NATIONAL CRIME VICTIM LAW INSTITUTE

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LAW ENFORCEMENT-BASED VICTIM SERVICES IN NEW JERSEY: PRIVACY, PRIVILEGE AND CONFIDENTIALITY

INTRODUCTION

Best practice in victim services is about facilitating victims' ability to exercise meaningful choices. This requires understanding of and supporting the exercise of victims' rights, which are found in state constitutions, statutes, rules and policies. For victims' rights to be meaningful both compliance with and enforcement of those rights is necessary. Compliance is the fulfillment of legal responsibilities to victims and making efforts to reduce willful, negligent or inadvertent failures to fulfill those legal responsibilities; enforcement is the pursuit, by a victim or someone on behalf of a victim, of a judicial or administrative order that either mandates compliance with victims' rights or provides remedies for violations of victims' rights laws.

In addition to understanding victims' rights, best practices in victim services requires understanding one's legal and ethical obligations as an advocate with regard to victim privacy, confidentiality and privilege, and the scope of one's services. Informing victims—at the first or earliest possible contact with them—of their rights and the advocate's role, including limitations on that role, is critical to victims' ability to make informed decisions about whether and how to exercise their rights, and whether, what and how much to share with any particular service provider. In addition, advocates need to build and maintain relationships throughout the community in order to provide meaningful referrals to victim service providers with complementary roles when a victim needs the referral.

USING THIS RESOURCE

This resource is designed to enhance victim services personnel's knowledge and understanding of the law governing crime victims' rights to privacy, confidentiality and privilege in New Jersey. It provides an overview of key concepts and excerpts of key legal citations that can help facilitate victims' meaningful choices regarding these rights. To keep this *Guide* as user-friendly as possible in light of the breadth, complexity and evolving nature of law, the *Guide* does not include all laws. It does not constitute legal advice, nor does it substitute for legal advice. This resource is best used together with its companion resource *Select Victims' Rights - New Jersey*.

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This draft publication was developed by the National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI) under 2018-V3-GX-K049, awarded to the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this draft publication are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the U.S. Department of Justice.

OVERVIEW

What are system-based and community-based advocates, and what are key similarities and the differences between them?

It is imperative that an advocate understands and communicates clearly—at the first encounter or earliest possible contact—whether one is a community-based or system-based advocate, the advocate's legal and ethical obligations with regard to privacy, confidentiality and privilege and the scope of the services that the advocate offers.[1] This information will assist the victim in understanding the role of the advocate and any limitations of that role regarding: (1) the services that the advocate can provide; and (2) the privacy protections that exist regarding information shared with the advocate. Further, providing a clear explanation of the advocate's role to the victim will help the victim make informed decisions, build rapport and avoid misunderstandings.

While both system-based and community-based advocates serve victims and operate under a general ethical rule of confidentiality, there are significant differences between them. System-based advocates are typically employed by a law enforcement agency, office of the prosecuting attorney, corrections or another entity within the city, county, state or federal government. Titles for system-based vary; for example, victim advocates, victim-witness coordinators, victim assistance personnel.[2] Because system-based advocates are typically a component of a government agency or program, a primary focus of their work is assisting victims in their interactions with the system, and they will typically be able to provide services to the victims during the pendency of the investigation, prosecution and post-conviction legal aspects of a case. In addition, this placement as part of a government agency or program generally means that system-based advocates are subject to the *Brady* disclosure obligations (*see Brady v. Maryland* Section below for additional information) and generally, their communications with victims are not protected by privilege.

By contrast, community-based advocates are generally not directly linked to any government actor or agency. As such, they are not subject to *Brady*; generally, can assist victims even if a crime has not been reported; can assist before, during and after a criminal case; can provide holistic services aimed at victims' broad needs; and, depending on the jurisdiction's laws and funding source, can maintain privileged communications with victims.[3]

Because each type of advocate has different duties and protections they can offer victims, knowledge of and partnerships between them is an integral part of facilitating meaningful victim choice and helping victims access holistic services.

What are privacy, confidentiality and privilege? Why do the differences matter?

Privacy

"Privacy" is a fundamental right, essential to victim agency, autonomy and dignity, which—among other things—permits boundaries that limit who has access to our communications and information.

Privacy can be understood as the ability to control the dissemination of personal information. *See Commonwealth ex rel. Platt v. Platt*, 404 A.2d 410, 429 (Pa. Super. Ct. 1979) ("The essence of privacy is no more, and certainly no less, than the freedom of the individual to pick and choose for [themselves] the time and circumstances under which, and most importantly, the extent to which, his attitudes, beliefs, and behavior and opinions are to be shared with or withheld from others."). For many crime victims, maintaining privacy in their personal information and communications is vitally important. In fact, maintaining privacy is so important that some victims refrain from accessing critical legal, medical or counseling services without an assurance that treatment professionals will protect their personal information from disclosure. Understanding this and wishing as a matter of public policy to encourage access to services when needed, federal and state legislatures and professional licensing bodies have created frameworks of laws and regulations that help protect the information victims share with professionals from further dissemination. To this end, every jurisdiction has adopted statutory or constitutional victims' rights; some jurisdictions explicitly protect victims' rights to privacy, or to be treated with dignity, respect or fairness.[4] Victims also have a federal Constitutional right to privacy.[5]

In addition to the broad rights to privacy that exist, privacy protections generally come in two forms: "confidentiality" and "privilege." Professionals who work with victims should understand each concept.

Confidentiality

"Confidentiality" is a legal and ethical duty not to disclose the victim-client's information learned in confidence.

As part of accessing services, victims frequently share highly sensitive personal information with professionals. The victims' willingness to share the information may be premised on the professionals' promise not to disclose the victims' information. The promise to hold in confidence the victim's information is governed by the professional's ethical duties, regulatory framework and/or by other various laws, and breaking the promise may carry sanctions. The promise not to disclose information that is shared in confidence—as well as the legal framework that recognizes this promise—are what qualifies this information as "confidential."

Key aspects of confidential communications are that: (1) they are made with the expectation of privacy; (2) they are not accessible to the general public; (3) there may or may not be legal requirements that the recipient keep the information private; and (4) there may be a professional/ethical obligation to keep the information private.

Professional confidentiality obligations may be imposed by one's profession, e.g., advocate ethics; social worker ethics; attorney ethics; medical provider ethics; and mental health counselor ethics. In addition, certain laws may have confidentiality provisions that are tied to funding. If an entity receives such funds, then it is bound by confidentiality or risks losing funding. Examples of laws that impose confidentiality requirements include the: (1) Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), 28 C.F.R. § 94.115; (2) Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), 34 U.S.C.A. § 12291(b)(2)(A)-(B); and (3) Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), 42 U.S.C.A. § 10406 (c)(5)(B). For example, VAWA (Section 3), VOCA and FVPSA regulations prohibit sharing personally identifying information about victims without informed, written, reasonably time-limited consent. VAWA and VOCA also prohibit disclosure of individual information without written consent. In addition, depending on the types of victim information at issue, other statutes may impose additional restrictions, including the Federal Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (protections governing the handling of education records); the Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act (HIPAA), 42 U.S.C. § 1320d et seq. (protections governing the handling of health records); and the Stored Communications Act (SCA), 18 U.S.C. § 2701 et seq. (protections applying to electronic communications and transactions records).

