

APRIL 22-28, 2001

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

REACH FOR THE STARS



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office for Victims of Crime

Washington, D.C. 20531

January 1, 2001

Dear Colleague:

For many years, victim service providers, justice professionals, and community volunteers have joined forces to promote justice and safety for all. This year, during the 21st commemoration of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 22 to 28, we have the opportunity to continue our efforts to shed light on the plight of crime victims and encourage community support to meet victims' needs.

This year's theme, "Victims' Rights: Reach for the Stars," exhorts us to set our sights high in providing comprehensive, quality services to victims of crime, holding offenders accountable for their actions, and engaging individuals and communities in crime prevention and public safety initiatives. Our discipline's longstanding history of strong and consistent advocacy for crime victims, often in the face of adversity, is something to both *celebrate* and *continue* not only during this special week, but in years to come.

Since the Crime Victims Fund was established, nearly \$4.5 billion has been collected for deposit from fines, penalties, and forfeited bail bonds paid by convicted federal offenders. These funds, *not* taxpayer dollars, are used to support federal, state, and local programs that provide essential services for over two million crime victims in a time of need. They establish training, technical assistance, and demonstration programs that benefit thousands of community- and system-based professionals who assist victims of crime, and provide services and technical assistance to victim advocates who serve Native Americans. They help give victims the voice they *need* and *deserve*.

During 2001 National Crime Victims' Rights Week, over 10,000 victim service and allied professional organizations will sponsor public education and community outreach efforts to focus attention on victims' rights, needs, and services. This Resource Guide, which was developed by the Victims' Assistance Legal Organization (VALOR) with support from the Office for Victims of Crime, is designed to help you plan commemorative activities in your community and state and to aid you in promoting victims' rights and services throughout the year.

Let us hope that others in our communities and across our nation will join us in our work to ensure the continued fair treatment of victims. The staff of the Office for Victims of Crime and I salute you for all you do.

Sincerely,


Kathryn M. Turman
Director

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January 1, 2001

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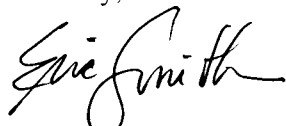
Dear Colleague:

This year we mark the 21st anniversary of the commemoration of National Crime Victims' Rights Week with the theme "Victims' Rights: Reach for the Stars." As we gather together all across the country to honor victims and those who serve them, it is a good time to reflect upon our accomplishments, as well as what lies ahead, as we continue to *reach for the stars* in our work on behalf of victims of crime.

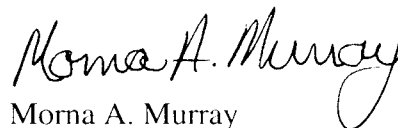
This work began over thirty years ago when pioneers in the field of victim services reached for something previously inconceivable – the provision of basic rights within the criminal and juvenile justice systems for innocent victims of crime. Today, there are over 30,000 laws nationwide that define and protect victims' rights, as well as over 10,000 national, state, and local organizations that provide assistance to people who have been hurt by crime. We have made tremendous progress, but as always, there is more work to be done.

It is our sincere hope that this *Resource Guide*, developed with the assistance of the Office for Victims of Crime, will provide ideas and resources to use during your commemoration of National Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year. This year we have chosen graphics that remind us of the reality that long after public attention has faded from a crime scene, the victims who suffered the harm continue to need and require crucial services, assistance, and protection throughout the long and painful ordeal that is the aftermath of crime. As we approach this year's commemoration of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, let us *reach for the stars* in working to establish – as a matter of right – better services, more comprehensive assistance, and consistent enactment and enforcement of legal rights and protection for all victims of crime.

Sincerely,



Eric Smith
President



Morna A. Murray
Executive Director

One of the most popular components of this Resource Guide is the collection of statistical overviews that addresses the full spectrum of crime and victimization. The 17 topics presented in page-length statistical overviews— which include a space to personalize with the sponsoring organization's contact information— can be utilized as "stand alone" documents (which can be easily replicated and/or faxed) or incorporated into any public education or community awareness publications. Efforts have been made to incorporate the most current and accurate data that address crime and victimization in the United States today. The topics covered by the statistical overviews are the following:

- Child Abuse and Victimization
- Cost of Crime
- Crime and Education
- Crime and Victimization
- Domestic Violence
- Drunk Driving
- Elder Abuse and Neglect
- Financial Crime
- Hate and Bias Crime
- Homicide
- Juvenile Crime and Victimization

- Rape and Sexual Assault
- Sentencing and Corrections
- Stalking
- Substance Abuse and Crime
- Victims with Disabilities
- Workplace Violence and Crime

ACCESSING INFORMATION: OVC RESOURCE CENTER AND OTHER SERVICES

Victims, service providers, and allied professionals have an opportunity to receive valuable information about victims' rights and services, criminal and juvenile justice, crime prevention and other important issues on an ongoing basis from the OVC Resource Center and the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) in electronic format. Specific details about how to access information are contained in this section, including a broad sampling of crime victim-related Internet sites. Advocates can build an impressive library with the most current research and literature available relevant to crime and victimization by registering with NCJRS. For a registration form, call 800-627-6872.

NCVRW RESOURCE GUIDE CO-SPONSORS

This section provides a comprehensive listing of the national organizations that serve as co-sponsors of the

2001 Resource Guide, including web site and e-mail addresses, wherever available.

RESOURCE GUIDE EVALUATION

The feedback that VALOR receives from organizations that utilize the Resource Guide is essential to improving and expanding future NCVRW Resource Guides. When completing this brief form, victim service providers should specify which resources in the Guide are most helpful and least helpful. In addition, respondents are encouraged to attach any documentation of activities and special events they sponsor during 2001 NCVRW.

APRIL 22-28, 2001

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Child Abuse and Victimization

In 1998, there were an estimated 903,000 victims of child maltreatment nationwide. The rate of 12.9 per 1,000 children decreased from the 1997 rate of 13.9 per 1,000 children. (Administration on Children, Youth and Families. 2000. *Child Maltreatment 1998: Reports From the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.)

Almost half of the states (49%) had child maltreatment victimization rates of 7.0 to 13.9 per 1,000 children. (Ibid.)

More than half (53.5%) of all victims suffered neglect, while 22.7% suffered physical abuse; 11.5% were sexually abused. Victims of psychological abuse and medical neglect each accounted for 6% or fewer. Additionally, 25.3% of victims were reported to be victims of more than one type of maltreatment. (Ibid.)

The highest victimization rates were for the 0-3 age group (14.8 victims per 1,000 children of this age), and rates declined as age increased. (Ibid.)

Victimization rates by race/ethnicity ranged from a low of 3.8 Asian/Pacific Islander victims per 1,000 children of the same race in the population to 20.7 African-American victims. The victimization rate for American Indians/Alaska Natives was 19.8; for Hispanics, 10.6; and for whites, 8.5. (Ibid.)

An estimated 1,100 children died of abuse and neglect, a rate of approximately 1.6 deaths per 100,000 children in the general population. (Ibid.)

Children not yet a year old accounted for 37.9% of the fatalities, and 77.5% were not yet five years of age. (Ibid.)

Three-fifths (60.4%) of the perpetrators were female. More than four-fifths (87.1%) of all victims were maltreated by one or both parents. The most common pattern of maltreatment was a child neglected by a female parent with no other perpetrators identified (44.7%). (Ibid.)

In 1997, child protective service agencies investigated 3 million reports of child abuse, of which just under 1 million cases were substantiated. In addition, 2,200 children are reported missing to law enforcement agencies every day. (Connelly, H. June 1999. "Children Exposed to Violence: Criminal Justice Resources." *Office for Victims of Crime Bulletin*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

Nationally, child protective service agencies received reports on more than 3 million maltreated children in 1996—a 161% increase from 1980. Of these reports, 35% were found to be substantiated while more than half (58%) were closed for lack of substantiation. The remaining 7% were closed without any finding at all. (National Center for Juvenile Justice. September 1999. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 45.)

Neglect was the most common form of maltreatment found among all age groups of victims; however, children eight years of age and younger experienced 65% of all neglect in 1996. (Ibid., 46)

Note: OVC makes no representation concerning the accuracy of data from non-Department of Justice sources.

Cost of Crime

During 1999, losses estimated at nearly \$463 million (a 15% increase from 1998) were attributed to robberies. The value of property stolen averaged \$1,131 per robbery, ranging from \$620 taken during robberies of convenience stores to \$4,552 per bank robbery. (Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). 15 October 2000. *Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime Reports, 1999*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 28.)

The dollar value of property stolen in connection with property crimes in 1999 was estimated at over \$14.8 billion. The average loss per offense in 1999 was \$1,449, compared to the 1998 recorded figure of \$1,379. (Ibid., 37)

Based on information from 11,550 law enforcement agencies, 66,321 arson offenses were reported in 1999. The average dollar loss of property damaged due to reported arsons was \$10,882. The overall average loss for all types of structures was \$19,533. (Ibid., 56)

During 1999, the estimated value of motor vehicles stolen nationwide was over \$7.0 billion. The average value per vehicle at the time of theft was \$6,104. In relating the value of vehicles stolen to those recovered, the recovery rate for 1999 was 67%. (Ibid., 51)

During 1999, the average value of property stolen due to larceny-theft was \$678, up from the 1998 value of \$632. Applying the average value to the estimated number of larceny-thefts nationally, the loss to victims was nearly \$4.7 billion for the year. (Ibid., 45)

By type of larceny-theft, losses of goods and property stolen as a result of thefts from buildings averaged \$1,015 and from motor vehicles, \$693. Purse snatching resulted in an average loss of \$392. (Ibid.)

Allowing just one youth to leave high school for a life of crime and drug abuse costs society approximately \$2 million. (National Center for Juvenile Justice. September 1999. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.)

Total state correctional expenditures reached over \$27 billion dollars in FY 1996, a 115% increase from \$12.7 billion in 1985. (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). August 1999. *State Prison Expenditures, 1996*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

In 1996, the average cost to house each of the nation's one million plus state inmates per year was \$20,142 compared to \$18,400 in 1990. (Ibid.)

The cost for all crime offenses declined in 1997 when compared to 1996 estimated costs. Robbery on streets or highways saw the highest cost reduction percentage per offense (13%), while larceny-theft from buildings saw the lowest (1.1%). (Bureau of Justice Statistics. 1999. *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics 1998*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 284, table 3.124.)

In 1997, the cost of arson-related structural damage within the U.S. was just over \$782 million. The cost of arson-related vehicular damage added another \$103 million in losses in the arson category. (Ibid., 324, table 3.187)

Crime and Education

In 1998, students ages twelve through eighteen were victims of more than 2.7 million crimes at school, of which 253,000 were serious violent crimes (rape, sexual assault, robbery, or aggravated assault).

