



# 2016 APPA AWARDS

*Recognizing Accomplishments*

## **Joe Kegans Award for Victim Services in Probation and Parole**

Sunday, January 8, 2017  
5:30 PM  
Reno Ballroom, Casino Level



### **Mark Odom**

*Deputy Director, Victim Services  
Texas Department of Criminal Justice  
Austin, Texas*

Mark has earned an unassailable reputation for his powerful work ethic and for his uniquely deep sensitivity to, and compassion for, crime victims/survivors. He is far more than a fierce and compassionate victim advocate. He has also demonstrated a powerful ability to “connect” with offenders, both under community supervision and in custody, in ways that actually inspire them to take personal responsibility. Not only responsibility for what they have done, but also for working to modify their thinking toward a much greater awareness of the victim/survivor experience in order to encourage a more personally accountable frame of reference in them. Mark’s many years of work with individuals from victims/survivors and offenders has informed his understanding and strengthened his practice.

Mark is one of the most sought-after experts in the field of corrections-based victim services nationally. His roles in the development of rigorous national standards in this area for both the National Association of Victim Service Professionals in Corrections, and for the American Correctional Association have been invaluable. He has been an integral part of the second-to-none training opportunities provided to victim service professionals in corrections through the National Association of Victim Assistance in Correction’s annual conference. He coordinates the annual Victim Offender Dialogue Summit each year, and is a mentor to countless advocates nationally. He was also instrumental in the development of the Texas Victim Offender Mediation and Dialogue Program and is a nationally recognized speaker and trainer in victim and offender dialogue.

Mark will forever be one of the “founding parents” of Victim Offender Mediation Dialogue in this country. For generations to come, victims will have opportunities for restorative healing because of his work, his commitment, and his heart.

