Program.
- Supervised the desktop production of department publications.
- Delivered presentations to key staff, advisory boards, and SCDNR's commissioners.
- Composed several speeches including one for Gov. Carroll A. Campbell, Jr.

By constantly taking on additional responsibilities, it did not take long for higher-ups within the agency to recognize my organizational skills, which led to several promotions. However, a state personnel audit of my position determined I was doing the work of a public information director opposed to a public information specialist.

**Education:**

- Associate in Applied Science, Paralegal, Midlands Technical College, December 2011, GPA 3.938
- Bachelor in Arts, Community and Organizational Leadership, Columbia College, December 2014, GPA 4.0

**Computer Skills:**

- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, and PowerPoint)
- QuickBooks Pro
- Adobe PageMaker
- MindMapper

**Honors and Awards:**

- Columbia College Annual President's Honor List, 2013-2014
- Columbia College Annual President's Honor List, 2012-2013
- Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, 2011
- Tom Rollins Award, Southeastern Outdoor Press Association Inc., 2000
- Life Membership, Southeastern Outdoor Press Association Inc., 1996
- President's Award, Southeastern Outdoor Press Association Inc., 1993
- Life Membership, S.C. Outdoor Press Association Inc., 1992
- SCOPE Service Award, S.C. Outdoor Press Association Inc., 1989
- Citation of Excellence, S.C. Department of Natural Resources, 1987

**Volunteer Positions:**

- Midlands Technical College's Paralegal Advisory Committee, Student-Member Liaison, Fall 2010- Fall 2011
- OJEFA CEO, 2004-2009
- Special Awards Committee, SEOPA, 2002-Present
- Adviser for the Student Membership Committee, SEOPA, 2001-2006
- Chair Site Selection Committee, SEOPA, 2000-2006
- Chair Finance Committee, SEOPA, 1999-2006
- Treasurer, SCOPE, 1987-2009



## NSSF Pledges Support to the Outdoor Web Network

By Lisa M. Snuggs

When leaders of the outdoor writing community met in Kansas City in October, a remarkable coincidence was brought to light. Kevin Rhoades, executive director of OWAA, noted that OJEFA's Outdoor Web Network proposal was almost perfectly aligned with the Action Plan called for as a result of a three-year study by Responsive Management and The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF).

Prior to that meeting, Rhoades had not heard of the Network. He had highlighted the Action Plan in the research book, *The Future of Hunting and the Shooting Sports* to show other attendees that the world of outdoor writing had the same need as that of the shooting sports industry — an umbrella for its fragmented, widely spread efforts to recruit, retain and communicate. After hearing Gail Wright's presentation about the Network, he realized the Network was designed to do for the entire outdoor industry, what was being called for in the Action Plan to help the shooting sports.

Wright contacted Frank Briganti, director of Industry Research and Analysis for the NSSF, to discuss this finding. The two then met in early December at the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses 5th Annual Sportsmen-Legislator Summit in Clinton, S.C., where each was a presenter. Briganti expressed his excitement about the Outdoor Web Network and pledged a donation of \$5,000 to the project, making NSSF a Founding Conservation Partner of OJEFA.

"One of the major themes to come out of *The Future of Hunting and the Shooting Sports* research is the immediate need for a coordination of all available and planned programs including agency, non-governmental organizations and informal efforts at the local range level," said Briganti. "The Outdoor Web Network fulfills this need by serving as a single point of reference. This site will not only educate and inform our industry but it will reduce and possibly eliminate the often unnecessary duplication of efforts that exists today."



Photo by Pat Robertson

Left to right: OJEFA CEO Gail Wright and NSSF Director of Industry Research and Analysis Frank Briganti listen to Lisa Snuggs talk about the benefits of developing the Outdoor Web Network.

OJEFA Chairman Cliff Shelby said, "Support from the NSSF is proof positive of what many of us have known all along — that the Outdoor Web Network is a way for the entire outdoor industry to be connected to each other and to stay informed of important issues that effect all of us."