(Kaufman, P. et al. 2000. *Indicators of School Crime and Safety, 2000*. NCES 2001-017/NCJ-184176. Washington, DC: U.S. Departments of Education and Justice.)

In 1998, there were sixty school-associated violent deaths in the United States. Forty-seven of these violent deaths were homicides, eleven were suicides, and one teenager was killed by a law enforcement officer in the course of duty. (Ibid.)

At the middle and high school levels, physical attack or fight without a weapon was generally the most commonly reported crime in 1996-97 (9 and 8 per 1,000 students, respectively). (Ibid.)

Between 1995 and 1999, the percentage of students ages twelve through eighteen who said they felt unsafe while at school decreased (from 9% to 5%), as well as those who felt unsafe while going to and from school (from 7% to 4%). (Ibid.)

Between 1995 and 1999, the percentage of students ages twelve through eighteen who avoided one or more places at school for fear of their own safety decreased, from 9% to 5%. This percentage, however, represented 1.1 million students in 1999. (Ibid.)

In 1999, about 13% of students ages twelve through eighteen reported that someone at school had use hate-related words against them. That is, in the prior six months someone at school called them a derogatory

word having to do with race/ethnicity, religion, disability, gender, or sexual orientation. In addition, about 36% of students saw hate-related graffiti at school. (Ibid.)

Since the 1992-93 school year, there has been at least one multiple victim homicide event each year (except for the 1993-94 school year). The number increased from two events in 1992-93 to five events in 1997-98. (*1999 Annual Report on School Safety*, Joint Report. Washington, DC: U.S. Departments of Education and Justice.)

In 1997, there were 63 thefts for every 1,000 students (ages twelve to eighteen) at school. Theft accounted for about 61% of all crime against students at school that year. (Ibid., 4)

The overall crime school crime rate between 1993 and 1997 declined, from about 155 school-related crimes for every 1,000 students ages twelve to eighteen in 1993 to about 102 such crimes in 1997. Crime victimization outside of school declined from about 139 crimes for every 1,000 students in this age group in 1993 to 117 such crimes in 1997. (Ibid.)

In 1997, 5% of all 12th graders reported that they had been injured on purpose with a weapon such as a knife, gun, or club during the prior twelve months while they were at school. (Ibid., 5)

Gangs reportedly operate in 41% of urban schools, 26% of suburban schools, and 20% of rural schools. (Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. February 1999. *Promising Strategies to Reduce Gun Violence*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

Domestic Violence

Estimates from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) indicate that in 1998, about 1 million violent crimes were committed against persons by their current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends. (Rennison, C. et al. May 2000. "Intimate Partner Violence." *Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report*, NCJ 178247. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs.)

About 85% of intimate victimizations by intimate partners in 1998, or 876,340 victimizations, were against women. (Ibid.)

Between 1993 and 1998, children under the age of twelve resided in 43% of the households where intimate partner violence occurred. (Ibid.)

Intimate partner violence made up 22% of violent crime against women between 1993 and 1998. By contrast, during this period intimate partners committed 3% of the violence against men. (Ibid.)

The percentage of female murder victims killed by intimate partners has remained at about 30% since 1976. (Ibid.)

Considered by age category, from 1993-98, women ages sixteen to twenty-four experienced the highest per capita rates of intimate violence, 19.6 per 1,000 women. (Ibid.)

Overall, blacks were victimized by intimate partners at significantly higher rates than persons of any other race between 1993 and 1998. Black females experienced intimate partner violence at a rate 35% higher than that of white females, and about 2.5 times the rate of women of other races. (Ibid.)

Between 1993 and 1998, almost two-thirds of intimate partner violence against women, and about half of all intimate partner violence against men, occurred in the victims' homes. Intimate partner violence occurred most often between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. (Ibid.)

About half of all victims of intimate partner violence between 1993 and 1998 reported the violence to law enforcement authorities. (Ibid.)

Though the percentages of male and female victims of intimate partner violence who were physically attacked were similar, the outcomes were different. Fifty percent of female victims of intimate partner violence were injured by an intimate partner versus 32% of male victims. (Ibid.)

In 1999, 67% of black women reported intimate partner violence to the police, while 50% of white women reported intimate partner violence. (Rennison, C. August 2000. *Criminal Victimization 1999, Changes 1998-99 with Trends 1993-99*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.)

Data from the National Violence Against Women Survey indicate that violence against women is predominantly intimate partner violence. Of the women who reported being raped and/or physically assaulted since the age of eighteen, three-quarters were victimized by a current or former husband, cohabiting partner, date, or boyfriend. (National Institute of Justice and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 1998. *Prevalence, Incidence, and Consequences of Violence Against Women: Findings From the National Violence Against Women Survey*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 12.)

Drunk Driving

In 1999, 15,786 alcohol-related fatalities occurred, or 38% of the total traffic fatalities for the year. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). 2000. *Traffic Safety Facts 1999, Alcohol*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Transportation.)

For fatal crashes occurring between midnight and 3 a.m., 76% involved alcohol. (Ibid.)

In 1999, 29% of all fatal crashes during the week were alcohol-related, compared to 51% on weekends. For all crashes, the alcohol involvement rate was 5% during the week and 13% during the weekend. (Ibid.)

Intoxication rates for vehicle operators involved in fatal crashes in 1999 were highest for motorcycles (28%), followed by light trucks (20%), passenger cars (17%), and large trucks (1%). (Ibid.)

An estimated 308,000 persons were injured in crashes where police reported that alcohol was present—an average of one person injured approximately every two minutes. (Ibid.)

In 1999, 30% of all traffic fatalities occurred in crashes in which at least one driver or nonoccupant had a BAC (blood alcohol concentration) of 0.10 or greater. Seventy percent of the 12,321 people killed in such crashes were themselves intoxicated. (Ibid.)

The 15,786 fatalities in alcohol-related crashes during 1999 represent an average of one alcohol-related fatality every thirty-three minutes. (Ibid.)

All states and the District of Columbia now have 21-year-old minimum age drinking

laws. NHTSA estimates that these laws have reduced traffic fatalities involving drivers eighteen to twenty years old by 13% and have saved an estimated 19,121 lives since 1975. In 1999, an estimated 901 lives were saved by minimum drinking age laws. (Ibid.)

The rate of alcohol involvement in fatal crashes is more than three times as high at night as during the day (60% vs. 17%). For all crashes, the alcohol involvement rate is more than five times as high at night (17% vs. 3%). (Ibid.)

The highest intoxication rates in fatal crashes were recorded for drivers ages 21–24 (27%), followed by ages 25–34 (24%), and ages 35–44 (21%). (Ibid.)

In 1999, 21% of the children under fifteen years old who were killed in motor vehicle crashes were killed in alcohol-related crashes. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). 2000. *Traffic Safety Facts 1999, Children*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Transportation.)

Of the children 0-14 years old who were killed in alcohol-related crashes during 1999, almost half (250) were passengers in vehicles with drivers who had been drinking, with BAC levels of 0.01 or higher. (Ibid.)

In 1999, there was an estimated total of 1,511,300 (up from the 1998 figure of 968,868) arrests for driving under the influence of alcohol. (Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). 15 October 2000. *Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime Reports, 1999*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 211.)

Note: OVC makes no representation concerning the accuracy of data from non-Department of Justice sources.

Elder Abuse and Neglect

In 1999, the rate of violent crime victimization of persons ages sixty-five or older was 4 per 1,000. (Rennison, C. August 2000. *Criminal Victimization 1999, Changes 1998-99 with Trends 1993-99*, NCJ 182734. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.)

The first National Elder Abuse Incidence Study estimates that a total of 551,011 elderly persons, ages sixty and over, experienced abuse, neglect, and/or self neglect in domestic settings in 1996. Of this total, 115,110 (21%) were reported to and substantiated by adult protective service agencies, with the remaining 435,901 (79%) not reported to APS agencies. These figures indicate that almost four times as many new incidents of elder abuse, neglect, and/or self-neglect were unreported than those reported in 1996. (National Center on Elder Abuse. September 1998. *National Elder Abuse Incidence Study: Final Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families and Administration on Aging.)

Neglect of the elderly was the most frequent type of elder maltreatment (48.7%); emotional/psychological abuse was the second (35.5%); physical abuse was the third (25.6%); financial/material exploitation was the fourth (30.2%); and abandonment was the least common (3.6%). (Ibid.)

Adult children comprised the largest category of perpetrators (47.3%) of substantiated incidents of elder abuse; spouses followed second by 19.3%; other relatives were third at 8.8%; and grandchildren followed last with 8.6%. (Ibid.)

Three out of four elder abuse and neglect victims suffer from physical frailty. About one-half (47.9%) of substantiated incidents

of abuse and neglect involved elderly persons who were not physically able to care for themselves, while 28.7% of victims could care for themselves marginally. (Ibid.)

Some experts estimate that only one out of fourteen domestic elder abuse incidents (excluding self-neglect) comes to the attention of authorities. Based on these estimates, somewhere between 820,000 and 1,860,000 elders were victims of abuse in 1996, indicating that the majority of cases went unreported to state protective agencies. (Tatara, R. November 1997. "Reporting Requirements and Characteristics of Victims." *Domestic Elder Abuse Information Series #3*. Washington, DC: National Center on Elder Abuse, 1.)

From 1986 to 1996, there was a steady increase in the reporting of domestic elder abuse nationwide, from 117,000 reported cases in 1986 to 293,000 reported cases in 1996—a 150.4% increase. (Ibid., 2)

According to the National Center on Elder Abuse, 66.4% of victims of domestic elder abuse were white, 18.7% were black, 10.4% were Hispanic, and 1% each were Native Americans and Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders for the reporting year 1996. (Ibid.)

In 1996, 22.5% of all domestic elder abuse reports came from physicians and other health care professionals; 15.1% from other care service providers; 16.3% from family members and relatives; and the remainder from other reporting sources: police, friends, neighbors, clergy, banks/business institutions, etc. (Ibid, 1)

Note: OVC makes no representation concerning the accuracy of data from non-Department of Justice sources.

Financial Crime

Types of Internet fraud identified at the Internet Fraud Complaint Center (IFCC) at the FBI's National White Collar Crime Center include: auction fraud, nondelivery of products ordered, securities fraud, credit card fraud, identity theft, business opportunities, and professional services. (National White Collar Crime Center. 2000. <www.ifccfbi.gov>.)

The average monetary loss per complaint with IFCC is \$675. (Ibid.)

More than 72% of the victims reporting Internet fraud to IFCC are male; over 77% of the male and female victims are between the ages of twenty to fifty. (Ibid.)

In 1999, the total estimated arrests (based on all reporting agencies and estimates for unreported areas) included: 363,800 arrests for fraud; 106,950 arrests for forgery and counterfeiting; 17,100 arrests for embezzlement; and 121,900 arrests for buying, receiving, and possessing stolen property. (Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). 15 October 2000. *Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime Reports, 1999*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 212.)

