

## Biographical Statement for Susan M. Omilian, JD



Susan Omilian is nationally and internationally recognized expert, working extensively as an advocate to end violence against women. As an attorney, author, and motivational speaker she has spent the past forty years in her efforts to help abused women reclaim their lives.

With the death of her nineteen-year-old niece Maggie who was shot and killed in October, 1999 by her ex-boyfriend, Susan's work on behalf of women became more personal and immediate. She vowed to help other women move on after abuse and create a new life as Maggie could not.

Her books include *Entering the Thriver Zone: A Seven-Step Guide to Thriving After Abuse*, the first in *The Thriver Zone Series*<sup>™</sup> published in 2016. In a workbook-style, it contains the motivational guidance that Susan has successfully used with hundreds of women helping them move from survivors to thrivers on the brink of a new life.

Her award-winning work has evolved from her *My Avenging Angel Workshops*<sup>™</sup> which she created in 2001 to appearing in articles in various newspapers and journals including *The Voice: The Journal of the Battered Women's Movement* published by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV).

Her novel, *Awaken: The Awakening of the Human Spirit on a Healing Journey*, published in 2017, is the first in *The Best Revenge Series*<sup>™</sup>. Inspired by the true event of her niece's death, the book, in a story-telling format, alerts the reader to the warning signs of abuse in a relationship and reveals how the journey to thriving can inspire a new start in life.

Susan has presented at trainings, seminars, and conferences locally, nationally, and internationally since 2004. Most notably, Susan has spoken annually at international conferences sponsored by the Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma (IVAT) in San Diego and Honolulu Hawaii. This event is attended hundreds of clinicians, therapists, and mental health workers looking for materials to purchase and share with survivors of abuse and trauma. Susan has also shared her work at large annual training events for the National Organization of Victim Assistance (NOVA) in Houston, Atlanta and San Diego.

Susan regularly speaks to prison populations including a Pennsylvania women's prison where her books and materials have been used with women inmates to help them to break the cycle of abuse in their lives. Her books have also been purchased throughout the United States and in other countries including Netherlands, New Zealand, Canada, and American Samoa. Susan is currently working with Indian tribes in California who, like others interested in her materials, have purchased multiple copies of her books to be used with individuals and groups in clinical and therapeutic settings as well as in victim assistance programs.

Susan's company, Butterfly Bliss Productions LLC, which publishes her books and novels is also developing an imprint, *Thriver Spirit Press*, to publish books and stories that epitomize the healing and inspirational energy of moving beyond struggle and abuse.