To learn more about the shooting sports research, download a copy of the full report at <http://www.taskforce2020.org>. For more information about the NASC, visit [www.sportsmenslink.org](http://www.sportsmenslink.org).

For more information about OJEFA, contact Gail Wright at [OJEFA@aol.com](mailto:OJEFA@aol.com) or 803-996-0911. Donations may be mailed to: OJEFA, P.O. Box 2601, Lexington, SC 29071. Donors who give \$500 or more during the development period of the Outdoor Web Network will become OJEFA Founding Conservation Partners.

**Education:**

- Associate in Applied Science, Paralegal, Midlands Technical College, December 2011, GPA 3.938
- Bachelor in Arts, Community and Organizational Leadership, Columbia College, December 2014, GPA 4.0

**Computer Skills:**

- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, and PowerPoint)
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- Chair Finance Committee, SEOPA, 1999-2006
- Treasurer, SCOPE, 1987-2009

Columbia College  
1301 Columbia College Drive  
Columbia, SC 29203  
(803) 786-3672

# Academic Transcript

RCE: 003430  
CEEB: 5117  
ACT: 3850

Student Name  
Claudia C. Wright

Issue Date  
Dec 17, 2014

Student ID  
406183

Social Security Number  
\*\*\* - \*\* - 9348

Birthday  
September 22

Page 1 of 1

Course	Title	Rpt	Grade	Credit	Alt	Comp	Calc	Grade	Points
Transfer and Exam Credit: Transfer Credit									

## Organization: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA/COLUMBIA

ASBCE0	ASBCE0	T		52.00		52.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ASBCE0	ASBCE0	T		3.00		3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ASBCE0	ASBCE0	T		4.00		4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Organization: Midlands Technical College									
ASBCE0	ASBCE0	T		10.00		10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ASBCE0	ASBCE0	T		3.00		3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ASBCE0	ASBCE0	T		72.00		72.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ASBCE0	ASBCE0	T		72.00		72.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Semester: GPA 0.000									
Cumulative: GPA 0.000									

## 2013 - 2013 Academic Year: Spring Semester

COAA-2201	Foundations of Communication	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
PRF-2202	The Art & Literacy of Writing	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
PRF-2202	Humoristics Seminar	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
Semester: GPA 4.000									
Cumulative: GPA 4.000									

## 2013 - 2013 Academic Year: Summer Sessions

LANC-2201	Culture and Language	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
LANC-2201	Problem Solving & Decision Making	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
LANC-2201	Applied Statistics Lab	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
Semester: GPA 4.000									
Cumulative: GPA 4.000									

## 2013 - 2013 Academic Year: Fall Semester

COAA-2001	Leadership and Communication	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
POBC-200	Public Policy	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
WRT-300	Writing for Business & Public Affairs	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
Semester: GPA 4.000									
Cumulative: GPA 4.000									

## 2013 - 2013 Academic Year: Spring Semester

PRY-200	Acad Writing for the Major	A		1.00		1.00	1.00	4.00	4.00
PRY-200	Business for Behavioral Science	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
PRY-240	Research Methods in Behavioral Science	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00

300-440	Community Organization and Adv.	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
Semester: GPA 4.000									
Cumulative: GPA 4.000									
Probation: Not On Probation									

## 2013 - 2013 Academic Year: Summer Sessions

POBC-219	Public Policy and Advocacy	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
POBC-204	Problems in Leadership	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
POBC-477	Nonprofit Leadership in the Human Services	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
Semester: GPA 4.000									
Cumulative: GPA 4.000									

## 2013 - 2013 Academic Year: Fall Semester

COAA-200	Organizational Communication	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
LA-4401	Leadership in Organizations	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
POBC-480	Senior Seminar	A		3.00		3.00	3.00	12.00	12.00
Semester: GPA 4.000									
Cumulative: GPA 4.000									

## Program Information:

(1) Bachelor of Arts: Date Conferred: 10/12/2014  
Major(s): Comm and Org Leadership

Dr. Scott A. Smith, Registrar



This transcript is either printed on a special security paper or produced as a certified pdf file with the seal of Columbia College and the signature of the Registrar, Dr. Scott Smith. This is an official sealed instrument; a raised seal is not required. The student is in good standing unless otherwise noted.