In 1999, a total of \$491 million in restitution was ordered in financial fraud and institution matters pending before the U.S. Department of Justice. An additional \$5.5 million was ordered in fines. (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). 2000. *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics 1999*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 314.)

In federal court in 1999, 1,198 defendants were convicted of embezzlement; 9,618 defendants were convicted of fraud; and

1,408 defendants were convicted of forgery and counterfeiting in federal court. (Ibid., 432.)

The U.S. Justice Department successfully prosecuted 2,613 cases of financial institution fraud in 1998. These convictions netted \$62.4 million in recovered assets and \$491 million in court-ordered restitution to the victims of these frauds. (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). 1999. *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics 1998*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 305, table 3.159)

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, senior citizens are targeted at a rate of 34% of U.S. residents in fraud schemes. The general public is targeted for telemarketing fraud at a rate of 30%, small businesses at 12%, and investors at 7%. (Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). March 1998. *Law Enforcement Bulletin: Telemarketing Fraud*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 13.)

Federal prosecutors filed 322 new criminal health care fraud cases in 1998—a 14% increase over the previous year. During this same time period, federal courts ordered convicted offenders to pay over \$480 million in fines, judgments, and settlements. (*Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Program Annual Report for FY 1999*. February 1999. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and U.S. Department of Justice.)

The Secret Service reports that financial losses relating to identity fraud totaled \$745 million in 1997, while only two years earlier, such losses amounted to \$442 million. (Mannix, M. 1 June 1998. "Stolen Identity." *U.S. News and World Report*.)

Note: OVC makes no representation concerning the accuracy of data from non-Department of Justice sources.

Hate and Bias Crime

The Federal Bureau of Investigation reports that 7,876 hate crime incidents were reported to law enforcement agencies nationwide in 1999. The 7,876 incidents involved 9,301 separate offenses, 9,802 victims, and 7,271 known offenders. (Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). 15 October 2000. *Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime Reports, 1999*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 59.)

Of the 7,876 hate crime incidents reported, 4,295 were motivated by racial bias; 1,411 by religious bias; 1,317 by sexual orientation bias; 829 by ethnicity/national origin bias; 19 by disability bias; and 5 by multiple biases. (Ibid.)

In terms of incidents in 1999, 2,958 were anti-black; 1,109 were anti-Jewish; 915 were anti-gay men; 781 were anti-white; 466 were anti-Hispanic; 298 were anti-Asian/Pacific Islander; 187 were anti-gay women; and 47 were anti-American Indian/Alaskan native. (Ibid.)

Crimes against persons accounted for over 67% of hate crime offenses reported in 1999. Crimes against property accounted for over 33%, while less than 1% were crimes against society. (Ibid., 60)

Of the hate crimes against persons in 1999, intimidation accounted for 53%, while simple assault and aggravated assault represented 29% and 18%, respectively. (Ibid.)

In 1999, racial bias represented the largest percentage of bias-motivated offenses. Of the 9,301 reported offenses, 5,240 were motivated by racial bias. (Ibid., 59)

Of those offenses motivated by bias by ethnicity/national origin in 1999, over half of the incidents were reported as anti-Hispanic. (Ibid.)

Of those offenses motivated by bias against religious orientation in 1999, over three-fourths were based upon anti-Jewish bias. (Ibid.)

In 1999, 63% of the 9,802 victims were targets of crimes against persons, as opposed to property or society. Over 50% of hate crime victims were attacked because of their race, with bias against blacks counting for 38% of the total. (Ibid., 60)

Sixteen percent of all victims of hate/bias crimes in 1999 were victims of crimes motivated by bias against sexual orientation; 69% of these were victims of specifically anti-male homosexual bias, and 15% specifically anti-female homosexual bias. (Ibid., 59)

Of the 7,271 known offenders in 1999, 68% were white and 16% black. Nine percent of the offenders were of unknown races and 7% were of other races. (Ibid., 60)

When considering offenses in 1999, 6,103 known offenders were connected with crimes against persons; 1,444 were linked to crimes against property; and 46 were connected with crimes against society. (Ibid.)

Thirty percent of the 7,271 known offenders were involved with the offense of intimidation, the single most reported offense in 1999. (Ibid.)

Homicide

In 1999, the estimated number of persons murdered in the United States was 15,553. The 1999 figure was down 8% from 1998 and 28% from 1995. (Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). 15 October 2000. *Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime Reports, 1999*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 14.)

The national murder rate in 1999 was 5.7 per 100,000 inhabitants, the lowest since 1966. Five- and ten-year trends show the 1999 murder rate was 30% lower than in 1995 and 39% lower than the 1990 rate. (Ibid.)

Firearms were used in approximately seven out of every ten murders committed in the nation in 1999. (Ibid., 17)

Handguns accounted for 51% of the murder total for which weapon data were submitted. (Ibid.)

Forty-two enforcement officers were feloniously slain in the line of duty during 1999, nineteen fewer than in 1998. (Ibid., 291)

In 1999, 47% of murder victims were black, 50% were white, and the remaining 3% of murder victims were other races. Seventy-six percent of murder victims were male and 88% were eighteen or older. (Ibid., 14)

Supplemental data for 1999 indicate that 48% of all murder victims knew their assailants. Twelve percent of offenders were identified as strangers, and offenders were unknown in 40% of murders. (Ibid. 17)

Handguns were used in 51% of all murders committed in 1999. Knives were used in 13% of the cases; personal weapons (hands,

fists, feet, etc.) in 7%; and blunt objects in 6% of all murders. (Ibid.)

Males are over nine times more likely than females to commit murder, and male and female offenders are more likely to target males as victims. (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). January 1999. *Homicide Trends in the United States, Bureau of Justice Statistics Crime Data Brief*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs.)

Of all persons murdered in 1997, 11%, or 2,100, were under the age of eighteen. Of these, 33% were under the age of six; 50% were ages fifteen through seventeen; 30% were female; 47% were black; and 56% were killed with a firearm. Forty percent were killed by family members, 45% by acquaintances, and 15% by strangers. (National Center for Juvenile Justice. September 1999. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 17.)

In 1997, juvenile homicide rates were the lowest in the decade but still 21% above the average of the 1980s. In 27% of homicides by juveniles, the victim was also a juvenile. (Ibid., 53 and 54)

A firearm killed 70% of victims murdered by juveniles. Of all victims killed by juveniles, 14% were family members; 55% were acquaintances; and 31% were strangers. (Ibid., 54)

In 1997, an estimated 2,300 murders (approximately 12% of all murders) in the United States involved at least one juvenile offender. In 31% of homicides involving juvenile offenders, an adult offender was also involved. (Ibid.)

Juvenile Crime and Victimization

Note: The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system and the Bureau of Justice Statistics National Crime Victimization Survey do not collect information about crimes committed against persons under twelve years of age and thus do not provide a comprehensive picture of juvenile crime victimization. The FBI's National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) includes detailed data about juvenile victims and is designed to replace UCR as the national database for crimes reported to law enforcement.

An analysis of 1997 NIBRS data reveals that while juveniles (youths ages seventeen and younger) make up 26% of the population of the twelve participating NIBRS states, they accounted for 71% of all sex crime victims and 38% of all kidnapping victims. (Finkelhor, D. and R. Ormrod. June 2000. *Characteristics of Crimes Against Juveniles*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.)

Girls outnumber boys as victims of sex offenses (82% vs. 18%) and kidnapping (63% vs. 37%), while boys outnumber girls as victims of robbery (81% vs. 19%) and larceny (69% vs. 31%). Overall, boys are somewhat more likely than girls to be victimized (55% vs. 45%). (Ibid.)

Juvenile violent crime is at its lowest level since 1987 and has fallen 30% from 1994 to 1998. The juvenile murder arrest rate has dropped 50% from 1993 to 1998. Other drops include: forcible rape down 25% from 1991 to 1998; aggravated assault down 20% from 1994 to 1998; robbery down 45% from 1995 to 1998; and motor vehicle theft down 39% from 1989 to 1998. (Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention. 1999. "Juvenile Arrests 1998." *Bulletin*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

In 1999, 17% of all persons arrested nationally were juveniles (ages eighteen and under). (Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). 15 October 2000. *Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime Reports, 1999*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 212.)

Nationally, 12% of the total clearances for forcible rape involved only juveniles (persons under the age of eighteen). (Ibid., 25)

Juvenile males are much more likely than females to be victims of serious violent crimes. In 1997, serious violent crime victimization rates were 33 per 1,000 male youth, compared to 21 per 1,000 female youth. (*America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being*. 1999. Washington, DC: Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics, 40.)

In 1997, the serious violent juvenile crime-offending rate was 31 crimes per 1,000 juveniles ages twelve to seventeen years old, or a total of 706,000 such crimes. (Ibid., 41.)

Juveniles are more likely to be the victim of a violent crime in the four hours following the end of the school day (roughly 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.) than at any other time of the day. (National Center for Juvenile Justice. September 1999. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 34.)

The 1996 National Youth Gang Survey estimates there were approximately 31,000 gangs operating in 4,800 U.S. cities in 1995. These gangs had more than 846,000 members, half of whom were under the age of eighteen. (Ibid., 77)

Note: OVC makes no representation concerning the accuracy of data from non-Department of Justice sources.

Rape and Sexual Assault

In 1999, law enforcement agencies received reports of an estimated 89,167 forcible rapes, a 4% decline from 1998. (Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). 15 October 2000. *Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime Reports, 1999*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 25.)

The highest percentage of rape offenses are those committed by force, or 89% of rapes reported in 1999. Attempts or assaults to commit forcible rape accounted for the remaining 11%. (Ibid.)

In 1999, participating law enforcement agencies made an estimated 28,830 arrests for forcible rape. (Ibid.)

Of those arrested for forcible rape in 1999, 44% were under the age of twenty-five, and 61% were white. (Ibid.)

An estimated 64 of every 100,000 females in the country were reported rape victims in 1999, a decrease of 5% from the 1998 rate, and 11% from the 1995 rate. (Ibid.)

By community type, in 1999, the forcible rape rate in metropolitan areas was 67 per 100,000 females; outside metropolitan areas, 66 per 100,000 females; and in rural counties, 45 per 100,000 females. (Ibid.)

In 1999, almost seven in ten rape or sexual assault victims, in contrast to fewer than five in ten aggravated assault victims, knew the offender(s) as acquaintance, friend, or intimate. (Rennison, C. August 2000. *Criminal Victimization 1999, Changes 1998-99 with Trends 1993-99*, NCJ 182734. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.)

