



Sheriff J. Al Cannon, Jr., County of Charleston, South Carolina

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**Charleston County Sheriff's Office Victims' Advocate Unit awarded NSA
Crime Victim Services Award 2016**

(Charleston County, SC) The Charleston County Sheriff's Office Victims' Advocate Unit was recently named the recipient of the National Sheriffs' Association Crime Victim Services Award 2016. This is the first time the Sheriff's Office has received this prestigious award. The award will be presented to Sheriff Cannon and our Victims' Advocates in Minneapolis this summer. Additionally, our agency has also been awarded a Victims of Crime Act grant to hire four more victim advocates.

The National Sheriffs' Association annually recognizes Sheriff's Offices for this type of award who have demonstrated outstanding community service and support to victims of crimes.

The Charleston County Sheriff's Office Victims' Advocate Unit often times are tasked with a variety of responsibilities. Occasionally, they travel outside of the county to offer support and comfort to fellow advocates and victims. Our victim advocates are truly committed to victims of all crimes and to the citizens of Charleston County. They play integral role in the mission of the Charleston County Sheriff's Office.

Furthermore, through a partnership with the Medical University of South Carolina Crime Victim Research and Treatment Center, the Charleston County Sheriff's Office Victim Advocates were the first advocates in South Carolina to receive psychological first aid training. This training is a national module presented by the MUSC to promote mental well-being to advocates and the community they serve.

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