

# Northwest Victim Services



NORTHWEST VICTIM SERVICES (NVS) IS LAUNCHING TWO NEW INITIATIVES

NORTHWEST VICTIM SERVICES 2025 NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



# Northwest Victim Services (NVS)

**Beginning December 1, 2025, Northwest Victim Services** will start a new Pain Medication Fund that will be named after the late Patrice Custis-Fisher—NVS Board Member. The pain medication fund will be at two Philadelphia Hospitals: Jefferson Einstein Hospital and Temple University Hospital. NVS will provide post medication prescriptions to 50 patients: 25 for Jefferson Einstein and 25 for Temple University Hospital.

There are many victims that do not have health insurance, and cannot afford to purchase their pain medication to help them heal when they are discharged from the hospital.

Patrice Custis-Fisher joined the NVS Board in 2014. Patrice hit the ground running and Northwest Victim Services held a special place in her heart. Patrice served as the Board President for two terms, and she served as the Board Secretary. Patrice was very instrumental in assuring the NVS agency stayed standing strong along with Kevin Raphael, another long standing board members. Patrice worked as a consultant for a pharmaceutical company while serving on the NVS board for the past 3 years, Principal at Patrice Custis and Associates. Patrice was a part of the pharmaceutical industry since 2001 working for Bistol-Myers and Squibb, Johnson and Johnson and Campbel Soup Company. Patrice offered great ideas to NVS, and she was a very hard-working board member. Because of Patrice's dedication to the board, NVS will now have a pain medication fund in her honor.



**Erica Harris, MD, FACEP**  
Medical Director, Trauma Intervention Program  
Department of Emergency Medicine  
Jefferson Einstein Hospital



**Scott P. Charles, MAPP, FCPP**  
Trauma Outreach Manager  
Director, Trauma Victim Advocacy Program  
Temple University Hospital - Main Campus

WITNESSES OF HOMICIDES & CRIME MATTER

# Northwest Victim Services

WITNESSES YOU  
MATTER!

Northwest Victim Services

**WITNESS**

Virtual Workshop  
11/7/25—6pm to 7pm

- Discuss Long Term Safety Tips
- Resources
- Strategies



Tobi Downing—Presenter  
Director, Gun Violence Reduction Initiatives  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania -  
Office of the Attorney General



Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82283054980?pwd=Z4uvgW8vOS56NF7ceJnYPDCXB3nmsQ.1>



# HOW YOU SEEN ANY OF THESE MISSING INDIVIDUALS?

Please call 911 or go to:

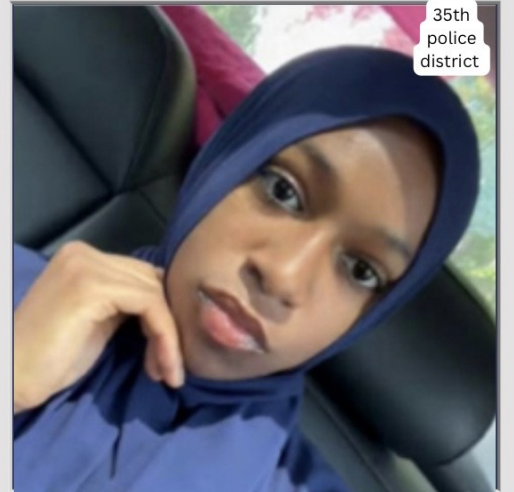
<https://www.phillypolice.com/news-blotter-cat/missing-persons/>



Thomas "TJ" Clemson  
white male, 16 years old  
5'9ft approximately 200 lbs



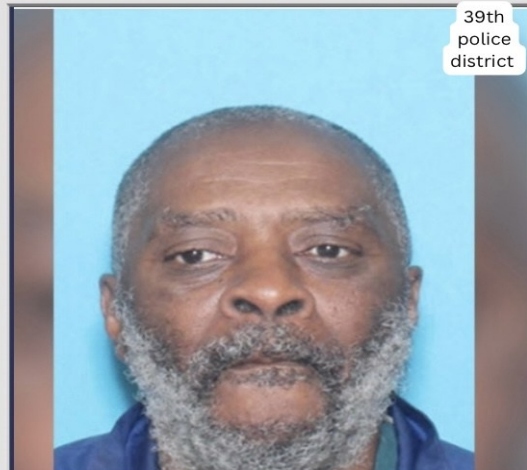
Mekhi Stokes  
black male, 14 years old, 5'7  
140 pounds



Arwiya Naifer  
black female, 15 years old, 5'2ft  
120 pounds wearing a black sweatshirt, black  
sweat pants and black on black Nike sneakers



Aaron Bond  
black male, 5'10,  
weighing approximately 168 pounds



Douglas Edens  
black male, 6'1ft  
215 lbs



Robert Gomola  
White male, 5'8  
approximately 145 pounds



Taliyah Savoy  
black female, 17 years old,  
5'2ft



Theresa Sharin  
black female, 78 years old, 5'6ft  
200 pounds



# NVS GIVING BACK

Northwest Victim Services honored two amazing agencies

BIO ONE PHILLY

&

YOUR DESTINY IS HERE





# NVS GIVING BACK





## A Special Thank You to DA Krasner & City Council

The Northwest Victim Services agency received a one-time grant of \$90,000 from the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office. This funding is part of a larger \$810,000 allocation to nine different community-based victim services organizations across the city, as announced in October 2025. The funds come from a grant provided by Philadelphia City Council to help expand outreach and services for victims of violent crime, particularly those impacted by gun violence.



## OUR WORK EXPANDS BEYOND PHILADELPHIA

Kyra Knox- Emmy award winning filmmaker director and NVS's Rachael Reyes Vazquez in Culver City Los Angeles for the Micheaux Film Festival in Los Angeles California on October 25, 2025.

Rachael was one of four artists featured in the short film Knox directed for the University Science Center in West Philadelphia. The short film is about a project called "A future without guns" in which ten artists were selected to display what they felt was a safer future.

The short film was nominated for outstanding short documentary.

<https://micheauxfilmfest.com/>

# NORTHEAST VICTIM SERVICES

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215.438.4410



Melany P. Nelson, Executive Director

Rysheda Elliott, Peer Support Advocate

Rachael Reyes-Vazquez, Bilingual Court Advocate

Wynter Downing, Youth Engagement Coordinator

## CONGRATULATION RACHAEL ON A JOB WELL DONE!



Rachael Reyes-Vazquez