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NEWS RELEASE

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St. Mary's County State's Attorney's Office Successfully Secures a \$496,216 Competitive Grant to Continue Services for Crime Victims

LEONARDTOWN, MD (June 30, 2026) – State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling proudly announces the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) has awarded the State's Attorney's Office for St. Mary's County a \$496,216 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant for fiscal year 2027.

“Every victim deserves to be heard, supported, and treated with dignity. This grant allows us to continue providing the experienced advocates and resources that victims rely on during the most difficult moments of their lives,” said State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling. “We are grateful for GOCPP's continued partnership and investment in victim services, which enables us to strengthen the support we provide to the citizens of St. Mary's County.”

This year's grant will continue to support the Victim Services Division of the State's Attorney's Office by funding 100% of six positions and 30% of one additional position within the Division, ensuring the uninterrupted continuation of critical victim services. Specifically, the grant will fund one Director position and six Victim Witness Advocate Coordinator positions.

Since the beginning of State's Attorney Sterling's administration, the Office has successfully secured a total of \$2,154,345 in grants dedicated to victim services in St. Mary's County. Combined with other grant awards, the St. Mary's County State's Attorney's Office has secured a total of \$2,529,224 in grant funding. Sterling created the Victim Services Division of the State's Attorney's Office in 2023 for critical comprehensive support for crime victims and witnesses in St. Mary's County.

Jessika Hall, Chief of Staff for the State's Attorney's Office, successfully wrote and prepared the competitive VOCA grant application on behalf of the citizens of St. Mary's County.

This project is supported by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy under VCG-2027-0030. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the State or Federal agency.

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