When providing services, professionals should discuss with victims the consequences of sharing information before information is shared. These consequences may include the: (1) inability to "take back" a disclosure; (2) lack of control over the information once released; and (3) risk of the accused accessing the information. In addition, even when laws appear to prohibit disclosure, there are often exceptions that require disclosure, for instance in response to court orders or valid subpoenas. These limits should be explained to a victim. For example, a court may make a determination that an accused's interests outweigh the confidentiality protection afforded by a law and order the professional to disclose the victim's private information. Although a victim can be assured that a professional may not ethically disclose her confidential information unless legally required to do so, it is important that a victim understand that courts have the authority to require a professional to break the promise of confidentiality when certain conditions are met. Other circumstances that may compel disclosure of victims' otherwise confidential information include if the information is shared with a mandatory reporter of elder or child abuse and if the information falls within the state's required disclosures to defendant pursuant to the United States Supreme Court case *Brady v. Maryland*.

Thus, although the basic rule of confidentiality is that a victim's information is not shared outside an agency unless the victim gives permission to do so, it is important to inform victims before they share information whether, when and under what circumstances information may be further disclosed.

Privilege

"Privilege" is a legal right of the victim not to disclose—or to prevent the disclosure of—certain information in connection with court and other proceedings.

Legislatures throughout the country have recognized that the effective practice of some professions requires even stronger legal protection of confidential communications between the professional and client. This recognition has resulted in the passage of laws that prevent courts from forcing these professionals to break the promise of confidentiality no matter how relevant the information is to the issues in the legal proceeding. This additional protection is "privilege"—a legal right not to disclose certain information, even in the face of a valid subpoena.[6] Key aspects of privileged communications are that: (1) they are specially protected, often by statute; (2) disclosure without permission of the privilege holder (i.e., the victim) is prohibited; (3) they are protected from disclosure in court or other proceedings; (4) the protections may be waived only by the holder of the privilege (i.e. the victim); and (5) some exceptions may apply. Examples of communications that may be protected by privilege depending on jurisdiction include: (1) spousal; (2) attorney-client; (3) clergy-penitent; (4) psychotherapist/counselor-patient; (5) doctor-patient; and (6) advocate-victim. Jurisdictions that recognize a given privilege may narrowly define terms and thereby limit its applications. For example, among the jurisdictions that recognize an advocate-victim privilege, many define the term "advocate" to exclude those who are system-based (e.g., affiliated with a law-enforcement agency or a prosecutor's office).[7]

Understanding the Differences

Because maintaining a victim's control over whether and how to disclose personal information is so important and because community-based and system-based advocates can offer different levels of protection regarding communications, every professional must know whether their communications with a victim are confidential or privileged, as well as how courts have interpreted the scope of each protection. This information should be shared victims in advance of information disclosure. To do otherwise may provide victim-clients with a false sense of security regarding their privacy and inflict further harm if their personal information is unexpectedly disclosed.

What are HIPAA, FERPA, FOIA and VOCA, and why are these relevant to my work as an advocate?[8]

HIPAA: Federal law—as well as state law in many jurisdictions—provides crime victims with different forms of protections from disclosure of their personal and confidential information. This includes protections against the disclosure of medical and/or therapy and other behavioral health records without the victim's consent. HIPAA—codified at 42 U.S.C. § 1320d et seq. and 45 C.F.R. § 164.500 et seq.—is the acronym for the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, a federal law passed in 1996. HIPAA does a

variety of things, but most relevantly, it requires the protection and confidential handling of protected health information (PHI). This is important, because although it permits release of PHI in response to a valid court order, no such release may be made in response to a subpoena or other request unless one of the following circumstances is met:

1. The entity must receive "satisfactory assurance" from "the party seeking the information that reasonable efforts have been made by such party to ensure that the individual who is the subject of the protected health information that has been requested has been given notice of the request[,]" 45 C.F.R. § 164.512 (e)(1)(ii)(A).
-or-
2. The entity must receive "satisfactory assurance" from the "party seeking the information that reasonable efforts have been made by such party to secure a qualified protective order" that meets certain requirements, detailed in subsection (iv), 45 C.F.R. § 164.512 (e)(1)(ii)(B).

Advocates may wish to inform victims that they may proactively contact their medical providers, informing them that the victims are asserting privilege and other legal protections in their records, and requesting that these providers: (1) give them prompt notice of any request for the victims' medical records; (2) refuse to disclose the records pursuant to any such request without first receiving a valid court order; and (3) ensure that no medical records are released without first permitting the victims to file a challenge to their release.

FERPA: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)–codified at 20 U.S.C. § 1232g–"is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records, and the [personally identifiable information] contained therein, maintained by educational agencies or institutions or by a party acting for the agencies or institutions."[9] FERPA applies to those agencies and institutions that receive funding under any U.S. Department of Education program.[10] "Private schools at the elementary and secondary levels generally do not receive funds from the Department [of Education] and are, therefore, not subject to FERPA, but may be subject to other data privacy laws such as HIPAA."[11]

Protections afforded by FERPA include the right of parents or eligible students to provide a signed and dated, written consent that clearly identifies which education records or personally identifiable information may be disclosed by the educational agency or institution; the person who may receive such records or information; and the purpose for the disclosure prior to disclosure of an education record or personally identifiable information, except in limited circumstances such as health or safety.[12]

Notably, while the Department of Education provides that law enforcement records are not education records, "personally identifiable information [collected] from education records, which the school shares with the law enforcement unit, do not lose their protected status as education records just because they are shared with the law enforcement unit."[13] Thus, law enforcement has a duty to understand and comply with FERPA when drafting police reports, supplemental reports and, generally, sharing or relaying information.

It is important that advocates have an understanding of FERPA as well as other federal laws, state laws and local policies that address student privacy in education records as eligible students or parents may be afforded privacy protections in addition to FERPA. For example, "the education records of students who are children with disabilities are not only protected by FERPA but also by the confidentiality of information provisions in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)."[14]

FOIA: Open records' laws—also commonly referred to as public records' laws or sunshine laws—permit any person to request government documents and, if the government refuses to turn them over, to file a lawsuit to compel disclosure. Every state and the federal government have such laws, which carry a presumption of disclosure, meaning that all government records are presumed open for public inspection unless an exemption applies.

