

2007 NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

NATIONAL OBSERVANCE AND CANDLELIGHT CEREMONY

VICTIMS' RIGHTS: EVERY VICTIM. EVERY TIME.

Thursday—April 19, 2007

6:30 pm

US Chamber of Commerce

1615 H Street, NW

Washington, DC

Special Welcome to

**The 2007 National Crime Victims' Rights Week
Award Recipients**



Special Thanks to

U.S. Postal Inspection Service



Metropolitan Police Department Honor Guard



Video/Action



Urban Nation H.I.P.-H.O.P. Choir



National Center for Victims of Crime



Courtesy Associates



**Anne Seymour
Consultant and Victim Advocate**



**Melissa Hook
Director, DC Office of Victim Services**

*The 2007 National Observance
and Candlelight Ceremony*



Presentation of Colors

PRESENTATION BY METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT HONOR GUARD

The National Anthem

PERFORMED BY URBAN NATION H.I.P.-H.O.P. CHOIR

2007 NCVRW Theme Video Introduction

PRODUCED BY VIDEO/ACTION

Welcome

**JOHN W. GILLIS
Director, Office for Victims of Crime**

Remarks

**JEFFREY A. TAYLOR
United States Attorney, District of Columbia**

Remarks and Introduction of the Deputy Attorney General

**REGINA B. SCHOFIELD
Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs**

Remarks and Introduction of the Attorney General

**PAUL J. MCNULTY
Deputy Attorney General of the United States**

Remarks

**ALBERTO R. GONZALES
Attorney General of the United States**

A Parent's Worst Nightmare

**MARK LUNSFORD
Father of Jessica Marie Lunsford
Founder of the Jessica Marie Lunsford Foundation**

Lighting of Candles

Moment of Silence

Musical Number

PERFORMED BY URBAN NATION H.I.P.-H.O.P. CHOIR



John W. Gillis

Director
Office for Victims of Crime

On Friday, September 14, 2001, John W. Gillis was confirmed as the new Director of the Justice Department's Office for Victims of Crime. Mr. Gillis has a long and distinguished career in victim advocacy and law enforcement. Following the 1979 murder of his daughter Louarna, Mr. Gillis helped found Justice for Homicide Victims and the Coalition of Victims Equal Rights, a statewide organization that works on behalf of the rights of victims and their families. He is also the founder of Victims & Friends United and an active member of Memory of Victims Everywhere and Parents of Murdered Children, a support group for families of homicide victims.

In 1991, President George Bush presented Mr. Gillis with the National Crime Victim Service Award for his work in helping crime victims. In 1993, former Attorney General William Barr recognized Mr. Gillis's crime victim service with a Special Commendation Award. Mr. Gillis is also a member of the American Police Hall of Fame. From 1962 to his retirement in 1988, Mr. Gillis served with the Los Angeles Police Department, retiring with the rank of lieutenant, Assistant Commanding Officer. He also served as a Commissioner of the California Board of Prison Terms, acting as Chairman from 1991 to 1993.

Mr. Gillis served 4 years as a member of the California State Bar Association's Crime Victims and Corrections Committee and 4 years on the American Legislative Exchange Council's Victim Committee. His efforts also helped secure passage of California's Crime Victims Initiative. He has acted as a technical advisor in the area of training videos for law enforcement, and is an active participant and advisor in the production of two training videos for law enforcement and crime victims. The videos are widely used throughout the United States and several foreign countries.

Mr. Gillis received an undergraduate degree from California State University at Los Angeles and a graduate degree in Public Administration from the University of Southern California.



Jeffrey A. Taylor

U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia

Jeffrey A. Taylor was appointed interim U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia by Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales on September 22, 2006. He was sworn in and took office on September 29, 2006, and on February 27, 2007 the President nominated Mr. Taylor to the post.

From 2002 to 2006, Mr. Taylor served as Counselor to Attorney Generals John Ashcroft and Alberto R. Gonzales, where he handled a broad array of matters, including oversight of the Department's national security, terrorism, and criminal litigation and policy, as well as the operations of the Department's law enforcement components.

Mr. Taylor served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California from 1995-1999, where he prosecuted a variety of criminal matters, including international drug trafficking organizations. From 1999-2002, Mr. Taylor served as Counsel to the U.S. Senate's Committee on the Judiciary, working on issues including criminal law, terrorism, and national security.

Mr. Taylor began his legal career as a law clerk to the Honorable John C. Mowbray, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Nevada, from 1991-1992, and then worked for three years in private practice. He obtained his Juris Doctor degree from Harvard Law School and his Bachelor of Arts degree from Stanford University. Mr. Taylor, and his wife, Marcia Taylor, are residents of the District of Columbia.



