

CONCURRENT SESSION

DEALING WITH EMOTIONAL IMPACT OF CRIMES ON VICTIMS

By: Karen Scott
Wake County District Attorney's Office

Karen Lewis Scott
Wake County District Attorney's Office

Karen began her career as a paralegal in Durham District Attorney's office in 1981 and was one of only three working in that capacity statewide. She moved to Wake County District Attorney's office in 1987 and has been employed there for 28 years. Karen Works primarily homicide cases or other violent crimes preparing cases for the courtroom as well as being the contact person for survivors and families of victims.

In 2004, Karen was named Tarheel of the Week by the Raleigh News and Observer for recognition in her work in this capacity. She has taught statewide seminars teaching courtroom trial prep for support staff conferences for District Attorneys statewide, and attended support groups like Parents of Murdered Children, Halos (Helping All Loved Ones Survive) and Interact which is rape crisis counseling in order to stay active and informed of counseling groups. Karen has also been a guest speaker for Meredith College paralegal studies.

Karen recently joined with NCVAN - NC Victims Assistance Network -- setting up a support group for survivors of homicide and assisting in grief counseling for Wake County. She is working with others currently trying to set up similar groups in other counties.

Karen has participated in hundreds of trials and cases and says she considers it an honor to be able to work in the Wake County District Attorney's office.