The federal open records' law, known as the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA or the "Act"), 5 U.S.C. §552, was enacted in 1966. Similar to its state counterparts, FOIA provides for the legally enforceable right of any person to obtain access to federal agency records subject to the Act, except to the extent that any portions of such records are protected from public disclosure by one of the nine exemptions. Three such exemptions, Exemptions 6, 7(C) and 7(F) protect different types of personal information in federal records from disclosure. Exemption 6 "protects information about individuals in 'personnel and medical files and similar files' when the disclosure of such information 'would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.'"[15] Exemption 7(C) "is limited to information compiled for law enforcement purposes, and protects personal information when disclosure 'could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.' Under both exemptions, the concept of privacy not only encompasses that which is inherently private, but also includes an 'individual's control of information concerning [his/her/their] person.'"[16] Exemption 7(F), which also applies to law enforcement records, exempts records that contain information that "could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual."

Similar to FOIA, state open records' laws contain numerous exemptions, including for some types of law enforcement records (for example prohibitions on disclosing identifying information of victims' and witnesses' generally or of child-victims and/or victims of certain crimes). Advocates should have an understanding of their jurisdiction's open records' laws, especially as they relate to exemptions from disclosure that may be afforded to law enforcement and other victim-related records within their office's possession. Jurisdiction-specific victims' rights laws—including rights to privacy and protection—also provide grounds for challenging public records' requests for victims' private information.

VOCA: The Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA)–codified at 34 U.S.C. §§ 20101-20111–established the "Crime Victims Fund," which is managed by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The Crime Victims Fund (the Fund) is financed by, *inter alia,* fines and penalties from persons convicted of crimes against the United States as opposed to by tax dollars.[17] The Fund supports victim assistance programs that offer direct victim services and crime victim compensation.[18]

Examples of direct services are crisis intervention, emergency shelters or transportation, counseling and criminal justice advocacy; and crime victim compensation programs that cover expenses incurred as a result of the crime.[19]

Agencies that receive VOCA funding are mandated to protect crime victims' confidentiality and privacy except in limited exceptions, such as mandatory reporting or statutory or court mandates. Specifically, state administering agencies and subrecipients of VOCA funding, are mandated "to the extent permitted by law, [to] reasonably protect the confidentiality and privacy of [victims] receiving services . . . and shall not disclose, reveal, or release, except . . . [in limited circumstances:] (1) [a]ny personally identifying information or individual information collected in connection with VOCA–funded services requested, utilized, or denied, regardless of whether such information has been encoded, encrypted, hashed, or otherwise protected; or (2) [i]ndividual client information, without the informed, written, reasonably time-limited consent of the person about whom information is sought . . . ." 28 C.F.R. § 94.115(a)(1)-(2).

Even if disclosure of individual client information is required by statute or court order, state administering agencies and sub-recipients' privacy and confidentiality obligations owed to crime victims do not disappear. State administering agencies and subrecipients of VOCA funds "shall make reasonable attempts to provide notice to victims affected by the disclosure of the information, and take reasonable steps necessary to protect the privacy and safety of the persons affected by the release of the information." 28 C.F.R. § 94.115(b).

VOCA also mandates that none of the protections afforded to victims be circumvented. For example, a crime victim may neither be required to release personally identifying information in exchange for services nor be required to provide personally identifying information for recording or reporting purposes. 28 C.F.R. § 94.115(d).

It is important that advocates are aware if their positions and/or offices are subject to VOCA's mandates regarding victims' confidentiality and privacy protections and if so, understand how these mandates interact with disclosure obligations.

Is there an ethical code relevant to my work as an advocate?

Yes, there is an ethical code–or "principles of conduct"–that guides victim advocates in their work.[20] Although there is no formal regulatory board that oversees victim assistance programs, the *Model Standards for Serving Victims & Survivors of Crime (Model Standards)* was created by the National Victim Assistance Standards Consortium with guidance from experts across the nation "to promote the competency and ethical integrity of victim service providers, in order to enhance their capacity to provide high-quality, consistent responses to crime victims and to meet the demands facing the field today."[21] The *Model Standards* cover three areas: (1) Program Standards for Serving Victims & Survivors of Crime; (2) Competency Standards for Serving Victims & Survivors of Crime; and (3) Ethical Standards for Serving Victims & Survivors of Crime.

The third area–"Ethical Standards for Serving Victims & Survivors of Crime"–contains "ethical expectations" of *victim service providers that are* "based on core values" in the field and are intended to serve as guidelines for providers in the course of their work. The Ethical Standards are comprised of five sections:
(1) Scope of Services;
(2) Coordinating within the Community;
(3) Direct Services;
(4) Privacy, Confidentiality, Data Security and Assistive Technology; and
(5) Administration and Evaluation.[22]

Notably, "[p]rofessionals who are trained in another field (e.g., psychology, social work) but are engaging in victim services will [also] abide by their own professional codes of ethics. If th[ose] ethical standards establish a higher standard of conduct than is required by law or another professional ethic, victim assistance providers should meet the higher ethical standard. If ethical standards appear to conflict with the requirements of law or another professional ethic, providers should take steps to resolve the conflict in a responsible manner."[23]

What is the difference between discovery and production and how does this relate to the Supreme Court's decision in *Brady v. Maryland*?

The Supreme Court case Brady v. Maryland, as well as jurisdiction-specific statutes and court rules, impose discovery and disclosure obligations on the prosecution and defendant–not on the victim.

In criminal cases, victim privacy is routinely at risk by parties seeking personal records, such as counseling, mental health, medical, employment, educational and child protective services records. The law governing when these records must be disclosed to a defendant is complex, touching on a number of factors, including whether the records are within the government's control; whether they are protected by a privilege; whether any applicable privilege is absolute or qualified; whether a victim has waived any privilege in full or in part; the scope of the jurisdiction's constitutional or statutory rights and/or protections for victims; and the jurisdiction's statutes and rules governing discovery and production. If the records sought are properly in the possession or control of the prosecutor, a defendant may be entitled to those records pursuant to constitutional, statutory or rule-based rights to discovery. If, however, the records are not in the possession (or properly in the possession) of the prosecutor, a defendant must subpoena those records pursuant to the jurisdiction's statutes and rules governing production of documents from a nonparty. Although courts and practitioners sometimes refer to defendant's receipt of materials from both the prosecutor and nonparties as "discovery," this imprecise use of the term confuses a defendant's right to discovery from the prosecutor with a defendant's right to production from a nonparty.

