

Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia		
Policies & Procedures		Approved May. 12, 2020
11.1	Victim Services	Crisis Response Team

1. The Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia coordinates the Georgia Prosecution-based CrisisResponse Team (GPCRT) and provides training for the team.
2. The team as a whole is made of regional teams, which currently exist, and will continue to form, around the state of Georgia.
3. The Director of Victim Assistance, will assist the GPCRT with all aspects of response such as developing standards of operations and policies for the team.
4. Standards of procedures will be developed concurrently with other State agencies, which may respond to State emergencies. Other agencies include but are not limited to: Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, GEMA, FBI, DHR, some local Sheriff's Departments and others.
5. Procedures:
 - A The team will respond (with invitation) 24 hours a day seven days a week to mass violent crime incidents to include providing death and emergency notifications.
 - B After being notified the team will respond to a mass violent crime within the State of Georgia in a reasonable period. The team responds nationally when personnel and funds are available.
 - C The team will seek to identify, notify and involve victims and ensure they are able to exercise their right to take part in the criminal justice process.
 - D The team will provide victims referral information to assist them in the recovery of their victimization.
 - E The team will act as liaison between victims and state/federal crisis response and law enforcement.
 - F The team will carry out their duties regarding victim issues with an effective, efficient and empathic manner.
6. Assistance to National Office of Victim Assistance (NOVA).
 - A Teams will respond to a community only when invited by the agency or individual who has jurisdiction over a particular site or scene.

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- (1) The team will use the NOVA model of service delivery.
- (2) The average time a team will spend on a site is three days.
- (3) Responding teams conduct four major types of response activities: assessment coordination, direct services, training and planning assistance.

B The basic requirements for becoming NOVA responders are:

- (1) The completion of the 24-hour training course.
- (2) Pass a background check

7. The NOVA office has identified one person in each state as a point of contact. The Director of Victim Services for PAC is the individual responsible to coordinate the State VWAP team as it relates to training and response.

8. Team certification: Maintain active employment status within a Georgia Prosecution-based agency.