Regina B. Schofield

Assistant Attorney General
Office of Justice Programs

Regina B. Schofield was confirmed Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) on June 8, 2005. Assistant Attorney General Schofield is responsible for providing overall management and oversight of OJP, whose mission is to enlarge the Nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, improve the criminal and juvenile justice systems, increase knowledge about crime and related issues, and assist crime victims. She also guides the development of OJP policy and priorities and coordinates the activities of its bureaus and offices.

Assistant Attorney General Schofield oversees OJP activities related to major Bush Administration and Department of Justice initiatives, including Project Safe Neighborhoods, Project Safe Childhood, the President's DNA Initiative, the Prisoner Reentry Initiative, and Helping America's Youth. She also serves as the national AMBER Alert Coordinator, in which role she encourages and facilitates the creation and strengthening of regional, state, and local plans to aid in recovering abducted children.

Before her appointment as Assistant Attorney General, Ms. Schofield was Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and White House Liaison at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). In this dual capacity, she served as the HHS Secretary's senior advisor on state, local, and tribal perspectives regarding HHS policies and programs and as a principal link between HHS and the White House. She also oversaw the Secretary's 10 regional directors located across the country and managed the Department's portfolio of boards and committees.

Ms. Schofield also has worked in the private sector. She received her bachelor's degree in business administration from Mississippi College and an M.B.A. from Jackson State University.



Paul J. McNulty

Deputy Attorney General
of the United States

Paul J. McNulty was sworn in as Deputy Attorney General of the United States on March 17, 2006. Prior to his confirmation by the Senate, Mr. McNulty had served as Acting Deputy Attorney General since November 1, 2005.

Mr. McNulty has spent nearly his entire career in public service, with more than two decades of experience in Federal and state government. From September 14, 2001, to March 17, 2006, Mr. McNulty served as the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia. Under Mr. McNulty's leadership, the U.S. Attorney's Office in Eastern Virginia grew more than 20 percent, and he made the prosecution of terrorism, gun violence, drug trafficking, and corporate fraud his top priorities and successfully prosecuted many of our nation's highest profile cases in the War on Terror. He also launched initiatives against gangs, cyber-crime, and procurement fraud.

Before becoming a U.S. Attorney, Mr. McNulty directed President Bush's transition team for the Department of Justice and then served as Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General. In the prior Bush Administration, Mr. McNulty was the Justice Department's director of policy and its chief spokesman.

Mr. McNulty has over 12 years of experience in the United States Congress. He was Chief Counsel and Director of Legislative Operations for the Majority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives. He was also Chief Counsel to the House Subcommittee on Crime where he served for 8 years. During those years he was a principal draftsman of many anti-terrorism, drug control, firearms, and anti-fraud statutes.

Mr. McNulty has played a significant role in shaping criminal justice policy in the Commonwealth of Virginia. He served then Governor George Allen as a primary architect of the "Parole Abolition and Sentencing Reform" initiative in 1994, and he served on the board of the Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Advisory Committee of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Mr. McNulty grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He married his college sweetheart 25 years ago, and they have four children.



Alberto R. Gonzales

Attorney General of the United States

Alberto R. Gonzales was sworn in as the Nation's 80th Attorney General on February 3, 2005. In his initial remarks to Department of Justice employees, Attorney General Gonzales reminded them of their mission and noted they have "a special obligation to protect America against future acts of terrorism. We will continue to make that our top priority while remaining consistent with our values and legal obligations. That will be the lodestar that guides us in our efforts at the Department."

Prior to serving at the Department of Justice, he was commissioned as Counsel to President George W. Bush in January of 2001. Prior to serving in the White House, he served as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas. Before his appointment to the Texas Supreme Court in 1999, he served as Texas' 100th Secretary of State from December 2, 1997 to January 10, 1999. Among his many duties as Secretary of State, Gonzales was a senior advisor to then Governor Bush, chief elections officer, and the Governor's lead liaison on Mexico and border issues.

Prior to his appointment as Secretary of State, Gonzales was the General Counsel to Governor Bush for three years. Before joining the Governor's staff, he was a partner with the law firm of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. in Houston, Texas. He joined the firm in June 1982. While in private practice, Gonzales also taught law as an adjunct professor at the University of Houston Law Center.

Among his many professional and civic activities, Gonzales was elected to the American Law Institute in 1999. He was a board trustee of the Texas Bar Foundation from 1996 to 1999, a board director for the State Bar of Texas from 1991 to 1994, and President of the Houston Hispanic Bar Association from 1990 to 1991. He was a board director of the United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast from 1993 to 1994, and President of Leadership Houston during this same period. In 1994, Gonzales served as Chair of the Commission for District Decentralization of the Houston Independent School District, and as a member of the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions for Rice University. Gonzales was Special Legal Counsel to the Houston Host Committee for the 1990 Summit of Industrialized Nations, and a member of delegations sent by the American Council of Young Political Leaders to Mexico in 1996 and to the People's Republic of China in 1995.