In a criminal prosecution, the term "discovery" refers to the exchange of information between parties to the case—the prosecutor and defendant. *See, e.g.*, Fed R. Crim. P. 16 (entitled "Discovery and Inspection," the rule explicitly and exclusively governs discovery between the government and defendant). It does not govern defendant's ability to obtain information directly from a crime victim or other nonparty. With regard to discovery from the prosecutor, a criminal defendant has no federal constitutional right to general discovery.[24] The prosecutor, instead, is only constitutionally required to disclose information that is exculpatory and material to the issue of guilt, *see Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83, 87-88 (1963), and which is within the custody or control of the prosecutor.[25] The *Brady* rule imposes an affirmative "duty to disclose such evidence . . . even [when] there has been no request [for the evidence] by the accused, . . . and . . . the duty encompasses impeachment evidence as well as exculpatory evidence."[26] The prosecutor's *Brady* obligation extends to all exculpatory material and impeachment evidence and to "others acting on the government's behalf in th[e] case."[27]

Federal and state courts have found that prosecution-based victim advocates are considered part of the "prosecution team" for *Brady* purposes.[28] Beyond that material to which a defendant is constitutionally entitled, a prosecutor's obligation to disclose information is governed by statute or procedural rule. A criminal defendant is often entitled to additional discovery materials from the prosecutor pursuant to statutes or rules, though discovery statutes and rules vary widely between jurisdictions.

Victims should be informed that disclosure requirements—imposed by Brady as well as a jurisdiction's statutes and rules governing discovery—may impact victim privacy.

Prosecutors are required by law to disclose exculpatory statements to the defense. Because system-based advocates are generally considered agents of the prosecutors, and prosecutors are deemed to know what advocates know, such advocates are generally required to disclose to the prosecutors the exculpatory statements made by victims to advocates.[29] Examples of exculpatory statements might include:

- "I lied to the police."
- "I hit him first and he was defending himself."
- "The crime didn't happen."
- "The defendant is not really the person who assaulted me."
- *Any other statement from a victim that directly implicates a victim's truthfulness regarding the crime.*
- *Any other statement from the victim that provides information that could be helpful to a defendant's case.*

Important steps that victim advocates may take to help ensure that their office has appropriate policies and procedures in place to protect victims in light of required disclosures to prosecutors' offices include:

- Ensure that every person clearly understands the prosecutor's interpretation and expectations regarding discovery and exculpatory evidence with regard to victim advocates.

- Work with the prosecutors' offices to create a policy/practice that addresses the limits of system-based advocate confidentiality.
- Inform victims prior to sharing of information if the victim advocate is bound by the rules that govern prosecutors.
- Develop a short, simple explanation to use with victims to communicate your responsibilities (e.g., don't use the word "exculpatory").
- Consider including a simple statement in the initial contact letter or notice explaining limitations.
- Determine how and when advocates will remind victims of the limits of confidentiality throughout the process.
- Identify what documentation an advocate might come into contact with and whether the prosecutors' office considers it discoverable. For example: (1) Victim compensation forms; (2) victim impact statements; (3) restitution documentation; and (4) U-Visa application documentation.
- Create policies regarding the types of documentation that an advocate may not need from the victim in order to provide effective victim advocacy (e.g., victim statements, treatment plans, safety plans, opinions, conclusions, criticisms). Determine a process for clearly marking documents that are not discoverable to ensure they are not inadvertently disclosed. For example, use a red stamp that says, "Not Discoverable."
- Inform the victim at the time they make a disclosure that constitutes exculpatory evidence—or soon as a statement is deemed exculpatory—that it is going to be disclosed.
- When possible, avoid receiving a victim impact statement in writing prior to sentencing.
- Develop relationships with complementary victim advocates and communicate about your obligations and boundaries regarding exculpatory evidence. This will allow everyone to help set realistic expectations with victims regarding privacy.
- Establish how exculpatory information will be communicated to the prosecutor's office.

What is *Giglio*, and why is it relevant to my work as an advocate?

Giglio v. United States, 405 U.S. 150 (1972), is a case that was heard before the United States Supreme Court.[30] The impact of the Court's decision in *Giglio* intersects with advocates' work as it makes it imperative that advocates understand: (1) what "material evidence" is (see *Brady v. Maryland* section for additional information); (2) how the advocate's role is or is not related to the prosecutor's office along with any corresponding professional, ethical obligations; (3) ways to avoid re-victimization by preventing violations that would cause a victim to undergo a second trial for the same crime; (4) the types of procedures and regulations that need to be implemented for advocates to ensure–in the face of prosecutor or advocate turnover–that all relevant and appropriate information

is provided to the prosecutor handling the case; and (5) whether state or other local laws impose additional obligations that build on those prescribed by *Giglio*.

What are key considerations for system-based advocates who receive a subpoena?[31]

In addition to providing prompt notice of receipt of a subpoena to the victim—whose rights and interests are implicated—a key consideration for system-based advocates, their superiors and the attorneys with whom they work is determining the type of subpoena received.[32] Subpoenas that system-based advocates often encounter are subpoenas demanding either: (a) a person's presence before a court or to a location other than a court for a sworn statement; or (b) a person's presence along with specified documentation, records or other tangible items.[33]

When system-based advocates receive the latter (which is called a subpoena duces tecum) there are a number of factors that should be considered, such as whether the documentation, record or item sought (a) is discoverable; or (b) constitutes *Brady* material, as defined by federal, state and local law. If an item, for example, is neither discoverable nor *Brady* material, an advocate, by law, may not be required to disclose the item. The same may be true if the item falls within an exception to discovery and does not constitute *Brady* material.[34] For additional information on *Brady* material, *see* the *Brady v. Maryland* section pertaining to disclosure obligations. Notably, this analysis is relevant to other types of subpoenas as well. For example, if a person is subpoenaed to testify and it is anticipated that defense counsel will attempt to elicit testimony that he/she/they are not legally entitled to, a prosecutor may file a motion in advance–such as a motion in limine or a motion for a protective order–requesting that the scope of the testimony be limited, narrowly tailored or otherwise limited in accordance with the jurisdiction's laws. For advocates employed by prosecutor's offices this analysis must be completed in cooperation with the prosecuting attorney.

Other key considerations for system-based advocates, their superiors and the attorneys they work with include determining: whether the requester has a right to issue a subpoena, and, more specifically, a right to issue a subpoena for the person's attendance and/or items sought; whether the subpoena is unspecified, vague or overbroad to warrant an objection that the subpoena is facially invalid or procedurally flawed; which court mechanisms are available to oppose the subpoena; whether such mechanisms are time sensitive and require immediate action; whether the victim received ample notice and adequate information; what the victim's position is; and whether the law affords the victim privacy, confidentiality or privilege rights or protections that must be protected and enforced.

SELECT LAWS

SELECT PRIVACY LAWS

What are key privacy rights and/or protections in New Jersey?

Victims of crime in New Jersey have a right to privacy and myriad constitutional and statutory rights that contemplate or necessitate victims' privacy. *See, e.g.,* N.J. Const. art. I, ¶ 22 (guaranteeing victims of crime the rights to "be treated with fairness, compassion and respect by the criminal justice system"); N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:4B-36(a), (c), (j) (granting victims of crime the rights "[t]o be treated with dignity and compassion by the criminal justice system"; [t]o be free from intimidation, harassment or abuse by any person including . . . defendant[s]" and "[t]o be provided a secure . . .waiting area during court proceedings").[35]

Notably, in the context of public records requests, public agencies have a legal duty to protect victims' privacy. Specifically, the legislature declared it public policy for public agencies to "ha[ve] a responsibility and an obligation to safeguard from public access a citizen's personal information . . . when disclosure . . . would violate the citizen's reasonable *expectation of privacy* . . . ."[36] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 47:1A-1 (emphasis added).