Nearly 25% of surveyed women and 7.6% of surveyed men said they were raped and/or physically assaulted by a current or former spouse, cohabiting partner, or date at some time in their lifetime. (Tjaden, P. and N. Thoennes. July 2000. *Extent, Nature, and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence, Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey*, NCJ 181867. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.)

Of the estimated 4.8 million intimate partner rapes and physical assaults perpetrated against women annually, approximately 2 million will result in an injury to the victim, and 552,192 will result in some type of medical treatment to the victim. (Ibid.)

One-third of all sexual assaults reported to law enforcement agencies involve a victim under the age of twelve; one in four of these victims is male. (National Center for Juvenile Justice. September 1999. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.)

In sexual assaults of adults, the offender was a stranger in 25% of incidents, a family member in 12% of incidents, and an acquaintance in 63% of incidents. (Ibid., 30)

In 1998, females sustained rape or sexual assault at a rate fourteen times that of males (2.7 versus 0.2 victimizations per 1,000 persons). (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). July 1999. *Criminal Victimization 1998: Changes 1997-98 with Trends 1993-98*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

In 1998, 74% of rape or sexual assault victims knew their offenders, and 18% of victims were victimized by an intimate. (Ibid.)

Sentencing and Corrections

Overall, the United States incarcerated 2,026,596 persons at year end 1999. (Beck, A. August 2000. *Prisoners in 1999*, NCJ 183476. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.)

The rate of incarceration in prison at year end 1999 was 476 sentenced inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents— up from 292 in 1990. About 1 in every 110 men and 1 in every 1,695 women were sentenced prisoners under the jurisdiction of state or federal authorities. (Ibid.)

Of the 33,855 offenders returning to federal prison between 1986 and 1997, 54% returned within one year of being released; an additional 34% returned within two years of being released. About 12% returned after two to three years. (Sabol, W. et al. September 2000. *Offenders Returning to Federal Prison, 1986-97*, NCJ 182991. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.)

Offenders originally convicted of violent offenses were more likely to return (32%) to federal prison within three years of their release than offenders who had been convicted of property (17% returned), drug (13%) or public order (15%) offenses. (Ibid.)

In 1996, state courts convicted 997,970 adult offenders on felony charges, an average growth of approximately 5% every year since 1988. (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). May 1999. "Felony Sentences in State Courts." *Bulletin*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs.)

Of felons convicted, 54% were white, 44% were black, and 2% were other races; the average age was thirty-one. (Ibid., 1)

Sixty-nine percent of all convicted felons were sentenced to a period of confinement— 38% to state prisons and 31% to local jails. The remaining 31% were sentenced to straight probation with no jail or prison time to serve. (Ibid., 3)

Under the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984, the proportion of defendants sentenced to prison increased from 54% during 1988 to 71% during 1998. (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). September 1999. *Federal Criminal Case Processing, 1998*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

On September 30, 1998, 107,912 offenders were serving a prison sentence in federal prison; 58% were incarcerated for a drug offense; 11% for a violent offense; 8% for a weapons offense; 8% for a property offense; 7% for an immigration offense; and 8% for all other offenses. (Ibid.)

Nearly seven in ten state prison admissions for a violent crime in 1997 were in states requiring offenders to serve at least 85% of their sentence. (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). January 1999. "Truth in Sentencing in State Prisons." *Special Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

In 1996 the mean prison sentence for murder and non-negligent manslaughter was 21+ years; the median was twenty-five years. (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). May 1999. "Felony Sentences in State Courts, 1996." *Bulletin*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, 3.)

Time to be served in federal prisons increased from 23 to 75 months for weapons offenses and from 30 to 66 months for drug offenses. (Ibid., 1)

Stalking

Data from the National Violence Against Women (NVAW) Survey, a series of telephone interviews with a nationally representative sample of 8,000 U.S. women and 8,000 U.S. men about their experiences as victims of various forms of violence (including intimate partner violence), indicates that stalking by intimates is more prevalent than previously thought. The survey defines stalking as a course of conduct directed at a specific person that involves repeated (two or more occasions) visual or physical proximity; nonconsensual communication; verbal, written, or implied threats; or a combination thereof, that would cause a reasonable person harm. Almost 5% of surveyed women and 0.6% of surveyed men reported being stalked by a current or former spouse, cohabiting partner, or date at some time in their lifetime. (Tjaden, P. and N. Thoennes. July 2000. *Extent, Nature, and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence*, NCJ 181867. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.)

Of those surveyed individuals who reported being stalked by such a partner in the previous twelve months, 0.5% were women and 0.2% were men. (Ibid.)

Annually in the United States, 503,485 women and 185,496 men are stalked by an intimate partner. (Ibid.)

Approximately one-half of stalking incidents perpetrated against female respondents by intimates were reported to the police. (Ibid.)

Based on analyses of the NVAW Survey, prevalence rates of cyberstalking roughly estimate that 8.2 million women will be stalked at some point during their lifetime,

and 1% of women have been stalked during the preceding twelve months. (*Cyberstalking: A New Challenge for Law Enforcement and Industry, A Report from the Attorney General to the Vice President*. August 1999.)

Data from a survey of randomly chosen college students, using a definition of stalking as “repeated and obsessive behavior that made you afraid or concerned for your safety,” found 156.5 incidents of stalking per 1,000 female students and 130.7 victims per 1,000 female students. (Fisher, B. and F. Cullen. 1999. *The Extent and Nature of the Sexual Victimization of College Women*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice.)

With respect to stalking behavior in the above-cited survey, 42% of stalkers followed the victim; 52% of stalkers waited outside or inside places; 44% of stalkers watched from afar; 78% telephoned; 31% sent letters; and 25% e-mailed the victim. (Ibid.)

Seventy-three percent of the victims had taken some action in response to the stalking, including: avoidance or attempt at avoidance of stalker (43.2%); no acknowledgement of messages or e-mails (8.8%); improved residential security system (4.1%); began traveling with a companion (3.9%); and filing of a grievance or initiated disciplinary action with university (3.3%). (Ibid.)

Researchers estimated that about one-third of stalking victims reported they had sought psychological treatment. In addition, one-fifth lost time from work, and 7% of those never returned to work. (National Institute of Justice. November 1997. “The Crime of Stalking: How Big is the Problem?” *Bulletin*, citing The National Violence Against Women Survey, sponsored by National Institute of Justice and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.)

Substance Abuse and Crime

A total of 1.5 million arrests were reported in 1999 for drug abuse violations. (Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). 15 October 2000. *Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime Reports, 1999*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 211.)

The number of persons incarcerated in state prisons for drug offenses increased 19% between 1990 and 1998. (Beck, A. August 2000. *Prisoners in 1999*, NCJ 183476. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.)

In 1995 and 1997, almost one-third of all students in grades nine through twelve (32%) reported that someone had offered, sold, or given them an illegal drug on school property. This was an increase from 1993, when 24% of such students reported that illegal drugs were available to them on school property. (Kaufman, P. et al. 2000. *Indicators of School Crime and Safety, 2000*. NCES 2001-017/ NCJ-184176. Washington, DC: U.S. Departments of Education and Justice.)

In 1997, about 51% of students in grades nine through twelve had at least one drink of alcohol in the previous thirty days. (Ibid.)

High school seniors who used drugs were more likely than those who did not to be the victims of violence. Eleven percent of students using drugs (other than marijuana) three or more times reported they had been injured with a weapon, and 21% had been injured on purpose without the use of a weapon. (Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 36.)

One-half of all state inmates and a third of convicted jail inmates serving time for violence against an intimate reported that they had been drinking for six or more hours

prior to the offense. (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). March 1998. *Violence by Intimates, Analysis of Data on Crimes by Current or Former Spouses, Boyfriends, and Girlfriends*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 28.)

It is estimated that nearly 14 million U.S. residents, ages twelve and older, used illicit drugs in 1997. Of that number, 4 million were thought to be chronic drug users—3.6 million chronic cocaine users and 810,000 heroin users. (Office of National Drug Control Policy. *National Drug Control Strategy, 1999*. Washington, DC: Executive Office of the President of the United States.)

The rate of drug-related murders declined from 1,302 in 1992 to 786 in 1997. (Ibid.)

In 1997, 62.5% of the federal inmate population were sentenced for drug offenses, up from 53% in 1990. (Ibid.)

The National Institute of Justice's Arrestee and Drug Abuse Monitoring drug-testing program found that more than 60% of adult male arrestees tested positive for drugs in 1997. (Ibid., 24)

Researchers estimate that one-fourth to one-half of men who commit acts of domestic violence also have substance-abuse problems. (Ibid., 25)

A survey of state child welfare agencies by the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse found substance abuse to be one of the top two problems exhibited by 81% of families reported for child maltreatment. (Ibid.)

Note: OVC makes no representation concerning the accuracy of data from non-Department of Justice sources.

Victims with Disabilities

The FBI's Uniform Crime Reports show that in 1999, of the 9,301 reported bias-motivated offenses, twenty-one were motivated by disability bias, eleven of which were motivated by anti-physical disability bias and ten by anti-mental disability bias. (Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). 15 October 2000. *Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime Reports, 1999*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 59.)

Approximately 54 million Americans live with a wide variety of physical, cognitive, and emotional disabilities. (Tyiska, C. September 1998. "Working with Victims of Crime with Disabilities." *Office for Victims of Crime Bulletin*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime.)

Estimates indicate that at least 6 million serious injuries occur each year due to crime, resulting in either temporary or permanent disability. The National Rehabilitation Information Center has estimated that as many as 50% of patients who are long-term residents of hospitals and specialized rehabilitation centers are there due to crime-related injuries. (Ibid.)

Children with any kind of disability are more than twice as likely as nondisabled children to be physically abused and almost twice as likely to be sexually abused. (Ibid., citing Petersilia, J. *Report to the California Senate Public Safety Committee Hearings on Persons with Developmental Disabilities in the Criminal Justice System*.)

Research conducted by the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect (NCCAN) in 1993 found that of all children who are abused, 17.2% had disabilities. Of all children who were sexually abused, 15.2% had disabilities. (Crosse, S., E. Kaye, and A. Ratnofsky. 1993. *A Report on the Maltreatment of Children with Disabilities*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of

Health, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Child, Youth, and Families, National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect.)

Of the children with maltreatment-related injuries, child protection case workers reported that maltreatment directly contributed to, or was likely to have led to, disabilities for 62% of the children who experienced sexual abuse, for 48% of children who experienced emotional abuse, and for 55% of children who experienced neglect. (Ibid.)

Research consistently shows that women with disabilities, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or class, are assaulted, raped, and abused at a rate of two times greater than non-disabled women. (Sobsey, D. 1994. *Violence and Abuse in the Lives of People with Disabilities*. Baltimore, MD: Paul H. Brookes; Cusitar, L. 1994. *Strengthening the Links: Stopping the Violence*. Toronto: DisAbled Women's Network (DAWN).