Among his many honors, in 2003 Gonzales was inducted into the Hispanic Scholarship Fund Alumni Hall of Fame, was honored with the Good Neighbor Award from the United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce, and received President's Awards from the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the League of United Latin American Citizens. In 2002, he was recognized as a Distinguished Alumnus of Rice University by the Association of Rice Alumni and was honored by the Harvard Law School Association with the Harvard Law School Association Award. Gonzales was recognized as the 1999 Latino Lawyer of the Year by the Hispanic National Bar Association, and he received a Presidential Citation from the State Bar of Texas in 1997 for his dedication to addressing basic legal needs of the indigent. He was chosen as one of the Five Outstanding Young Texans by the Texas Jaycees in 1994, and as the Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas by the Texas Young Lawyers Association in 1992. Gonzales was honored by the United Way in 1993 with a Commitment to Leadership Award, and received the Hispanic Salute Award in 1989 from the Houston Metro Ford Dealers for his work in the field of education.

Gonzales was born in San Antonio, Texas and raised in Houston. He is a graduate of Texas public schools, Rice University, and Harvard Law School. Gonzales served in the United States Air Force between 1973 and 1975, and attended the United States Air Force Academy between 1975 and 1977. He and his wife, Rebecca Turner Gonzales, have three sons.



Mark Lunsford

Father of Jessica Marie Lunsford

Founder of the Jessica Marie
Lunsford Foundation

Mark Lunsford's life was irrevocably changed on February 24, 2005, when his 9-year-old daughter Jessica was kidnapped from their home in Homosassa, Florida. Following a 3-week investigation, a repeat sex offender was arrested and confessed to the kidnapping, rape and murder of Jessica Marie Lunsford.

Prior to Jessie's murder, Mr. Lunsford served in the U.S. Army and worked many years as a truck driver. Since 2005, he has become an outspoken national advocate for protecting America's children, and established the Jessica Marie Lunsford Foundation "to help children in crisis." He is making it his life's mission to never let another child suffer. The Foundation has promoted the passage of tougher federal and state laws to protect children, and in October 2005, dedicated the Jessica Marie Lunsford playground at the Homosassa Elementary School in her honor. The Foundation has also sponsored three Annual Memorial Motorcycle Rides to raise public awareness in Jessica's memory.

In 2005, the Jessica Lunsford Act was signed into law in Florida by Governor Jeb Bush, resulting in tougher penalties and improved tracking of sexual offenders and predators who prey on children. Mr. Lunsford has personally visited half the states to advocate for similar legislation. He was also instrumental in securing passage of the Federal Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, and was present at the White House on July 27, 2006, when President Bush signed this landmark legislation into law.

Mr. Lunsford has advocated for stronger child protection in various national, state, and local media and has been featured on The Larry King Show, The Oprah Winfrey Show, major network news programs, CNN, and MSNBC, among others. He has worked closely and spoken at national events and organizations including the U.S. Congress Victim's Rights Caucus, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the National Organization for Victim Assistance, and Justice Solutions.

Mark Lunsford has received numerous awards for his outstanding advocacy efforts on behalf of children including the prestigious 2006 Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Award for Outstanding Public Service Benefiting the Community (Jefferson Award for Public Service) sponsored by the American Institute for Public Service. He is also the recipient of the 2007 U.S. Congress Victim's Rights Caucus Public Awareness Award.

About the Office of Justice Programs

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides federal leadership in developing the Nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice and assist victims. OJP is headed by an Assistant Attorney General and comprises the following five component bureaus and office: the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; and the Office for Victims of Crime, as well as the Community Capacity Development Office, that incorporates the Weed and Seed strategy and OJP's American Indian and Alaska Native Affairs Desk. More information can be found at www.ojp.usdoj.gov.



About the Office for Victims of Crime

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) was created in 1984 and formally established by a 1988 amendment to the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to support services for crime victims and training and technical assistance for the field. For more information about OVC, visit the OVC Web site at www.ovc.gov.



About National Crime Victims' Rights Week

In 1981, President Reagan proclaimed the first Victims' Rights Week, calling for "a renewed emphasis on, and an enhanced sensitivity to, the rights of victims." Each April since, communities across the Nation have held public rallies, candlelight vigils, and a host of commemorative activities to promote awareness of victims' rights and needs. This year, National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) is April 22-28, 2007. OVC is hosting two prelude events to commemorate NCVRW, including this National Observance and Candlelight Ceremony and the April 20, 2007, Awards Ceremony that honors individuals and programs for their outstanding efforts on behalf of victims of crime.



Office for Victims of Crime

OVC
"Putting Victims First"

Sponsored by: U.S. Department of Justice ★
Office of Justice Programs ★ Office for Victims of Crime