

# THE GIST

Governor's Crime Commission Monthly Newsletter

## Grants Information Stakeholders Training

### NCDPS Badge of Excellence Award

Grace Clougherty, GCC program assistant, received the 2025 Badge of Excellence for Customer Service.

The NCPDS website says, "The award for customer service recognizes employees who consistently and significantly deliver customer-focused service. These individuals demonstrate a positive and respectful approach in every interaction, going beyond expectations to improve the experience of those we serve. Through innovative solutions, exceptional responsiveness and a commitment to excellence, they have markedly elevated the quality and impact of customer service within their divisions."

Clougherty is a team player who goes the extra mile to help others. She works hard without complaint. Clougherty is appreciated by subrecipients, commissioners and her coworkers who nominated her for this prestigious award. She consistently goes above and beyond her assigned duties and is the go-to person whenever someone needs help. In her three years of public service, Clougherty has demonstrated an exceptional level of dedication.



Clougherty at the award ceremony pictured with Caroline Voland (left) and Sandy Dixon (right)

### GCC Will Be Home to NC Gang Task Force

Governor Josh Stein signed an executive order establishing the NC Gang Prevention and Intervention Task Force within the Governor's Crime Commission in August. The task force will be co-chaired by Secretary Leslie Cooley Dismukes, who leads the Department of Adult Correction, and Siarra Scott, director of the NC Office of Violence Prevention. The first meeting will be held in October.

[Read the Executive Order](#)

### 2025 GCC Grant Writing Workshop

The Governor's Crime Commission will be hosting their annual grant writing workshop on October 29, 2025. This event will be virtual and is expected to last all day. Anyone interesting in learning more about our grants is welcome to join.

Specific times and a Webex link will be added to the [website](#) closer to the date.

### Barber Named as New Director of the Office of Victim Compensation Services

The North Carolina Department of Public Safety this week promoted Diane Barber as the new director of the Office of Victim Compensation Services.

Barber most recently worked at the North Carolina Governor's Crime Commission, where she served as deputy director as well as the director of federal compliance, and a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) planner/administrator. Prior to joining the Department, Barber worked in leadership positions for nonprofit organizations and the federal government.



"I am happy to entrust the leadership of the Office of Victim Compensation Services to someone who is committed to the mission and success of this critical role of standing up for victims of violent crime in North Carolina," said Public Safety Secretary Eddie M. Buffaloe, Jr. "Director Barber's most recent role as deputy director of the North Carolina Governor's Crime Commission has led her to build strong relationships with law enforcement, the judicial system, and victim service providers."

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