



# State of South Carolina

## Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY  
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE  
POLICY AND PROGRAMS

July 29, 2013

Dear Victim Service Provider,

As you know, in the State of South Carolina, if you were employed prior to January 1, 2009 or have already completed the Basic 15 hour Core Requirement, you are required to complete **12 hours** of victim assistance training **annually** to maintain your certification as a Victim Service Provider (VSP). In order to ensure that this requirement is being met, the Office of Victim Services Education and Certification (OVSEC) is going to implement the following policy as it relates to certification compliance.

Beginning on January 1, 2014, for each victim service provider that has not completed the required 12 hours of annual training by December 31, 2013, the following will occur:

- The VSP's certification will expire and be suspended.
- The VSP will have to complete the **basic 15 hour core** requirement **BEFORE** the end of the year in order to lift the suspension and return the VSP's status back to active. (You can view the core requirements at <http://www.oep.sc.gov/ovsec/basic.html> )
- The name of the VSP and the VSP's agency will be published on a non-compliance list. This list will be posted to the OVSEC website (<http://www.oep.sc.gov/ovsec/>) and the Victim Service Coordinating Council's (VSCC) website ([www.oep.sc.gov/vsc](http://www.oep.sc.gov/vsc)).

*Finally, a list of the Victim Service Providers who have not complied with the certification requirements will be submitted to the State Office of Victim Assistance's Auditing Department by February 28, 2014.* If funds are used for the VSP salary and or the VSP program, the agency will be required by the Auditing Department to discontinue usage of those funds until the VSP has complied with certification. ***Pursuant to proviso***

OFFICE OF THE CRIME VICTIMS' OMBUDSMAN  
OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION  
1205 PENDLETON STREET  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201  
TELEPHONE: (803) 734-0357 | FAX: (803) 734-1428  
EMAIL: OVSEC@OEP.SC.GOV  
WEBSITE: WWW.OEPP.SC.GOV/OVSEC

**89.61, the State Office of Victim Assistance is authorized to conduct audits and programmatic reviews on any entity or non-profit organization who receives crime victim assistance fines, fees and assessment funds that have been *generated through court*. Per S.C. Code Section 16-3-1620(D)(1), the VSP employed in any of these organizations must be registered with and certified by OVSEC.**

If you have any questions about this policy, please do not hesitate to contact Leslie Sims at (803)734-0925 or [lsims@oepp.sc.gov](mailto:lsims@oepp.sc.gov) or myself at (803)734-5228 or [dcurtis@oepp.sc.gov](mailto:dcurtis@oepp.sc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Debbie Depra Curtis', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Debbie Depra Curtis  
Crime Victims' Ombudsman