The risk of being physically or sexually assaulted for adults with developmental disabilities is likely four to ten times as high as it is for other adults. (Sobsey, D., supra.)

People with developmental and other severe disabilities represent at least 10% of the population of the United States. Of this population group: 1.8% of the individuals have developmental disabilities; 5% of the individuals have adult onset brain impairment; and 2.8% of the individuals have severe major mental disorders. (Sorenson, D. November 1996. "The Invisible Victim," *The California Prosecutor*, XIX (1).)

Note: OVC makes no representation concerning the accuracy of data from non-Department of Justice sources.

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Workplace Violence and Crime

In 1998, there were 709 homicides in the workplace, down from 860 in 1997. Of this number, 521 victims (73%) were wage and salary workers and 188 (27%) were self-employed. (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). 2000. *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics 1999*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 306.)

In 80% of workplace homicides in 1998, a firearm was used to kill the victim. The remaining murder victims were either stabbed (9%), beaten (7), or killed with another type of weapon (4%). (Ibid.)

Over half of all victims killed in the workplace were between twenty-five and forty-four years of age; 19%, between forty-five and fifty-four; 12%, between fifty-five and sixty-four; 9%, twenty-four years and younger; and 7%, sixty-five and older. (Ibid.)

In 1998, 80% of workplace homicide victims died during robberies of their workplace; 14% were killed by work associates (9% by current or former co-workers and 5% by clients); and the remaining 6% were killed by personal acquaintances (2% by husbands or ex-husbands, 1% by boyfriends or ex-boyfriends, and 4% by other family members). (Ibid.)

Seventy-seven percent of workplace violence victims in 1998 were male and 23% were female. Sixty-six percent of these victims were white; 18% were black; 14% were Hispanic (*); 10% were Asian or Pacific Islander; 1% were American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut; and the remaining 5% were of other or unspecified races. (*Persons identified as Hispanic may be of other races; therefore, total will exceed 100%). (Ibid.)

Of selected occupations examined from 1992 to 1996, law enforcement officers were the most vulnerable to be victims of workplace violence. Other occupations with high rates of victimization included private security guards, taxi drivers, prison and jail guards, and bartenders. (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). July 1999. *Criminal Victimization 1998: Changes 1997-98 with Trends 1993-98*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

Homicide is the second leading cause of fatal occupational injury in the nation. Nearly 1,000 workers are murdered and 1.5 million assaulted in the workplace each year. The 709 workplace homicides in 1998 accounted for 12% of the total 6,026 fatal work injuries that year. (Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). 1999. *National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, 1998*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Labor.)

Currently, one out of every six violent crimes experienced by U.S. residents ages twelve or older occurs in the workplace, including 20.5% of all reported assaults, 10.8% of all reported rapes, and 6.5% of all reported robberies. (Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). July 1998. "Workplace Violence, 1992-96: National Crime Victimization Survey." *Special Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

Workplace violence costs American business approximately \$4.2 billion a year, conservatively estimating that each significant episode runs upwards of \$250,000 in lost work time, employee medical benefits, and legal expenses. (Albrecht, S. 1997. *Fear and Violence on the Job: Prevention Solutions for the Dangerous Workplace*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press.)

Note: OVC makes no representation concerning the accuracy of data from non-Department of Justice sources.

Accessing Information: OVC Resource Center and Other Services

VICTIMS' RESOURCES IN THE INFORMATION AGE

The advent of information technologies, especially the enormous growth of the Internet, has changed the way in which information about crime victims' issues is being made available to researchers, advocates, and practitioners. Today, victims and victim service providers can instantly access an enormous amount of information specific to their needs, including the latest research findings, statistical reports, program descriptions, grant and funding sources, evaluations on victim issues, promising practices, and referrals to professional organizations in the victim-serving community.

For victims and victim service providers, information access begins with the Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center (OVCRC), a component of the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS). Established by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), U.S. Department of Justice, OVCRC is your primary source for crime victim information. OVCRC is accessible 24 hours a day through the NCJRS World Wide Web Justice Information Center and Fax-on-Demand where menus provide information and publications from all Office for Justice Program (OJP) agencies—Office for Victims of Crime, National Institute of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Bureau of Justice Statistics, and Bureau of Justice Assistance—as well as from the Office of National Drug Control Policy. In addition to the Web site, victim assistance professionals can benefit by taking advantage of various online services, such as the Justice Information (*JUSTINFO*) Electronic Newsletter, e-mail inquiries, the Conference Calendar Database, and the Online Ordering Store. NCJRS also has highly trained information specialists to personally answer questions and direct individuals to the best resources available. Furthermore, NCJRS offers allied professionals an opportunity to be placed on their mailing list to receive up-to-date information via the *NCJRS Catalog*. Together with online services, Fax-on-Demand, and personal assistance, NCJRS and OVCRC can help victim advocates *know more* to better serve the needs of victims of crime.

ACCESSING NCJRS AND OVCRC ONLINE

To contact NCJRS, call 800-851-3420. NCJRS Online can be accessed in the following ways:

NCJRS World Wide Web Homepage. The homepage provides NCJRS information, and links to other criminal justice resources from around the world. The NCJRS Web page provides information about NCJRS and OJP agencies, grant-funding opportunities, full-text publications, key-word searching of NCJRS publications, access to the NCJRS Abstracts Database, the current *NCJRS Catalog*, and a topical index. The address for the NCJRS Homepage is <<http://www.ncjrs.org>>.

NCJRS Online Ordering System. Publications, videos, and other materials that pertain to criminal justice, juvenile justice, and drug control policy can now be ordered at any time. The online store is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at <<http://puborder.ncjrs.org/>>.

Justice Information (JUSTINFO) Electronic Newsletter. This free, online newsletter is distributed to your Internet e-mail address on the 1st and 15th of each month. *JUSTINFO* contains information concerning a wide variety of subjects, including news from all Office of Justice Programs (OJP) agencies and the Office of National Drug Control Policy; criminal justice resources on the Internet; criminal justice funding and program information; and announcements about new NCJRS products and services. To subscribe, send an e-mail to <listproc@ncjrs.org> with the message *subscribe justinfo [your name]*.

E-Mail: Information and Help. Users requiring technical assistance or having specific questions on criminal and juvenile justice topics can *send* an e-mail to <askncjrs@ncjrs.org>. To place an order for publications, users may send an e-mail to <puborder@ncjrs.org>.

OTHER NCJRS ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SERVICES

Fax-on-demand. NCJRS has established a “fax-on-demand” service that allows the user to obtain copies of selected NCJRS documents directly through their own fax machine, using a toll-free telephone number. To access the fax-on-demand menu, simply call 1-800-851-3420, and follow the prompts.

CD-ROM and Online Access to the Abstracts Database. Users with CD-ROM capability can also obtain the NCJRS Abstracts Database on CD-ROM. This disc features citations and abstracts of more than 140,000 criminal justice books, research reports, journal articles, government documents, program descriptions, program evaluations, and training manuals contained in the NCJRS Research and Information Center library collection. The disc also contains search software that supports retrieval, using any combination of words to search individual fields or all fields globally. The disc can be searched using “free text” methods, or in combination with the National Criminal Justice Thesaurus. In addition, the NCJRS Abstracts Database is available on the NCJRS Homepage at <<http://www.ncjrs.org/database.htm>>.

VICTIM-RELATED INTERNET SITES

Crime victims and victim service providers have witnessed a remarkable growth in the amount of information available to them, through the continued development of the Internet—especially the World Wide Web. Now, victim-serving agencies and advocacy organizations have the ability to reach around the corner or around the world with information about new issues, services, and promising practices designed to improve the welfare of victims of all types of crime. In an effort to present the most comprehensive and timely information available through this vast medium, the Office for Victims of Crime has substantially revised its World Wide Web homepage. OVC encourages crime victims and victim service providers alike to visit this comprehensive resource, located at <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/>>.

Many other agencies and organizations are now providing victim-related information through the World Wide Web. The following is a list of sites on the Web that contain information on selected crime victimization topics. Please note that this list is intended only to provide a sample of available resources, and does not constitute an endorsement of opinions, resources, or statements made therein.

Federal Agencies/Resources

Bureau of Justice Assistance	http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA
Bureau of Justice Statistics	http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/
Center for Substance Abuse Prevention	http://www.samhsa.gov/csap
Center for Substance Abuse Treatment	http://www.samhsa.gov/csat
Centers for Disease Control	http://www.cdc.gov
Community-Oriented Police Office (COPS)	http://www.usdoj.gov/cops/
FBI Uniform Crime Reports—Statistical Data	http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/crime/
Federal Judicial Center	http://www.fjc.gov/
GovBot Database of Government Web sites	http://ciir.cs.umass.edu/ciirdemo/Govbot/index1.html
Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention	http://www.edc.org/hec/
National Archive of Criminal Justice Data	http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/home.html
National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information	http://www.health.org/
National Domestic Violence Hotline	http://www.ojp.gov/vawo/newhotline.htm
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov
NCJRS Justice Information Center	http://www.ncjrs.org
National Institute of Corrections	http://www.nicic.org/
National Institute of Justice	http://www.ncjrs.org/nijhome.htm
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	http://www.niaaa.nih.gov
National Institute on Drug Abuse	http://www.drugabuse.gov
National Maternal and Child Health Clearinghouse	http://www.nmchc.org
Nonprofit Gateway	http://www.nonprofit.gov
Office of Justice Programs	http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov
Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention	http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org
Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)	http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/
Office of National Drug Control Policy Information Clearinghouse	http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov
THOMAS: Federal Legislation	http://thomas.loc.gov
U.S. Department of Education	
Campus Security and Safety	http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/index.html
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	
Grantsnet	http://www.os.dhhs.gov/progorg/grantsnet/index.html
U.S. Department of Justice	http://www.usdoj.gov
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs	
National Center on PTSD	http://www.ncptsd.org
U.S. Parole Commission	http://www.usdoj.gov/uspc/parole.htm
U.S. Supreme Court	http://www.supremecourtus.gov
Violence Against Women Office	http://www.ojp.gov/vawo/

National Victim-related Organizations

American Bar Association	
Center on Children and the Law	http://www.abanet.org/child/
American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children	
Anti-Defamation League	http://www.apsac.org/
Child Abuse Prevention Association	http://www.adl.org/hate-patrol/main.html
Child Abuse Prevention Network	http://www.capa.org
Childhelp USA	http://child.cornell.edu
Child Quest International	http://www.childhelpusa.org
Child Welfare League of America	http://www.childquest.org/
Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS)	http://www.cwla.org
Family Violence Prevention Fund	http://www.nationalcops.org
Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community	http://www.fvpf.org/
Mothers Against Drunk Driving	http://www.dvinstitute.org
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children	http://www.madd.org
	http://www.missingkids.org

