

Bristol County District Attorney's Office
C. Samuel Sutter
District Attorney

Press Release
May 8, 2008

District Attorney Sam Sutter announced today that Attleboro District Court Victim Witness Advocate Jan Johnson was honored last week with the Victim Advocate Award during the Massachusetts Office of Victims Assistance annual conference in Boston. Johnson is in her 20th year as a victim witness advocate for the Bristol County District Attorney's Office. She began her career under former Bristol County District Attorney Ronald Pina in 1988, continued her service for another 16 years under District Attorney Paul F. Walsh Jr. and is now in her second year with District Attorney C. Samuel Sutter. Johnson has spent each of those years working with victims of crime and witnesses at Attleboro District Court. She has handled thousands of cases during her distinguished career. She was influential in persuading one of Fr. James Porter's victims to go public, handled the controversial Attleboro Sect case and has touched the lives of thousands. She has helped guide victims and witnesses through the sometimes confusing world of the criminal justice system with class and dignity, and has helped numerous victims of domestic abuse get out of their abusive relationships.

Aside from winning the prestigious Victim Advocate Award, Johnson also received a Length of Service Award during last Wednesday's conference.

Other Bristol County Victim Witness Advocates to win a Length of Service Award include Thomas Perron for his 15 years of service, Cheryl Robinson for her 10 years of service and David Reback for his decade of service to victims and witnesses.

"Jan Johnson is an amazing public servant and is as excellent a victim witness advocate as I have ever encountered. She has all of the ingredients required for an outstanding victim witness advocate: knowledge of the criminal justice system, compassion for victims, a great ability to connect with people, common sense and above all, a relentless work ethic. She truly deserved this award and recognition," Sutter said.

For more information on the Massachusetts Office of Victims Assistance and the annual conference, log on to, www.Mass.gov/mova.

Contact:
Gregg Miliote
Director of Communications
508-997-0711

