

Contact: Officer X  
(XXX) XXX-XXXX; Xaddress@X.org  
DATE, 2010

**MEDIA ADVISORY:**

X POLICE DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL TRAINING TO  
SERVE IMMIGRANT CRIME VICTIMS

**City Name** – X Police Department in partnership with the National Immigrant Women’s Advocacy Project and the Vera Institute of Justice will be in [City Name] to train officers from the X Police Department and X other agencies on the use of the U-visa for immigrant crime victims. This is the [first] of 12 trainings being held nationwide, through a project supported by the U.S. Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Assistance.

This training provides practical solutions for serving immigrant victims of crime. Congress created the U-visa, a temporary visa for noncitizen crime victims, to protect them from deportation when they are willing to cooperate with law enforcement in the detection, investigation, and/or prosecution of criminal activity. It also benefits victims who cooperate by granting legal residence in the United States for up to four years.

*[Add a short, simple sentence or two with a quote, statistics, and/or other information about your department’s work. For example: “Since the mid-’80s, the X Police Department has been deeply committed to helping meet the needs of domestic violence victims,” said Chief Name.]* “The U-visa gives us an important tool to serve immigrant crime victims and protect public safety. If victims no longer fear deportation and feel safe reporting or discussing a crime, more perpetrators will be held accountable and our community will be safer.”

Chief X said this means working with all victims of crime, including immigrants. “Our responsibility is to serve everyone in the community, and we want to make sure that no victim is overlooked or afraid to report a crime. By participating in this training, our department is better prepared and has new tools at our disposal—and this will benefit the communities we serve.”

*NIWAP at American University’s Washington College of Law provides training and technical assistance on a broad range of issues of importance to immigrant women and children, including VAWA immigration and confidentiality, family law, protection orders, public benefits, language access, cultural competency, and access to services, including shelter, transitional housing, health care, and education. For inquiries, please call 202-274-4457 or email at niwap@wcl.american.edu.*

*The Vera Institute of Justice is an independent nonprofit organization that combines expertise in research, demonstration projects, and technical assistance to help leaders in government and civil society improve the systems people rely on for justice and safety. For media inquiries, contact Robin Campbell at 212-376-3172 or at rcampbell@vera.org.*

*For information about the Bureau of Justice Assistance, go to [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA).*

This project was supported by Grant No. 2009-DG-BX-K018 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the SMART Office, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not represent the official position or policies of the United States Department of Justice.