



The TVSA Community grieves the loss of our colleague, Derrelynn Perryman, who passed away suddenly last week.

Many of you knew Derrelynn, who dedicated her professional career to serving crime victims, and to supporting victim service providers through training, technical assistance and mentorship.

Among her career highlights, Derrelynn served for 21 years as Victim Services Coordinator for the Arlington Police Department. She also had a tenure as Victim Advocate Director for the Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office.

Derrelynn also dedicated countless hours to training and supporting victim service providers, thus raising the caliber of services for many victims across our state. A Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Board Approved Supervisor, she was an instructor at UT-Arlington and Texas Christian University. She was also a former Chair of the Tarrant County Criminal Justice Planning Committee and co-founder of LEVA- Law Enforcement Victim Assistance.

Derrelynn's contributions to TVSA were significant. She formed part of the core group of service providers who founded TVSA in the late 1990s, including the promulgation of a TVSA Code of Ethics for victim service providers in our state. She later served a term as President of the board of directors of TVSA. Many of you who have attended our conferences over the years benefited from her pre-conference half day ethics in victim services trainings. In recent years, she also served as an instructor of our ethics class for managers and leaders at our advanced academy for victim assistance and served as a peer reviewer of our academy's curriculum.

Derrelynn capped an already stellar career with her gubernatorial appointment to the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, where she ensured that the voices of crime victims were always included at the table in addition to the other components of the criminal justice system.

Derrelynn's mark on the field of victim services will be felt not just in Texas, but nationally, for many years to come, and her untimely passing is a loss to us all.

Derrelynn's family is holding a celebration of life service for her this Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. at the Arlington Heights United Methodist Church, 4200 Camp Bowie Blvd., Fort Worth, Texas 76107. All are welcome.