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COLUMBIA, SC 29202-2408  
PHONE CODE: 003993  
PHONE: (803) 738-8324

OFFICIAL  
UNDERGRADUATE  
TRANSCRIPT

ALL COURSES DISPLAYED ON THIS TRANSCRIPT REFLECT  
SEMIESTER CREDITS. SUMMER 1988 THRU SPRING 1992 ARE  
QUARTER COURSES CONVERTED TO SEMESTER CREDITS AT A 3:2  
RATIO. COURSES ENTERED PRIOR TO SUMMER 1988 ATTACHED IN A  
SEPARATE DOCUMENT REFLECT QUARTER CREDITS

STUDENT NAME		PAGE
Claudia C Wright		1 of 1
BIRTH DATE	ISSUE DATE	WTC STUDENT I.D.
09/22/58	09/29/14	0605410
3349		

Course Title	Grd R	Att	WTC	Grade	Points	Course Dates
LEG 121	3.00	3.00	9.00	09/23/10	12/15/10	
LEG 125	3.00	3.00	12.00	09/23/10	12/15/10	
LEG 231	3.00	3.00	12.00	09/23/10	12/15/10	
LEG 155	3.00	3.00	12.00	09/23/10	12/15/10	
2010FA	Totals:	12.00	45.00	GPA = 3.750		
2010FA	Cumulative Totals:	12.00	45.00	GPA = 3.750		
CPT 101	Intro to Computers A	3.00	3.00	12.00	09/21/10-12/15/10	
2010F5	Totals:	3.00	12.00	GPA = 4.000		
2010F5	Cumulative Totals:	15.00	57.00	GPA = 3.889		
LEG 120	Totals:	3.00	12.00	01/10/11-05/04/11		
LEG 122	Business Law I	3.00	12.00	01/10/11-05/04/11		
LEG 132	Legal History	3.00	12.00	01/10/11-05/04/11		
LEG 233	Legal History	3.00	12.00	01/10/11-05/04/11		
2011SP	Totals:	12.00	48.00	GPA = 4.000		
2011SP	Cumulative Totals:	27.00	105.00	GPA = 3.889		
CPT 129	Microcomp Word Proc A	3.00	3.00	12.00	05/18/11-08/08/11	
ENG 102	English Composition A	3.00	3.00	12.00	05/18/11-08/08/11	
LEG 242	Law Practice Works A	3.00	3.00	12.00	05/18/11-08/08/11	
2011SU	Totals:	9.00	36.00	GPA = 4.000		
2011SU	Cumulative Totals:	36.00	141.00	GPA = 3.917		
LEG 201	Civ11 Litigation I A	3.00	12.00	08/22/11-12/14/11		
LEG 201	Civ11 Litigation I A	3.00	12.00	08/22/11-12/14/11		
LEG 213	Prob13 Law	3.00	12.00	08/22/11-12/14/11		
LEG 244	Spec Pro13 for Para A	3.00	12.00	08/22/11-12/14/11		
2011FA	Totals:	12.00	48.00	GPA = 4.000		
2011FA	Cumulative Totals:	48.00	189.00	GPA = 3.889		
Degree Received: Associate in Applied Science on 12/14/2011						
Honors: Magna Cum Laude (High Honors)						

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS PRINTED ON SECURITY PAPER WITH EMBEDDED SEAL AND REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE

Susan Houch Registrar

REL: In accordance with the Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, this information is released on the condition that it will not be released to a third party without the prior written consent of the individual.

EASE OF INFORMATION: COLLEGE ACCREDITATION: QUESTIONS: