



Introducing the Justice for Fraud Victims Project (JFVP)



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The Justice for Fraud Victims Project (JFVP)



**GONZAGA
UNIVERSITY**

2012 AAA Mark Chain Award for
Innovation in Accounting Education
(Melendy-Kern and Weber)



Started spring 2010



Spokane Chapter

2010 ACFE Community
Service/Outreach Award (Rice)



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Impact of the JFVP



“...the students were so engaged in the process and were excited to undertake something they viewed as exciting and important.” – Law enforcement partner

“Without the students and mentors doing such a phenomenal job, we would not have been able to prosecute our case.”
- Jeff, Victim

“I still to this day talk about this program. Through this program I was encouraged to become a CFE and have even conducted a fraud investigation on my own.” - Former Student



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The JFVP Model



- Collaboration between law enforcement, CFEs, faculty and students.
- Students provide pro-bono fraud examinations and forensic accounting services on active cases under the supervision of CFEs and faculty.
- Provides many benefits in addition to the direct benefits to the victim...

| To the community | To the profession | To law enforcement |
|---|---|--|
| Increase fraud examination resources for vulnerable victims | JFVP students often become CFEs and some become chapter leaders | The JFVP aids in the investigation of smaller cases to improve law enforcement results |



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SienaCARES Mission



Siena's Center for Antifraud Resources and Examination Services (CARES) is a community-engaged, interdisciplinary collaboration between the School of Business and the School of Liberal Arts as part of the Criminal Justice Studies Forensics Track.

The faculty and students involved with CARES offer pro bono fraud prevention and financial crime investigation services to small businesses, nonprofits, and vulnerable individuals who might not otherwise be able to afford such services.

Teams of students, supervised by anti-fraud professionals and faculty, provide fraud risk analyses, fraud prevention training (e.g., education for organizations or vulnerable adults like senior citizens), or perform financial forensics in cases of alleged wrongdoing, working closely with the alleged victim, law enforcement officials, and members of the legal profession.



 SIENA

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The JFVP Across the US



2010



2023



2012



2023



2024



BE THE DIFFERENCE.

2013-2016
2024



2025



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Robust Service

- Students participate in a class, lab, or clinic
- School resources are used for investigations
- Cases are managed on the university or college campus
 - Data is stored on campus
 - Anti-fraud professionals and faculty supervise students
- School is responsible for background checks and confidentiality agreements
- Legal and risk as well as those responsible for teaching and assessment should be involved
 - Sample documents are provided to facilitate the discussions and process



Partnered Protection

Students work as interns or externs with law enforcement agencies

Student professional liability insurance may be needed

All work is performed at the agency

Agencies are responsible for:

- Background checks, confidentiality agreements, etc.
- Securing evidence
- Providing resources (e.g., computers, software, etc.)



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Scams and Financial Exploitation



"Upwards of a million dollars appears to have been embezzled in that elder fraud case, Knowles said."

<https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/news/archive/2015/04/a-lot-of-social-good-comes-out-of-this-program.cshtml>

"When our nonprofit suffered a \$29,000 loss due to a cyberattack, the Justice for Fraud Victims Project (JFVP) was the first and only organization that truly cared enough to investigate...The JFVP stepped in, meticulously navigated our payment accounts, and uncovered critical evidence showing how our accounts were compromised." - Michelle, 2025

In a "...high-profile jury case involving elder fraud, the UMD student volunteers produced a 40-page report replete with data analytics and visualizations."



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How Can You Get Involved?



1. Contact a JFVP affiliate
 2. Reach out to the Justice for Fraud Victims Project to be matched with an affiliate
 3. Request scam prevention training
 4. Refer fraud victims to their local affiliate
 5. Mentor our students
- Upstate: Siena University CARES, Marie Rice
 - Downstate: SUNY Old Westbury, David Glodstein



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What, why how

- Community-engaged collaboration between CFEs, academics, and law enforcement.
- Assists alleged or potential victims of fraud who might not otherwise receive assistance.
- Mentor students, connect our teams with community partners, such as this group, collaborate with academics on course development, or serve as a guest speaker.

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Connect With Us!

<https://www.justiceforfraudvictimsproject.org/>

501(c)3 to support JFVP affiliate schools

- Obtain funding and resources
- Provide training, consulting and networking opportunities



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Faculty, anti-fraud professionals, and students volunteer their time and expertise to support victims of fraud, to support a more just world.



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Thank you for your time and
feedback!

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