SELECT CONFIDENTIALITY LAWS

What are key confidentiality rights and/or protections in New Jersey?

Victims in New Jersey have a number of rights and protections that they can assert to prevent disclosure of their confidential information and communications, barring exceptions and waivers. One area where victims have such protections is in personally identifying and locating information, medical examinations, records memorializing reports of child abuse and government records.

Specific to government records, victims have a right to confidentiality extending to victims' records and even victims' requests for various records. *See* N.J. Stat. Ann. § 47:1A-1.1 (providing that government records shall not contain, *inter alia*, the following confidential information: "criminal investigatory records; victims' records, except that a victim of a crime shall have access to the victim's own records; any written request by a crime victim for a record to which the victim is entitled to access as provided in this section, including, but not limited to, any law enforcement agency report, domestic violence offense report, and temporary or permanent restraining order; . . . [and] information which is to be kept confidential pursuant to court order").

Child-victims of select offenses have a right to confidentiality in their personally identifying information. More specifically, "[a]ny report, statement, photograph, court document, indictment, complaint or any other public record which states the name, address and identity of a" child-victim of select offenses is deemed confidential and not available for public inspection or copy. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:82-46(a)-(b). If any of the above records are disclosed, initials and fictitious names must be used. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:82-46(a). There is a presumption of confidentiality that remains unless, after notice to the victim, a hearing is held where a court finds good cause for disclosure. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:82-46(c). Notably, however, if a court "deems it necessary to prevent trauma or stigma to" victims, it has the authority to impose additional disclosure restrictions above and beyond those explicitly enumerated to protect select child-victims' personally identifying information. N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:82-46(d).

Child-victims also have a right to confidentiality in reports of child abuse. *See* N.J. Stat. Ann. § 9:6-8.10a(a) ("All records of child abuse reports made pursuant to section 3 of P.L.1971, c. 437 (C.9:6-8.10), all information obtained by the Department of Children and Families in investigating such reports . . . , and all reports of findings forwarded to the child abuse registry pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1971, c. 437 (C.9:6-8.11) shall be kept confidential and may be disclosed only under the circumstances expressly authorized under subsections [b – g of section 9:6-8.10]. The department shall disclose information only as authorized under subsections [b – g of section 9:6-8.10] that is relevant . . . , provided . . . that nothing may be disclosed which would likely endanger the life, safety, or physical or emotional well-being of a child or the life or safety of [another] person or which may compromise the integrity of a department[,] civil or criminal investigation or judicial proceeding.").

Victims of domestic violence–or victims of any "crime or offense involving domestic violence"–have a right to confidentiality in their physical location and to have that information protected from disclosure to defendants who are granted pretrial release. *See* N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:25-26 (a), (c) (mandating that "[t]he victim's location shall remain confidential and shall not appear on any documents or records to which . . . defendant has access").

Victims of campus sexual assault and sexual violence have a right to confidentiality when undergoing medical testing. *See*, e.g., N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:61E-2(g) (providing that "victims of sexual assaults that occur on the campus of any public or independent institution of higher education in [New Jersey] and where the victim or . . . perpetrator is a student at the institution or when the victim is a student involved in an off-campus sexual assault" have the right, among others, "to be informed of, and assisted in exercising, any rights to be confidentially or anonymously tested for sexually transmitted diseases or human immunodeficiency virus"); N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:4B-60.2(c)(5) (providing, that, "with no diminution of the legislatively-recognized rights of crime victims, it is the public policy of [New Jersey] that the criminal justice system accord victims of sexual violence"

the right, among others, "[t]o be informed of, and assisted in exercising, the right to be confidentially or anonymously tested for" AIDS, HIV or a related virus).

SELECT PRIVILEGE LAWS

What are key privileges in New Jersey?

Victims of crime in New Jersey have a number of privileges that they can assert to prevent disclosure of their private communications barring exceptions and waivers. *See, e.g.,* N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:84A-22.2 (recognizing a physician-patient privilege); N.J. Stat. Ann. § 45:14B-28 (recognizing a psychologist privilege); N.J. Stat. Ann. § 45:15BB-13 (recognizing a social worker privilege); N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:84A-22.15 (recognizing a victim counselor's privilege).

Physician-patient privilege: "Except as otherwise provided in this act, a person, whether or not a party, has a privilege in a civil action or in a prosecution for a crime or violation of the disorderly persons law or for an act of juvenile delinquency to refuse to disclose, and to prevent a witness from disclosing, a communication, if [he/she/they] claims the privilege and the judge finds that (a) the communication was a confidential communication between patient and physician, and (b) the patient or the physician reasonably believed the communication to be necessary or helpful to enable the physician to make a diagnosis of the condition of the patient or to prescribe or render treatment therefor, and (c) the witness (i) is the holder of the privilege or (ii) at the time of the communication was the physician or a person to whom disclosure was made because reasonably necessary for the transmission of the communication or for the accomplishment of the purpose for which it was transmitted or (iii) is any other person who obtained knowledge or possession of the communication as the result of an intentional breach of the physician's duty of nondisclosure by the physician or his agent or servant and (d) the claimant is the holder of the privilege or a person authorized to claim the privilege for him." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:84A-22.2.

Psychologist privilege: "The confidential relations and communications between and among a licensed practicing psychologist and individuals, couples, families or groups in the course of the practice of psychology are placed on the same basis as those provided between attorney and client, and nothing in this act shall be construed to require any such privileged communications to be disclosed by any such person. There is no privilege under this section for any communication: (a) upon an issue of the client's condition in an action to commit the client or otherwise place the client under the control of another or others because of alleged incapacity, or in an action in which the client seeks to establish his competence or in an action to recover damages on account of conduct of the client which constitutes a crime; or (b) upon an issue as to the validity of a document as a will of the client; or (c) upon an issue between parties claiming by testate or intestate succession from a deceased client." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 45:14B-28.

Social worker privilege: "A social worker licensed or certified pursuant to the provisions of this act shall not be required to disclose any confidential information that the social worker may have acquired from a client or patient while performing social work services for that client or patient unless: a. [d]isclosure is required by other State law; b. [f]ailure to disclose the information presents a clear and present danger to the health or safety of an individual; c. [t]he social worker is a party defendant to a civil, criminal or disciplinary action arising from the social work services provided, in which case a waiver of the privilege accorded by this section shall be limited to that action; d. [t]he patient or client is a defendant in a criminal proceeding and the use of the privilege would violate . . . defendant's right to a compulsory process or the right to present testimony and witnesses on that person's behalf; or e. [a] patient or client agrees to waive the privilege accorded by this section, and, in circumstances where more than one person in a family is receiving social work services, each such member agrees to the waiver. Absent a waiver from each family member, a social worker shall not disclose any information received from any family member." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 45:15BB-13.