National Center for Victims of Crime	http://www.ncvc.org
National Center on Elder Abuse	http://www.gwjapan.com/NCEA/
National Children's Alliance	http://www.nncac.org
National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information	http://www.calib.com/nccanch
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence	http://www.ncadv.org
National Coalition of Homicide Survivors	http://www.mivictims.org
National Commission Against Drunk Driving	http://www.ncadd.com
National Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Association	http://www.nationalcasa.org/
National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center	http://www.musc.edu/cvc/
National Fraud Information Center	http://www.fraud.org
National Insurance Crime Bureau	http://www.nicb.org
National Organization for Victim Assistance	http://www.try-nova.org
National Sexual Violence Research Center	http://www.nsvrc.org
National Victim Assistance Academy (OVC)	http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/assist/vaa.htm
National Victim Assistance Academy (VALOR)	http://www.nvaa.org
National Victims Constitutional Amendment Network	http://www.nvcan.org
National Violence Against Women Prevention Research Center	http://www.violenceagainstwomen.org
Neighbors Who Care	http://www.neighborswhocare.org
Parents of Murdered Children (POMC)	http://www.pomc.com
Safe Campuses Now	http://www.uga.edu/~safe-campus/
Security on Campus	http://www.campussafety.org/
Victims' Assistance Legal Organization (VALOR)	http://www.valor-national.org

National Criminal and Juvenile Justice- and Public Policy-related Associations

American Correctional Association	http://www.corrections.com/aca
American Correctional Health Services Association	http://www.corrections.com/achsa/
American Jail Association	http://www.corrections.com/aja
American Probation and Parole Association	http://www.appa-net.org
American Prosecutors Research Institute	http://www.ndaa-apri.org
Association of State Correctional Administrators	http://www.asca.net
Balanced and Restorative Justice Project	http://ssw.che.umn.edu/rjp
Center for Juvenile and Criminal Justice	http://www.cjcj.org
Center for Restorative Justice & Peacemaking	http://ssw.che.umn.edu/rjp/default.html
Center for Sex Offender Management	http://www.csom.org
Community Anti-drug Coalitions of America	http://www.cadca.org
Community Justice Exchange	http://www.communityjustice.org
Community Policing Consortium	http://www.communitypolicing.org
Correctional Education Association	http://metalab.unc.edu/icea
Council of State Governments	http://www.csg.org
Institute for Law and Justice	http://www.ilj.org
International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators	http://www.iaclea.org/
International Association of Chiefs of Police	http://www.theiacp.org
Join Together to Reduce Substance Abuse	http://www.jointogether.org
Justice Policy Institute	http://www.cjcj.org/jpi
National Association for Community Mediation	http://www.nafcm.org/
National Association of Attorneys General	http://www.naag.org
National Association of Counties (NACo)	http://www.naco.org
National Association of Drug Court Professionals	http://www.nadcp.org
National Association of Police Organizations	http://www.napo.org
National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse	http://www.casacolumbia.org
National Center for State Courts	http://www.ncsc.dni.us
National Conference of State Legislatures	http://www.ncsl.org

National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics	http://www.search.org
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges	http://www.ncjfcj.unr.edu/
National Criminal Justice Association	http://www.sso.org/ncja/index.htm
National District Attorneys Association	http://www.ndaa.org
National Governors Association	http://www.nga.org/
National Indian Justice Center	http://www.nijc.indian.com/
National Institute for Dispute Resolution	http://www.crenet.org/
National Judicial College	http://www.judges.org
National Juvenile Detention Association	http://www.corrections.com/njda/top.html
National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center	http://www.nlectc.org
National League of Cities	http://www.nlc.org
National Network of Violence Prevention Practitioners	http://www.edc.org/HHD/NNVPP/index.html
National Organization for Black Law Enforcement	http://www.noblentnl.org
National Sheriffs' Association	http://www.sheriffs.org/
Office of Correctional Education	http://www.ed.gov/offices/OVAE/OCE/
Police Executive Research Forum	http://www.policeforum.org
Police Foundation	http://www.policefoundation.org
Restorative Justice Project	http://www.fresno.edu/dept/pacs/rjp.html
Southern Poverty Law Center	http://splcenter.org
State Justice Institute	http://www.statejustice.org
Victim Offender Mediation Association	http://www.voma.org/

State-level VOCA Victim Assistance Agencies & Crime Victim Compensation Programs

Alabama	http://www.agencies.state.al.us/crimevictims/
Alaska	http://www.dps.state.ak.us/vccb/htm/
Arizona	http://www.dps.state.az.us/voca/
Arkansas	http://www.ag.state.ar.us/
California	http://www.boc.cahwnet.gov/victims.htm
Colorado	http://cdpsweb.state.co.us/ovp/ovp.htm
Connecticut	http://www.jud.state.ct.us/
Delaware	http://www.state.de.us/cjc/index.html
Florida	http://legal.firn.edu/victims/index.html
Georgia	http://www.ganet.org/cjcc
Hawaii	http://www.cpja.ag.state.hi.us
Idaho	http://www2.state.id.us/iic/index.htm
Illinois	http://www.ag.state.il.us/
Indiana	http://www.state.in.us/cji/
Iowa	http://www.state.ia.us/government/ag/cva.html
Kansas	http://www.ink.org/public/ksag/contents/crime/cvcbrochure.htm
Louisiana	http://www.cole.state.la.us/cvr.htm
Maine	http://www.state.me.us/ag/victim.htm
Maryland	http://www.dpscs.state.md.us/cicb/
Mississippi	http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/
Missouri	http://www.dolir.state.mo.us/wc/dolir6f.htm
Montana	http://www.doj.state.mt.us/whoweare.htm
Nebraska	http://www.nol.org/home/crimecom/
New Hampshire	http://www.state.nh.us/nhdoj/index.html
New Jersey	http://www.state.nj.us/victims/
New Mexico	http://www.state.nm.us/cvrc/
New York	http://www.cvb.state.ny.us/
North Carolina	http://www.nccrimecontrol.org/vjs/
Ohio	http://www.ag.ohio.gov/crimevic/cvout.htm
Oklahoma	http://www.dac.state.ok.us/

Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Vermont
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming

<http://www.doj.state.or.us/CrimeV/welcome1.htm>
<http://www.pccd.state.pa.us/>
<http://www.state.ri.us/treas/vcfund.htm>
<http://www.state.sc.us/governor/>
<http://www.state.sd.us/social/cvc/>
<http://www.treasury.state.tn.us/injury.htm>
<http://www.oag.state.tx.us/victims/victims.htm>
<http://www.crimevictim.state.ut.us/>
<http://www.ccv.s.state.vt.us/>
<http://www.dcjs.state.va.us/victims/index.htm>
<http://www.wa.gov/lni/workcomp/cvc.htm>
<http://www.legis.state.wv.us/coc/victims/main.html>
<http://www.doj.state.wi.us/cvs/cvc.htm>
<http://www.state.wy.us/~ag/victims/index.html>

Federal and State Corrections

Federal Bureau of Prisons
Alaska Department of Correction
Alabama Department of Corrections
Arizona Department of Correction
Arkansas Department of Correction
California Department of Correction
Colorado Department of Correction
Connecticut Department of Correction
Delaware Department of Corrections
Florida Department of Correction
Georgia Department of Correction
Hawaii Department of Public Safety
Idaho Department of Correction
Illinois Department of Correction
Indiana Department of Correction
Iowa Department of Correction
Kansas Department of Correction
Kentucky Justice Cabinet
Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement
& Criminal Justice
Maine Department of Correction
Maryland Department of Correction
Massachusetts Department of Correction
Michigan Department of Correction
Minnesota Department of Corrections
Mississippi Department of Corrections
Missouri Department of Corrections
Montana Department of Corrections
Nebraska Department of Correctional Services
Nevada Department of Corrections
New Hampshire Department of Corrections
New Jersey State Department of Correction
New Mexico Department of Correction
New York State Department of Correctional
Services
New York City Department of Correction
North Carolina Department of Correction
Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Oregon Department of Correction
Oklahoma Department of Correction
Pennsylvania Department of Correction
Rhode Island Department of Correction
South Carolina Department of Correction

<http://www.bop.gov>
<http://www.correct.state.ak.us/>
<http://www.agencies.state.al.us/doc/>
<http://www.adc.state.az.us:81/>
<http://www.state.ar.us/doc/>
<http://www.cdc.state.ca.us/>
<http://www.doc.state.co.us/index.html>
<http://www.state.ct.us/doc/>
<http://www.state.de.us/correct>
<http://www.dc.state.fl.us/>
<http://www.dcor.state.ga.us/>
<http://www.hawaii.gov/icsd/psd/psd.html>
<http://www.corr.state.id.us/>
<http://www.idoc.state.il.us/>
<http://www.ai.org/indcorrection/>
<http://www.doc.state.ia.us/>
<http://www.ink.org/public/kdoc/>
<http://www.jus.state.ky.us/>

<http://www.cole.state.la.us/>
<http://janus.state.me.us/corrections/homepage.htm>
<http://www.dpscs.state.md.us/doc/>
<http://www.magnet.state.ma.us/doc/>
<http://www.state.mi.us/mdoc/>
<http://www.corr.state.mn.us/>
<http://www.mdoc.state.ms.us/>
<http://www.corrections.state.mo.us/>
<http://www.state.mt.us/cor>
<http://www.corrections.state.ne.us/>
<http://www.state.nv.us/inprog.htm>
<http://www.state.nh.us/doc/>
<http://www.state.nj.us/corrections>
<http://www.state.nm.us/corrections/>

<http://www.docs.state.ny.us/>
<http://www.ci.nyc.ny.us/html/doc/>
<http://www.doc.state.nc.us/>
<http://www.drc.state.oh.us/>
<http://www.doc.state.or.us/>
<http://www.doc.state.ok.us/>
<http://www.cor.state.pa.us/>
<http://www.doc.state.ri.us/>
<http://www.state.sc.us/scdc/>

South Dakota Department of Correction	http://www.state.sd.us/corrections/corrections.html
Tennessee Department of Correction	http://www.state.tn.us/correction
Texas Department of Correction	http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/
Utah Department of Correction	http://www.cr.ex.state.ut.us/home.htm
Vermont Criminal Justice Services	http://170.222.24.9/cjs/index.html
Virginia Department of Correction	http://www.cns.state.va.us/doc/
Washington State Department of Correction	http://access.wa.gov/
West Virginia Division Of Corrections	http://www.state.wv.us/wvdoc/default.htm
Wisconsin Department of Correction	http://www.wi-doc.com/
Wyoming Department of Correction	http://doc.state.wy.us/corrections.html

