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## Newsroom: RWU Law Team To Lead National Center for Victims of Crime

Roger Williams University School of Law

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# Newsroom

## RWU Law Team To Lead National Center for Victims of Crime

Three RWU Law standouts -- Mark Mandell, Donald Migliori and David Zlotnick -- are appointed to Board of the National Center for Victims of Crime.

Three RWU Law standouts figure in this [Providence Business News](#) report: "[Prominent Rhode Island Attorneys Elected to Leadership Positions.](#)"

For the [Providence Journal's](#) coverage of the appointments, click [here](#).

**Washington, DC, Dec. 17, 2010** -- The [National Center for Victims of Crime](#), embarking on a new era of leadership, today announced the election of **Mark Mandell** of Providence, Rhode Island, as new chairperson of its executive committee and board of directors. Two other prominent Rhode Island attorneys, **Donald A. Migliori** and **David M. Zlotnick**, were elected to the National Center's board of directors.



**Mark Mandell [Chair-Elect of RWU Law's Board of Directors]** takes the helm of the national crime victim advocacy organization after having served as its vice president for the past year and on its board of directors since 2007. A trendsetter in the civil justice legal system, Mandell has successfully represented numerous crime victims, including victims of the 2003 nightclub club fire in West Warwick. Founding partner of Mandell Schwartz & Boisclair, Ltd., in Providence, Mandell also serves as chair of the board of trustees of the Roger Williams University of Law, and is a member of the bar of the United States Supreme Court and the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. His many achievements include having served as president of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, and in many community leadership roles: member of the board of directors of The Miriam Hospital, the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, and the Urban League of Rhode Island. He was also chairman of the Executive Committee of the Holocaust Memorial Committee of Rhode Island, president of the Jewish Community Center of Rhode Island, member of the Executive-Finance Committee of The Wheeler School, and chairman of the Education Committee of The Wheeler School.

New board member **Donald A. Migliori [RWU Law Adjunct**

**Professor & Distinguished Practitioner in Residence]** is co-leader of the Aviation Team at Motley Rice LLC in Providence. Migliori has represented victims of terrorism (including families of the September 11th attacks), aviation disasters, environmental contamination, and other forms of injury. He has served as lead attorney in groundbreaking litigation to bankrupt the financiers of al Qaeda and on the States Attorneys General legal team that won the historic lawsuit against Big Tobacco, resulting in the largest civil settlement in U.S. history. In 2010, he was named one of the American Trial Lawyers Association's Top 100 Trial Lawyers and in 2005 as one of *Providence Business News'* Forty Under 40.



New board member **David M. Zlotnick** is associate dean for academic affairs and **a law professor at Roger Williams University School of Law in Bristol**. A former federal prosecutor and white collar defense attorney, Zlotnick has published extensively in legal journals on subjects including domestic violence, protection orders, and sentencing issues.

"I am honored by this opportunity to serve the National Center as we tackle the challenges of the future," **said Board Chairperson Mark Mandell**. "And I'm particularly pleased that my distinguished colleagues, **Donald Migliori** and **David Zlotnik**, will share our work."

Also elected to serve on the National Center's executive committee are Vice Chairperson David Austern, a crime victim advocate and attorney from Falls Church, Virginia; Treasurer Philip M. Gerson, a trial attorney from Miami, Florida; and Secretary G. Morris Gurley, a founding member of the National Center for Victims of Crime from New York City.

The National Center board of directors also elected eight other new board members from across the country representing a wide range of disciplines, including business, academia, government, law, financial and security services, media, and other fields. National Center board members set overall organizational policy and direction, ensure the organization's financial health, and promote its mission of fostering a national commitment to help crime victims rebuild their lives.

“We are also pleased to welcome ten highly talented new Board members from different geographical areas and professional fields” **said Mark Mandell**. “Their knowledge, energy, and skills will inform and strengthen all our work.”

Additional New Board Members of the National Center for Victims of Crime:

Patricia Brown, Executive Content Strategist, BizTech Reports; Washington, DC

Denise Forte, Director of Education Policy, House Committee on Education and Labor; Washington, DC

Melvin Hewitt, Partner, Isenberg & Hewitt, P.C.; Atlanta, GA

Pamela Paziotopoulos, President, Paziotopoulos Group, Ltd.; Chicago, IL

Kathleen Flynn Peterson, Partner, Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi LLP; Minneapolis, MN

Stephen Rickman, Director, Homeland Security, CNA; Las Vegas, NV

Charles J. Sgro, Senior Vice President & Associate General Counsel, Citigroup, Inc.; Boonton Township, NJ

Francisco Acevedo Villarruel, Professor, Michigan State University; East Lansing, MI

The new leadership will also include the following current board members, who have made great contributions to advancing the National Center for Victims of Crime’s mission and will continue to lend their expertise in the areas of criminal justice, corporate governance, financial fraud, mental health, privacy management, and crime victim advocacy:

Alexander Auersperg, Founder, National Center for Victims of Crime; New York, NY

Honorable Carol DiBattiste, Senior Vice President of Privacy, Security, Compliance, and Government Affairs, LexisNexis; Washington, DC

Sarah Gold, Partner, Proskauer Rose, LLP; New York, NY

Ala Isham, Founder, National Center for Victims of Crime; New York, NY

Ralph Isham, Managing Director, GH Venture Partners, LLC; New York, NY

Frank M. Ochberg, M.D., Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Michigan State University; Okemos, MI

Honorable Eric Smith, former Assistant Dean and Professor of Law, Florida Coastal School of Law;  
Attorney, Maddox Horne Law Firm; Jacksonville, FL

This announcement follows the appointment of Mai Fernandez as Executive Director of the National Center for Victims of Crime, a position she has held since June 2010.

The National Center for Victims of Crime, established in 1985, is the nation's leading resource and advocacy organization for crime victims and those who serve them. Celebrating its 25th anniversary, the National Center has led this nation's struggle to provide crime victims with the rights, protections, and services they need to rebuild their lives. The National Center's National Crime Victim Helpline, 1-800-FYI-CALL, is a lifeline for tens of thousands of victims who, each year, receive one-on-one support to understand the impact of crime, deal with its consequences, access victim compensation, develop safety plans, navigate the criminal justice and social services systems, learn about their legal rights and options, and find the most appropriate local services.