Victim counselor's privilege: "Subject to Rule 37 of the Rules of Evidence,[] a victim counselor has a privilege not to be examined as a witness in any civil or criminal proceeding with regard to any confidential communication. The privilege shall be claimed by the counselor unless otherwise instructed by prior written consent of the victim. When a victim is incapacitated or deceased consent to disclosure may be given by the guardian, executor, or administrator except when the guardian, executor, or administrator is . . . defendant or has a relationship with the victim such that the guardian, executor, or administrator has an interest in the outcome of the proceeding. The privilege may be knowingly waived by a juvenile. In any instance where the juvenile is, in the opinion of the judge, incapable of knowing consent, the parent or guardian of the juvenile may waive the privilege on behalf of the juvenile, provided that the parent or guardian is not . . . defendant and does not have a relationship with . . . defendant such that he has an interest in the outcome of the proceeding. A victim counselor or a victim cannot be compelled to provide testimony in any civil or criminal proceeding that would identify the name, address, location, or telephone number of a domestic violence shelter or any other facility that provided temporary emergency shelter to the victim of the offense or transaction that is the subject of the proceeding unless the facility is a party to the proceeding." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:84A-22.15.[37]

DEFINITIONS

"Victim"

Under the New Jersey Constitution, "victim of a crime" is defined as "a) a person who has suffered physical or psychological injury or has incurred loss of or damage to personal or real property as a result of a crime or an incident involving another person operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and b) the spouse, parent, legal guardian, grandparent, child or sibling of the decedent in the case of a criminal homicide." N.J. Const. art. I, ¶ 22.

Under the New Jersey Crime Victim's Bill of Rights, "victim" is defined as "a person who suffers personal, physical or psychological injury or death or incurs loss of or injury to personal or real property as a result of a crime committed by an adult or an act of delinquency that would constitute a crime if committed by an adult, committed against that person. 'Victim' also includes the spouse, parent, legal guardian, grandparent, child, sibling, domestic partner or civil union partner of the decedent in the case of a criminal homicide or act of juvenile delinquency that would constitute a criminal homicide if committed by an adult." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:4B-37.

For purposes of "P.L.1963, c. 73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) as amended and supplemented" and under Chapter 1A (Examination and Copies of Public Records), "victim of a crime" is defined as "a person who has suffered personal or psychological injury or death or incurs loss of or injury to personal or real property as a result of a crime, or if such a person is deceased or incapacitated, a member of that person's immediate family." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 47:1A-1.1.

For purposes of the victim counselor's privilege (Victim Counselor's Privilege), "victim" is defined as "a person who consults a counselor for the purpose of securing advice, counseling or assistance concerning a mental, physical or emotional condition caused by an act of violence." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:84A-22.14(c).

Under the Drunk Driving Victim's Bill of Rights, "unless otherwise indicated," "victim" is defined as "a person who suffers personal physical or psychological injury or death or incurs loss of or injury to personal or real property as a result of a motor vehicle accident involving another person's driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. In the event of a death, 'victim' means the surviving spouse, a child or the next of kin." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 39:4-50.10.

For purposes of P.L.1971, c. 317 (Criminal Injuries Compensation Act of 1971 Definitions), "victim" is defined as "a person who is injured or killed by any act or omission of any other person which is within the description of any of the offenses specified in section 11 of P.L.1971, c. 317." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:4B-2. For further reference, *see* N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:4B-11.

For purposes of P.L.1985, c. 404 (Victim-Witness Assistance Definitions), "victim" is defined as "a person who suffers personal physical or psychological injury or death or incurs loss of or injury to personal or real property as a result of a crime committed against that person." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:4B-39(a).

Under "Profits from Crime" in Chapter 4B (Compensation for Victims of Crime), "crime victim" is defined as "(1) the victim of a crime; (2) the representative of a crime victim; (3) a Good Samaritan, as provided in P.L.1963, c. 140 (C.2A:62A-2 et seq.); (4) the Victims of Crime Compensation Board or other governmental agency that has received an application for or provided financial assistance or compensation to the victim." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:4B-62(d).

"Act of violence"

For purposes of the victim counselor's privilege (Victim Counselor's Privilege), "act of violence" is defined as "the commission or attempt to commit any of the offenses set forth in subsection b. of section 11 of P.L.1971, c. 317 (C.52:4B-11)." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:84A-22.14(a).

"Certified social worker"

For purposes of the social work privilege (Social Work Privilege), "certified social worker" is defined as "a person who holds a current, valid certificate issued pursuant to subsection c. of section 6 or subsection c. of section 8 of this act." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 45:15BB-3.

How does New Jersey define "confidential communication" in the context of the victim counselor's privilege?

For purposes of the victim counselor's privilege (Victim Counselor's Privilege), "confidential communication" is defined as "any information exchanged between a victim and a victim counselor in private or in the presence of a third party who is necessary to facilitate communication or further the counseling process and which is disclosed in the course of the counselor's treatment of the victim for any emotional or psychological condition resulting from an act of violence. It includes any advice, report or working paper given or made in the course of the consultation and all information received by the victim counselor in the course of that relationship." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:84A-22.14(b).

How does New Jersey define "confidential communication" in the context of a physician and a patient?

For purposes of the physician-patient privilege (Physician-Patient Privilege), "confidential communication between physician and patient" is defined as "information transmitted between physician and patient, including information obtained by an examination of the patient, as is transmitted in confidence and by a means which, so far as the patient is aware, discloses the information to no third persons other than those reasonably necessary for the transmission of the information or the accomplishment of the purpose for which it is transmitted." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:84A-22.1.

"Government record"

For purposes of "P.L.1963, c. 73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) as amended and supplemented" under Chapter 1A (Examination and Copies of Public Records), "government record" is defined as "any paper, written or printed book, document, drawing, map, plan, photograph, microfilm, data processed or image processed document, information stored or maintained electronically or by sound-recording or in a similar device, or any copy thereof, that has been made, maintained or kept on file in the course of his or its official business by any officer, commission, agency or authority of the State or of any political subdivision thereof, including subordinate boards thereof, or that has been received in the course of his or its official business by any such officer, commission, agency, or authority of the State or of any political subdivision thereof, including subordinate boards thereof. The terms shall not include inter-agency or intra-agency advisory, consultative, or deliberative material." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 47:1A-1.1.

"Licensed clinical social worker"

For purposes of the social work privilege (Social Work Privilege), "licensed clinical social worker" is defined as "person who holds a current, valid license issued pursuant to subsection a. of section 6 or subsection a. or d. of section 8 of this act." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 45:15BB-3.

"Licensed practicing psychologist"

For purposes of the psychologist privilege (Psychologist Privilege), "unless the context clearly requires otherwise and except as in this act expressly otherwise provided[,]" "licensed practicing psychologist" is defined as "an individual to whom a license has been issued pursuant to the provisions of this act, which license is in force and not suspended or revoked as of the particular time in question." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 45:14B-2(a).

