



**2026 Two Days in May  
CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS**

*May 18-19, 2026*

The awards presented by the Ohio Attorney General's Office at its annual Two Days in May Conference on Victim Assistance are designed to recognize the outstanding work being done to empower victims and survivors of crime in Ohio. Eligible for consideration are individuals and/or programs of any public or private nonprofit organization whose mission is to assist, protect and/or empower victims of crime.

The following awards will be presented May 19 at a luncheon during the 2026 edition of the conference at the Hilton Columbus Downtown:

- **Robert Denton Special Achievement Award**
- **Special Courage Award**
- **Dr. Kenneth Yeager Compassionate Leadership in Advocacy Award**
- **Success Through Collaboration Award (new in 2026)**

**Nominations and deadlines**

Please complete the nomination form below in its entirety. (The form can be duplicated.) All entries must be submitted electronically to [TDIM@OhioAGO.gov](mailto:TDIM@OhioAGO.gov) and received **on or before Feb. 17, 2026.**

**In the subject line of the email, please write the name of the award being sought and the name of the nominee.**

Each nomination form must be signed and dated by the nominator. You may submit more than one nomination, but each must be submitted on a separate form.

For more information on the 2026 TDIM awards, please contact:

**Holly Zachariah Andrews  
Crime Victim Services Section  
614-216-4909  
[Holly.Andrews@OhioAGO.gov](mailto:Holly.Andrews@OhioAGO.gov)**

## **Robert Denton Special Achievement Award**

The award recognizes an individual with at least five years of experience in the field of victim assistance who has demonstrated leadership in the crime victims' rights movement. Nominations are open to individuals serving crime victims in the following disciplines: child advocacy, judiciary, domestic violence/gender-based violence, elder justice, law enforcement, sexual assault, prosecutor-based victim assistance, and general victim services.

**Robert Denton Special Achievement Award nominations are judged on the following criteria:**

- **Type/manner of assistance provided to victims of crime**
- **Number of years the nominee has provided services to crime victims**
- **Overall results of the assistance provided by the nominee**
- **Increased public awareness of the rights and needs of crime victims**
- **Selfless dedication to their particular conviction**
- **Creativity and innovation in addressing the needs of crime victims**

Nominations for the Robert Denton Special Achievement Award should be no longer than 10 pages and must include the following:

- Nomination form, completed in its entirety
- Descriptive narrative identifying why the individual should be considered based on the criteria listed above
- At least two letters of recommendation

## **Special Courage Award**

The award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated strength, resilience and perseverance in serving crime victims. Nominations are open to individuals serving crime victims in any capacity, with special consideration given to those who are survivors themselves.

**Special Courage Award nominations are judged on the following criteria:**

- **Demonstration of strength, resilience and perseverance**
- **Commitment to assisting crime victims**
- **Benefit(s) to the community**

Nominations for the Special Courage Award should be no longer than five pages and must include the following:

- Nomination form, completed in its entirety
- Descriptive narrative identifying why the individual should be considered based on the criteria listed above, including information about what sets the nominee apart from his or her colleagues in the field
- Two letters of recommendation
- Confirmation that the nominee has been notified of, and accepts, the nomination

**Important notes to the nominating individual or agency:**

- The Awards Committee will make its selection in late February/early March. The chosen nominee will be contacted by the Attorney General's Office for information and materials to be used in the preparation of a video that will be played at the awards luncheon.
- Those not selected will also be notified.

## **Dr. Kenneth Yeager Compassionate Leadership in Advocacy Award**

The award honors someone who leads by example and is a boots-on-the-ground presence in neighborhoods and the larger community when assessing needs and devising solutions. This person spends time meeting people where they are and sees the “big picture” of survivor and victim needs. The nominee puts lessons learned into practice so that everyone on his or her team knows how best to help those most in need. Special consideration is given to those who do such work in an urban setting.

**The Dr. Kenneth Yeager Compassionate Leadership in Advocacy Award is judged on the following criteria:**

- **At least two recommendation letters from survivors who have been beneficiaries of the leadership's work**
- **The creative ways in which the leader has stepped outside his/her office and seen what is needed – in shelters, on the streets and/or in courts**
- **The innovative solutions the nominee has put forward based on what they have seen and witnessed**

Nominations for the award should be no longer than 10 pages and must include the following:

- Nomination form, completed in its entirety
- Narrative outlining the specific characteristics of good leadership demonstrated, and an accounting of measurable results (new programs established, outdated practices and policies changed, etc.)
- A specific delineation of the collaborators and what each brought to the table

## **Success Through Collaboration Award**

The award recognizes partnerships, programs or organizations that embraced collaboration to meet a need, make a change, improve a practice or solve a problem, with the creative team approach yielding real benefits for victims and survivors.

Throughout Ohio, tremendous amounts of time, effort, creativity and talent are invested in projects to better serve victims of crime, but barriers often get in the way, delaying justice or hindering healing. The Success Through Collaboration Award honors those who banded together to overcome such barriers for the greater good.

By submitting nominations for this award, organizations can demonstrate the pride they take in their successes and share them with other agencies in Ohio that might be able to replicate the collaboration or otherwise benefit. Work done by multidisciplinary and sexual-assault response teams could be examples.

To be considered, organizations must have faced an identifiable problem or seemingly insurmountable situation. Examples might include, but would not be limited to, a loss of funding and reduced services, complicated criminal justice cases, previously unreachable populations, or a modern threat to justice for survivors that had been overlooked or ignored. Special consideration is given to collaborations in rural communities.

**Nominations for the Success Through Collaboration Award are judged on the following criteria:**

- **Clarity of the problem as well as the solution**
- **Successful measurement of actual results (such as restored funding, successful prosecution, newly established programs, etc.)**
- **Ability of the collaboration to be replicated by other agencies**
- **Creativity**

Nominations for the Success Through Collaboration Award should be no longer than 10 pages and must include the following:

- Nomination form, completed in its entirety.
- Narrative outlining the specific problem and related challenges that required collaboration, whether with other agencies, community partners, or an in-house team.
- Specific delineation of the collaborators and what each brought to the table.



**DAVE YOST**

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



## 2026 Two Days in May | Award Nomination Form

This is a nomination for (select only one):

- Robert Denton Special Achievement Award
- Special Courage Award
- Dr. Kenneth Yeager Compassionate Leadership in Advocacy Award
- Success Through Collaboration Award (new in 2026)

### Nominee information

Name/Title of individual, agency or organization nominated:

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominator information

Name/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Certification of notice to nominee (FOR SPECIAL COURAGE AWARD ONLY):

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby certify that on \_\_\_\_\_,

Nominator

Date

\_\_\_\_\_ was notified of, and accepted, this nomination.

Nominee

Nominator's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have questions or need further information, please call Holly Zachariah Andrews at 614-216-4909 or e-mail her at [Holly.Andrews@OhioAGO.gov](mailto:Holly.Andrews@OhioAGO.gov).

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