State Coalitions and Related Resources

Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services	http://www.connsacs.org/
Iowa Organization for Victim Assistance	http://www.netins.net/showcase/i_weaver/iowa/
Michigan Crime Victim Rights	http://www.gop.senate.state.mi.us/cvr/
Missouri Victim Assistance Network	http://mov.a.missouri.org/
Safe Horizon (New York City region)	http://www.safehorizon.org/
South Carolina Victim Assistance Network	http://www.scvan.org/
Texans for Equal Justice	http://www.tej.lawandorder.com/index.htm

Other Victim Resources

Action Without Borders - Nonprofit Directory	http://www.idealists.org
Alliance for Justice	http://www.afj.org
American Humane Association	http://www.americanhumane.org
APA - American Psychological Association	http://www.apa.org/
Battered Women's Justice Center	http://www.law.pace.edu/bwjc
Cecil Greek's Criminal Justice Page	http://www.fsu.edu/~crimdo/law.html
Children's Institute International	http://www.childrensinstitute.org/
Communities Against Violence Network (CAVNET)	http://www.asksam.com/cavnet/
The Compassionate Friends	http://www.compassionatefriends.com/
Corporate Alliance to End Partner Violence	http://www.caepv.org/main.htm
Elder Abuse Prevention	http://www.oaktrees.org/elder
International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies	http://www.istss.org/
International Victimology Website	http://www.victimology.nl/
Jewish Women International	http://www.jewishwomen.org/
Justice for All	http://www2.jfa.net/jfa/
Michigan State University Victims and the Media Program	http://www.victims.jrn.msu.edu
National Coalition of Homicide Survivors	http://www.mivictims.org/nchs/
National Mental Health Association	http://www.nmha.org
National Organization on Male Sexual Victimization	http://www.malesurvivor.org
National Parent Information Network	http://www.npin.org
Out of the Blue (Domestic Violence in the Jewish Community)	http://hometown.aol.com/blue10197/index.html
Post Trauma Resources	http://www.posttrauma.com
Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network	http://www.rainn.org/
Rape Recovery Help and Information	http://www.geocities.com/HotSprings/2402/
Safe Campuses Now	http://www.uga.edu/~safe-campus/front.html
Search Yahoo for Victims' Rights	http://www.yahoo.com/Society_and_Culture/Crime/Victims__Rights/
Sexual Assault Information Page	http://www.cs.utk.edu/~bartley/saInfoPage.html
The Stalking Victim's Sanctuary	http://www.stalkingvictims.com/
Stephanie Roper Committee and Foundation	http://www.stephanieroper.org
Survivors of Stalking	http://www.soshelp.org
Victim Assistance Online	http://www.vaonline.org
Violence Policy Center	http://www.vpc.org
Workplace Violence Research Institute	http://www.noworkviolence.com/

Legal Research/Resources

Findlaw

<http://www.findlaw.com/>

State Law and Legislative Information

<http://www.washlaw.edu/>

U.S. Supreme Court Decisions

<http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/>

Media

American Journalism Review Newslink

<http://www.newslink.org/>

Criminal Justice Journalists

<http://www.reporters.net/cjj>

News Index

<http://newsindex.com>

Newspapers Online

<http://www.newspapers.com>

Public Relations Society of America

<http://www.prsa.org>

Special thanks is extended to Steve Derene, Program Manger for the Office of Crime Victim Services at the Wisconsin Department of Justice, and *Promising Strategies and Practices in Using Technology to Benefit Crime Victims*, sponsored by the National Center for Victims of Crime with support from the Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice, for providing much of the Web site information included in this section.

NCVRW Resource Guide Co-Sponsors

American Correctional Association, Victims Committee

4380 Forbes Boulevard

Lanham, MD 20706-4332

Contact: Trudy Gregorie and Chiquita Sipos, Co-chairs

Phone: 301-918-1800/800-ACA-JOIN

Fax: 301-918-1900

Web site: <http://www.corrections.com/aca>

American Probation and Parole Association

c/o The Council of State Governments

P.O. Box 11910

Lexington, KY 40578-1910

Contact: Tracy Godwin, Victim Services Specialist

Phone: 859-244-8203

Fax: 859-244-8001

Web site: <http://www.appa-net.org>

E-mail: tgodwin@csg.org

California State University-Fresno, Center for Victim Studies

2225 East San Ramon Avenue

Fresno, CA 93740-0104

Contact: Steven D. Walker, Ph.D., Director

Phone: 559-278-4021

Fax: 559-278-7265

E-mail: stevend@csufresno.edu

Center for the Study of Crime Victims' Rights, Remedies, and Resources

University of New Haven

300 Orange Avenue

West Haven, CT 06516

Contact: Mario Thomas Gaboury, J.D., Ph.D., Director

Phone: 203-932-7041

Fax: 203-931-6030

E-mail: mgaboury@charger.newhaven.edu

Childhelp USA/Virginia

311 Park Avenue

Falls Church, VA 22046

Contact: Iris Beckwith, Director

Abuse Prevention Programs

Phone: 703-241-9100

Fax: 703-241-9105

Web site: <http://www.childhelpva.org>

National Headquarters:

Childhelp USA

15757 North 78th Street

Scottsdale, AZ 85260

Contact: Chuck Bolte, Executive Director

Phone: 480-922-8212

Fax: 480-922-7061

Hotline: 800-4-A-CHILD

TDD: 800-2-A-CHILD

Web site: <http://www.childhelpusa.org>

Concerns of Police Survivors

P.O. Box 3199 – S. Highway 5

Camdenton, MO 65020

Contact: Suzanne F. Sawyer, Executive Director

Phone: 573-346-4911

Fax: 573-346-1414

Web site: <http://www.nationalcops.org>

E-mail: cops@nationalcops.org

Family Violence Prevention Fund

383 Rhode Island Street, Suite 304
San Francisco, CA 94103-5133
Contact: Michelle Kipper

Phone: 415-252-8900/800-End-Abuse
Fax: 415-252-8991
Web site: <http://www.fvpf.org>
E-mail: fund@fvpf.org

Public policy office:

1522 K Street NW, Suite 550
Washington, DC 20005
Contact: Kiersten Stewart, Director of Public Policy
Donna Norton, Director of National Workplace
Resource Center on Domestic Violence

Phone: 202-682-1212
Fax: 202-682-4662
E-mail: kiersten@fvpf.org
donna@fvpf.org

Mothers Against Drunk Driving

511 E. John Carpenter Freeway., Suite 700
Irving, TX 75062-8187
Contact: Stephanie Frogge, National Director
Victim Services

Phone: 800-438-MADD
Fax: 214-869-2206/2207
Web site: <http://www.madd.org>

National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards

P.O. Box 16003
Alexandria, VA 22302
Contact: Dan Eddy, Executive Director

Phone/Fax: 703-370-2996

National Center on Elder Abuse

1225 I Street NW, Suite 725
Washington, DC 20005
Contact: Sara Aravanis, Director

Phone: 202-898-2586
Fax: 202-898-2583
Web site: <http://www.gwjapan.com/NCEA>
E-mail: ncea@nasua.org

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

Charles B. Wang International Children's Building
699 Prince Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3175
Contact: Sherry Bailey

Phone: 703-274-3900/800-843-5678
TDD: 800-826-7653 (Hotline)
Fax: 703-274-2220
Web site: <http://www.missingkids.com>

National Center for Victims of Crime

2111 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22201
Contact: Susan Herman, Executive Director

Phone: 703-276-2880/800-FYI-CALL
Fax: 703-276-2889
Web site: <http://www.ncvc.org>

National Children's Alliance

1319 F Street NW, Suite 1001
Washington, DC 20004
Contact: Nancy Chandler, Executive Director

Phone: 202-639-0597/800-239-9950
Fax: 202-639-0511
Web site: <http://www.nncac.org>

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

P.O. Box 18749

Denver, CO 80218

Contact: Rita Smith, Executive Director

Phone: 303-839-1852

Fax: 303-831-9251

Web site: <http://www.ncadv.org>

For legislative information:

119 Constitution Avenue NE

Washington, DC 20002

Contact: Juley Fulcher

Phone: 202-544-7358

Fax: 202-544-7893

National Crime Prevention Council

1000 Connecticut Avenue NW, 13th Floor

Washington, DC 20036

Phone: 202-466-6272

Fax: 202-296-1356

Web site: <http://www.ncpc.org>

National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center**Medical University of South Carolina**

165 Cannon Street

Charleston, SC 29425-0742

Contact: Dean G. Kilpatrick, Ph.D., Director

Phone: 843-792-2945

Fax: 843-792-3388

Web site: <http://www.musc.edu/cvc/>

National District Attorneys Association

99 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 510

Alexandria, VA 22314-1588

Contact: Newman Flanagan, Director

Phone: 703-549-9222

Fax: 703-836-3195

Web site: <http://www.ndaa-apri.org>

National Organization for Victim Assistance

1757 Park Road NW

Washington, DC 20010

Contact: Marlene A. Young, Ph.D., J.D.
Executive Director

Phone: 202-232-6682/800-TRY-NOVA

Fax: 202-462-2255

Web site: <http://www.try-nova.org>

The National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

6400 Flank Drive, Suite 1300

Harrisburg, PA 17112-2778

Kathleen Krenek, Director

Phone: 800-537-2238

TTY: 800-553-2508

Fax: 717-545-9456

National Sexual Violence Resource Center

123 North Enola Drive

Enola, PA 17025

Contact: Karen Baker, Project Director

Phone: 877-739-3895/717-909-0710

TTY: 717-909-0715

Fax: 717-909-0710

Web site: <http://www.nsvrc.org>

Neighbors Who Care

P.O. Box 16079
Washington, DC 20041
Contact: Lisa Barnes Lampman

Phone: 703-904-7311
Fax: 703-478-0452
Web site: <http://www.neighborswhocare.org>

Parents of Murdered Children

100 East Eighth Street, Suite B-41
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Contact: Nancy Ruhe-Munch, Executive Director

Phone: 513-721-5683/888-818-POMC
Fax: 513-345-4489
Web site: <http://www.pomc.com>

Police Executive Research Forum

1120 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 930
Washington, DC 20036
Contact: Cliff Karchmer

Phone: 202-466-7820
Fax: 202-466-7826
Web site: <http://www.PoliceForum.org>

The Spiritual Dimension in Victim Services

P.O. Box 821
Charleston, SC 29402
Contact: Scott Beard, Executive Director

Phone: 843-722-0082
Fax: 843-723-8422
E-mail: SBeardPAR@aol.com

Stephanie Roper Committee and Foundation

14750 Main Street, 1B
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
Roberta Roper, Director

Phone: 301-952-0063/877-VICTIM-1
Fax: 301-952-2319
Web site: www.stephanieroper.org
E-mail: srcf@digizen.net

Victims' Assistance Legal Organization (VALOR)

8181 Greensboro Drive, Suite 1070
McLean, VA 22101-3823
Contact: Morna A. Murray, J.D., Executive Director

Phone: 703-748-0811
Fax: 703-356-5085
Web site: <http://www.valor-national.org>
E-mail: information@valor-national.org

Resource Guide Evaluation

Please take a moment to let the Victims' Assistance Legal Organization (VALOR) and Office for Victims of Crime know if the *2001 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide* was useful to you and your organization. Check the appropriate boxes in the following chart, and also let us know any ideas you have that could be utilized in the *2002 Resource Guide*.