"Licensed social worker"

For purposes of the social work privilege (Social Work Privilege), "licensed social worker" is defined as "a person who holds a current, valid license issued pursuant to subsection b. of section 6 or subsection b. of section 8 of this act." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 45:15BB-3.

How does New Jersey define "patient" in the context of the physician-patient privilege?

For purposes of the physician-patient privilege (Physician-Patient Privilege), "patient" is defined as "a person who, for the sole purpose of securing preventive, palliative, or curative treatment, or a diagnosis preliminary to such treatment, of the patient's physical or mental condition, consults a physician, or submits to an examination by a physician . . . ." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:84A-22.1.

"Physician"

For purposes of the physician-patient privilege (Physician-Patient Privilege), "physician" is defined as "a person authorized or reasonably believed by the patient to be authorized, to practice medicine in the State or jurisdiction in which the consultation or examination takes place . . . ." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:84A-22.1.

"Social work counseling"

For purposes of the social work privilege (Social Work Privilege), "social work counseling" is defined as "the professional application of social work methods and values in advising and providing guidance to individuals, families or groups for the purpose of enhancing, protecting or restoring the capacity for coping with the social environment, exclusive of the practice of psychotherapy." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 45:15BB-3.

"Victim counseling center"

For purposes of the victim counselor's privilege (Victim Counselor's Privilege), "victim counseling center" is defined as "any office, institution, or center offering assistance to victims and their families through crisis intervention, medical and legal accompaniment and follow-up counseling." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:84A-22.14(d).

"Victim counselor"

For purposes of the victim counselor's privilege (Victim Counselor's Privilege), "victim counselor" is defined as "a person engaged in any office, institution or center defined as a victim counseling center by this act, who has undergone 40 hours of training and is under

the control of a direct services supervisor of the center and who has a primary function of rendering advice, counseling or assisting victims of acts of violence. 'Victim counselor' includes a rape care advocate as defined in section 4 of P.L.2001, c. 81 (C.52:4B-52)." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:84A-22.14(e).
"Victim's record" For purposes of "P.L.1963, c. 73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) as amended and supplemented" (Examination and Copies of Public Records), "victims record" is defined as "an individually-identifiable file or document held by a victims' rights agency which pertains directly to a victim of a crime except that a victim of a crime shall have access to the victim's own records." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 47:1A-1.1.

[1] *See Office for Victims of Crime, Ethical Standards, Section I: Scope of Services,* https://www.ovc.gov/model-standards/ethical_standards_1.html.
[2] Additional examples of system-based advocate titles, include: district attorney's office/state attorney's office advocates or victim-witness coordinators; law enforcement advocates; FBI victim specialists; U.S. attorney's office victim-witness coordinators; board of parole and post-prison supervision advocates; and post-conviction advocates.
[3] Examples of community-based advocates, include: crisis hotline or helpline staff; rape crisis center staff; domestic violence shelter staff; campus advocates; and homicide support program staff.
[4] *See* Nat'l Crime Victim Law Inst., *Refusing Discovery Requests of Privileged Materials Pretrial in Criminal Cases*, NCVLI Violence Against Women Bulletin (Nat'l Crime Victim Law Inst., Portland, Or.), June 2011, at 3 n.30 (listing victims' constitutional and statutory rights to privacy and to dignity, respect or fairness).
[5] *See, e.g.*, *Whalen v. Roe,* 429 U.S. 589, 599-600 (1977) (recognizing that the United States Constitution provides a right of personal privacy, which includes an "individual interest in avoiding disclosure of personal matters"); *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 152-53 (1973) ("[A] right to personal privacy . . . does exist under the Constitution.").
[6] There are different levels of privileges: absolute, absolute diluted and qualified. An absolute privilege is one in which only a victim has the right to authorize disclosure and the court can never order the information to be disclosed without the victim's consent. Absolute privileges are rare, however, because privileges are seen to run contrary to the truth finding function of courts.
[7] *See, e.g.,* Ala. R. Evid. 503A(a)(7) ("'Victim counselor means any employee or supervised volunteer of a victim counseling center or other agency, business, or organization that provides counseling to victims, who is not affiliated with a law enforcement agency or prosecutor's office and whose duties include treating victims for any emotional or psychological condition resulting from a sexual assault or family violence."); Alaska Stat. Ann. § 18.66.250(5)(B) ("'[V]ictim counseling center' means a private organization, an organization operated by or contracted by a branch of the armed forces of the United States, or a local government agency that . . . is not affiliated with a law enforcement agency or a prosecutor's office[.]"; Haw. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 626-1, Rule 505.5(a)(6) ("A 'victim counseling program' is any activity of a domestic violence victims' program or a sexual assault crisis center that has, as its primary function, the counseling and treatment of sexual assault, domestic violence, or child abuse victims and their families, and that operates independently of any law enforcement agency, prosecutor's office, or the department of human services."; Ind. Code Ann. § 35-37-6-5(2) ("'[V]ictim service provider' means a person . . . that is not affiliated with a law enforcement agency[.]"; Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 29-4302(1) ("Advocate means any employee or supervised volunteer of a domestic violence and sexual assault victim assistance program or of any other agency, business, or organization that is not affiliated with a law enforcement or prosecutor's office whose primary purpose is assisting domestic violence and sexual assault victims[.]"; N.M. Stat. Ann. § 31-25-2(E) ("'[V]ictim counselor' means any employee or supervised volunteer of a victim counseling center or other agency, business or organization that provides counseling to victims who is not affiliated with a law enforcement agency or the office of a district attorney[.]".

