



# Department of Justice



## Office of Justice Programs

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### **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HONORS OHIO WOMAN WITH FEDERAL SERVICE AWARD**

WASHINGTON – The Justice Department’s Office for Victims of Crime, a component of the Office of Justice Programs, presented Acquanette Lindsay of Dayton, Ohio, with the Federal Service Award. This award recognizes the extraordinary efforts of federal agency personnel who lead initiatives and make contributions that impact victims of federal, tribal and military crimes, or promote victims’ rights and services nationally and internationally.

“Acquanette Lindsay is a public servant of the highest order, an advocate whose compassion and personal commitment match her extraordinary versatility and professionalism,” said OJP Acting Assistant Attorney General Maureen A. Henneberg. “Victims in Ms. Lindsay’s district find in her a trusted guide, a fierce protector of their rights and a champion of their cause.”

Acquanette Lindsay is a Victim Witness Specialist with the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Ohio, where she helps to ensure that witnesses are physically and emotionally available to testify. During her first trial, she managed travel and witness arrangements for over 80 witnesses over a two-week period. She also handled the logistics for the largest Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act/murder trial in Ohio’s history in 2016. Ms. Lindsay’s resourcefulness was evident during the 2017 William Apostelos Ponzi Scheme case, which involved more than 400 victims with losses exceeding \$70 million. To handle the volume of calls and needs, Ms. Lindsay used the Mega Victim Case Assistance Program, a contract service offered to victim-witness offices to help with large pools of victims, and developed an FAQ script for the call center that allowed her to focus on the more complex issues. She has also served as a Court Appointed Special Advocate for two years, and is now volunteering as a youth mentor for young women in Cincinnati.

“The ranks of federal criminal justice professionals are filled with talented, committed, hard-working people, but Acquanette Lindsay’s strong work ethic, sound judgment and sharp sense of moral purpose set her apart,” said OVC Acting Director Katherine Darke Schmitt. “We are deeply grateful for her peerless service and for the incredible support she gives to victims in the Southern District of Ohio.”

Every April, OVC leads communities across the country in observing National Crime Victims’ Rights Week. President Reagan proclaimed the first Victims’ Rights Week in 1981, calling for greater sensitivity to the rights and needs of victims. The 40th anniversary of NCVRW took place this year, April 18-24, and featured the theme, “Support Victims. Build Trust. Engage Communities,” which emphasizes the importance of leveraging community support to victims.

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The Office of Justice Programs provides federal leadership, grants, training, technical assistance and other resources to improve the nation's capacity to prevent and reduce crime, advance racial equity in the administration of justice, assist victims and enhance the rule of law. More information about OJP and its components can be found at [www.ojp.gov](http://www.ojp.gov).

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