[8] Terms that inform the intersection of victim services and HIPPA, FERPA, FOIA or VOCA are "implied consent" and "waiver." "Informed consent" is defined as "1. [a] person's agreement to allow something to happen, made with full knowledge of the risks involved and the alternatives. · For the legal profession, informed consent is defined in Model Rule of Professional Conduct 1.0(e)[;] [or] 2. [a] patient's knowing choice about a medical treatment or procedure, made after a physician or other healthcare provider discloses whatever information a reasonably prudent provider in the medical field community would give to a patient regarding the risks involved in the proposed treatment or procedure." *Informed consent,* Black's Law Dictionary (8th ed. 2004). "Waiver" is defined as "[t]he voluntary relinquishment or abandonment – express or implied – of a legal right or advantage . . . ." *Waiver,* Black's Law Dictionary (8th ed. 2004).
[9] *School Resource Officers, School Law Enforcement Units, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA),* https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/sites/default/files/resource_document/file/SRO_FAQs_2-5-19_0.pdf.
[10] *Id.*
[11] *Id.*
[12] *Id.*
[13] *Are law enforcement records considered education records?,* https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/faq/are-law-enforcement-records-considered-education-records.
[14] *Id.*
[15] Department of Justice Guide to the Freedom of Information Act, at 1, https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/oip/legacy/2014/07/23/exemption6.pdf.
[16] *Id.*
[17] *Office for Victims of Crime, Crime Victims Fund,* https://www.ovc.gov/pubs/crimevictimsfundfs/intro.html#VictimAssist.
[18] *Id.*
[19] *Id.*
[20] *Ethic,* Merriam-webster.com, https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/ethics (last visited July 31, 2019).
[21] *Office for Victims of Crime, Purpose & Scope of The Standards,* https://www.ovc.gov/model-standards/purpose_and_scope.html.
[22] *Office for Victims of Crime, Purpose & Scope of The Standards,* https://www.ovc.gov/model-standards/purpose_and_scope.html. Each of the five sections contain ethical standards and corresponding commentaries, explaining each standard in detail. For "Scope of Services," the ethical standards and their corresponding commentaries can be located at https://www.ovc.gov/model-standards/ethical_standards_1.html. For "Coordinating within the Community," the ethical standards and their corresponding commentaries can be located at https://www.ovc.gov/model-standards/ethical_standards_2.html. For "Direct Services," the ethical standards and their corresponding commentaries can be located at https://www.ovc.gov/model-standards/ethical_standards_3.html. For "Privacy, Confidentiality, Data Security and Assistive Technology," the ethical standards and their corresponding commentaries can be located at https://www.ovc.gov/model-standards/ethical_standards_4.html. For "Administration and Evaluation," the ethical standard and the corresponding commentary can be located at https://www.ovc.gov/model-standards/ethical_standards_5.html.
[23] *Office for Victims of Crime, Ethical Standards for Serving Victims & Survivors of Crime,* https://www.ovc.gov/model-standards/ethical_standards.html.
[24] *See Weatherford v. Busey*, 429 U.S. 545, 559 (1977).
[25] *See United States v. Agers*, 427 U.S. 97, 106-07 (1976)
[26] *Strickler v. Greene*, 527 U.S. 263, 280 (1999).
[27] *Id.*
[28] *See, e.g., Eakes v. Sexto*n, 592 F. App'x 422, 429 (6th Cir. 2014) (finding that "contrary to the district court's conclusion that the [state] prosecutor was not responsible for failing to disclose the Victim–Advocate report because the Advocate was located 'in a separate part of the District Attorney's office,' the prosecutor is in fact responsible for disclosing all *Brady* information in the possession of that office, such as the Victim–Advocate report, even if the prosecutor was unaware of the evidence prior to trial"); *Commonwealth v. Liang*, 747 N.E.2d 112, 114 (Mass. 2001) (concluding that "the notes of [prosecution-based] advocates are subject to the same discovery rules as the notes of prosecutors[,]" and "[t]o the extent that the notes contain material, exculpatory information . . . or relevant 'statements' of a victim or witness . . . the Commonwealth must disclose such information or statements to the defendant, in accordance with due process and the rules of criminal procedure").

[29] Notably, for advocates/entities that receive VOCA funding, because this disclosure is "compelled by statutory or court mandate," it does not pursuant to statute, require a signed, written release from the victim. Nevertheless, if disclosure is required, VOCA requires that advocates make reasonable attempts to notify the victim affected by the disclosure and take whatever steps are necessary to protect their privacy and safety.
[30] Defendant John Giglio was tried, convicted and sentenced for forgery related crimes. While *Giglio's* case was pending appeal, his attorney filed a motion for a new trial, claiming that there was newly discovered evidence that the key Government witness–"the only witness linking [Giglio] with the crime"– had been promised that he would not be prosecuted in exchange for his testimony. The defense attorney's motion was initially denied, but certiorari review was granted "to determine whether the evidence [that was] not disclosed . . . require[d] a new trial under the due process criteria of" cases, including *Brady v. Maryland,* 373 U.S. 83, 87 (1963), which "held that suppression of material evidence justifies a new trial" whether the prosecutor intended to withhold information or not. "An affidavit filed by the Government as part of its opposition to a new trial confirm[ed] [Giglio's] claim that a promise was made to [the key Government witness]" by the former Assistant United States Attorney "that [the witness] would not be prosecuted if he cooperated with the Government." This promise of leniency was made by the formerly assigned Assistant United States Attorney who did not handle the trial; and the Assistant United States Attorney who handled the trial was unaware of the promise. The Supreme Court held that nondisclosure of material evidence "is the responsibility of the prosecutor"–whether nondisclosure was intentional or not–and that such action is directly attributable to the Government. Addressing the topic of "turnover," principally, the Court explained that "[t]o the extent this places a burden on the large prosecution offices, procedures and regulations can be established to carry that burden and to [e]nsure communication of all relevant information on each case to every lawyer who deals with it." Giglio's conviction was reversed, and the case was remanded to the lower court.
[31] This section addresses subpoenas directed to system-based advocates. For information concerning community-based advocates and subpoenas, please contact NCVLI for technical assistance.
[32] Terminology for subpoenas varies from jurisdiction-to-jurisdiction. Common examples of subpoenas include: "subpoenas"; "subpoenas duces tecum"; "deposition subpoenas"; and "subpoenas ad testificandum." *See Subpoena,* Black's Law Dictionary (8th ed. 2004).
[33] *See Subpoena,* Black's Law Dictionary (8th ed. 2004) (defining "subpoena" as "[a] writ commanding a person to appear before a court or other tribunal, subject to a penalty for failing to comply"); *subpoena duces tecum,* Black's Law Dictionary (8th ed. 2004) (defining "subpoena duces tecum" as "[a] subpoena ordering the witness to appear and to bring specified documents, records, or things"); *deposition subpoena,* Black's Law Dictionary (8th ed. 2004) (defining "deposition subpoena" as "1. [a] subpoena issued to summon a person to make a sworn statement in a time and place other than a trial[;] [and] 2. [i]n some jurisdictions, [this is referred to as] a subpoena duces tecum").
[34] Attorney work product "is generally exempt from discovery or other compelled disclosure." *Work product,* Black's Law Dictionary (8th ed. 2004).
[35] *See also State v. Gilchrist,* 885 A.2d 29, 35 (N.J. Super. App. Div. 2005) (emphasis added) (observing that victims have a right to privacy; and reversing the trial court's order that directed the state to provide defendant with the victim's photograph, as "any possible benefits to defendant from a court-ordered photograph of [the victim] [were] entirely speculative and . . . outweighed by . . . important considerations, *including [the victim's] right to privacy*; . . . right to be treated with fairness, compassion, and respect; . . . right to be free from intimidation; and the need to encourage crime victims to cooperate and participate in the criminal justice system").
[36] "[N]othing contained in P.L.1963, c. 73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) . . . shall be construed as affecting in any way the common law right of access to any record, including but not limited to criminal investigatory records of a law enforcement agency." N.J. Stat. Ann. § 47:1A-1.
[37] For additional information about the "victim counselor's privilege," please contact NCVLI.