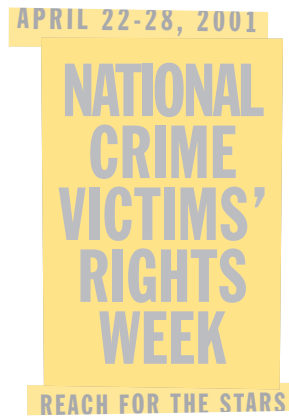
RESOURCE GUIDE COMPONENT	EXTREMELY HELPFUL	SOMEWHAT HELPFUL	NOT AT ALL HELPFUL
Statistical Overviews			
Accessing Information: OVC Resource Center and Other Services			
Sample Proclamation			
Sample Press Release			
Sample Public Service Announcements			
Sample Opinion/Editorial Column			
Twenty Tips for Community Outreach			
Small Poster			
Buttons			
Bookmarks			
Logos			
NCVROW Letterhead			
Cover/Title Page			
Sample Certificate of Appreciation			
National Toll-free Information and Referral Telephone Numbers			
Crime Victim Resources Brochure			
Crime Victims' Rights in America: An Historical Overview			
Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendments			
Sample Speech			
Notable Quotables			
Sample Sermon			
Broadcast PSA (sent separately)			
Large Poster (sent separately)			

Please share your comments and ideas for improving or expanding the *National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide* and **attach examples of your community's activities for 2001 National Crime Victims' Rights Week.**

Return this evaluation form to: **Morna Murray, Executive Director, VALOR**
8180 Greensboro Drive, Suite 1070, McLean, VA 22102
FAX: 703-356-5085 E-mail: information@valor-national.org

Thank you for your assistance in evaluating the *2001 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide*!

This year, hundreds of state and local officials and agencies will issue proclamations or resolutions that officially proclaim the week of April 22-28, 2001 to be "(State/local) Crime Victims' Rights Week." This sample proclamation can be offered to such officials and entities as a foundation upon which to draft an official proclamation that is specific to each jurisdiction's needs. Data from the statistical overviews included in this Resource Guide and/or jurisdiction-specific data can be useful for tailoring the sample proclamation to an individual organization, jurisdiction or state. Victim advocates should request multiple copies of any proclamations issued that can be framed for the offices of the many organizations that co-sponsor 2001 NCVRW activities.



Sample Proclamation

- Whereas,** America's victims' rights discipline has had a powerful impact in educating our nation about the devastating effects of crime and victimization, and the need to provide support and services to individuals and communities hurt by crime; and
- Whereas,** victimization rates in the United States are the lowest recorded since the inception of the National Crime Victimization Survey in 1973; and
- Whereas,** there were still nearly 29 million people in America who were victimized by crime last year, including *[fill in your state's criminal victimization statistics here]*; and
- Whereas,** the year 2001 marks the 25th anniversary of the Victim Impact Statement, which helps our criminal and juvenile justice systems better understand the psychological, financial, and physical impact of crime on victims, and hold offenders accountable for their criminal and delinquent actions; and
- Whereas,** the voices of our nation's victims have had a powerful effect in changing laws, policies, and attitudes to promote victims' rights and services, and encouraging every person in America to take a stand and help crime victims; and
- Whereas,** important partnerships have been formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, allied professionals, victim services, and the private sector to ensure that crime victims are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve; and
- Whereas,** our nation's commitment to crime victim assistance grows stronger with each passing year, with over 10,000 system- and community-based programs in place to provide help and hope to victims of crime; ***therefore, be it***
- Resolved,** that *[individual or entity]* proclaims the week of April 22 to 28, 2001, to be *[city/county/parish/state]* Crime Victims' Rights Week, and celebrates victims' voices as an important chorus for fairness and dignity; ***and be it further***
- Resolved,** that we continue to reach for the stars of justice and compassion for crime victims as individuals, as communities, and as a nation dedicated to justice for all; ***and be it further***
- Resolved,** that a suitably prepared copy of this proclamation be presented to *[your organization]*.

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE

Once victim service providers have completed their plans to commemorate NCVRW, it is helpful to send a general press release to local print and broadcast media that highlights key activities they will sponsor. The sample press release, which includes a national perspective and a quotation from the Director of the Office for Victims of Crime, can be easily personalized to state and local jurisdictions. The sample NCVRW letterhead included in the camera-ready artwork of the Resource Guide can be utilized for the press release. Usually, local libraries have a reference book listing print and broadcast media nationwide that can help create a current media mailing list.

SAMPLE PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

One of the best ways to promote victims' rights and services is through the broadcasting of public service announcements (PSAs). The

three sample PSAs can be utilized for either radio or television stations.

Each PSA should be personalized to include contact information for local victim services, along with any relevant data that accurately reflect crime and victimization in the area in which the PSAs are broadcast.

Victim advocates should contact local radio and television stations at least six weeks prior to NCVRW and ask to speak to the public service director. S/he can provide guidelines about whether the station accepts PSAs and the preferred format. While some stations simply accept PSA scripts that are read by on-air "personalities," others ask that the scripts be read by a representative from the organization that submits them. Be sure to understand and follow any guidelines that radio and television stations provide.

SAMPLE OPINION/EDITORIAL COLUMN

The opinion/editorial page(s) are the most frequently read section of

most newspapers. The sample opinion/editorial column should be personalized and expanded to reflect information pertinent to the community in which it will be published, such as current crime statistics, personal victims' vignettes, and information about local victim services.

The column can also be submitted to local radio and/or television stations as an actuality, which is a 60-second statement of opinion that is usually read on air by the author. Victim service providers should consider submitting the opinion/editorial column or radio/television actuality from a local NCVRW Planning Committee or coalition.

Remember to use the sample NCVRW letterhead for printing the opinion/editorial column or broadcast actuality!

Sample Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
[Date]

CONTACT: [Name/Title/Agency]
[A/C-Telephone #]

“Victims’ Rights: Reach for the Stars”

America Commemorates the 21st Anniversary of National Crime Victims’ Rights Week

[City/State] — During the week of April 22 to 28, 2001, crime victims, service providers, criminal and juvenile justice and allied professionals, and community volunteers will join together across America to commemorate the 21st anniversary of National Crime Victims’ Rights Week. This year’s theme, “Victims’ Rights: Reach for the Stars,” emphasizes the continued hope and aspirations for our nation to treat crime victims with dignity and compassion, and to provide them with services and support in the often devastating aftermath of criminal victimization.

The year 2001 also marks the 25th anniversary of the victim impact statement, which offers our criminal and juvenile justice systems important insights into the emotional, physical, and financial effects of crime on its victims. First implemented in Fresno County, California in 1976, the victim impact statement has become a vital and valued component of justice processes, providing the “voice of the victim” to promote greater understanding of victims’ needs and victim trauma.

For nearly three decades, the victims’ rights discipline has strived to place crime victims’ concerns and issues on the forefront of America’s public policy agenda. Over 30,000 laws have been passed at the federal, state, and local levels that promote victims’ rights and services, including constitutional amendments in 32 states [*including yours, if applicable*]. And 10,000 organizations exist today in our justice systems and communities that provide help and hope to victims of crime.

According to [*spokesperson*], the quantity and quality of victim services that exist today are a direct result of countless individuals who have dared to dream of a society where

— more —

true justice is possible, and consistent compassion for victims is a reality in our homes, neighborhoods, communities, and nation.

“A mere three decades ago, victims were ignored by the justice system and, for the most part, forgotten by society,” [spokesperson] noted. “Today, victims have a powerful voice not only in the criminal and juvenile justice system, but in our communities—voices that contribute to crime prevention, offender accountability, improved services and support for people hurt by crime, and safer communities as a whole.”

Here in [city/county/state], numerous activities have been planned to recognize victims of crime and those who serve them during National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Included are: [cite examples of special events].

Kathryn Turman, Director of the Office for Victims of Crime within the U.S. Department of Justice, encourages people across America to join the Justice Department in saluting the significant achievements of America's crime victims, service providers, and justice professionals.

“Because of the work of so many dedicated individuals who have dared to dream of a nation that respects crime victims, we now have laws on the books and services throughout the country to support victims' rights and needs,” Turman said. “National Crime Victims' Rights Week gives us the opportunity to thank crime victims and those who serve them, and to continue making the dream of comprehensive victims' rights and services a reality in every community.”

Members of our community are encouraged to join together during 2001 National Crime Victims' Rights Week and honor those who bring honor to victims of crime. For additional information about National Crime Victims' Rights Week, please contact [name], [title], or [agency/organization] at [area code/telephone number], or visit [name of agency's] Web site at [Web site address].

END

Type your press release *double-spaced* on the *sample letterhead* included in this *Resource Guide*. If your press release is more than one page, type “– more –” in the bottom right corner of the front page, and *paper clip* the second page to the first page. Add the title and date of the press release, plus “Page Two”, in the top left corner of the second page.

Sample Public Service Announcements

:60 Seconds: April 22 to 28 is National Crime Victims' Rights Week—a time for our nation to reflect upon the hurt and devastation that violence causes to individuals and communities; a time to recommit our support and services to people who have been hurt by crime; and a time to honor crime victims and those who serve them. This year, crime will touch nearly 29 million people in America, and the domino effect can be shocking. Crime touches individuals, neighborhoods, schools, businesses, and communities as a whole; and crime victims endure physical, emotional, and financial losses that can significantly alter their lives.

Here in [*your community*] and across [*your state*], *help* and *hope* are available. There are many laws that protect victims, provide them with opportunities to actively participate in our criminal and juvenile justice systems, and hold offenders accountable for the harm they have caused. If you have been hurt by crime, we can help; there are rights and services available that can help you regain control over your life. If you are concerned about violence and its impact on [*your community*], now is a good time to get involved. Join us during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, and throughout the year, in providing support and services to victims of crime. Join us in making our community a safer place for us all. Together, we can “reach for the stars” of safety and justice. For information about victim assistance or volunteer opportunities, please call [*agency*] at [*area code/telephone number*], or visit our Web site at [*Web site address*].

:30 Seconds: Male and female, young and old, rural and urban, and every culture and economic status imaginable. These are the faces of victimization in America. These are our family members, neighbors, friends, and coworkers who may be hurt by crime and in need of assistance.

This is National Crime Victims' Rights Week—April 22 to 28. If you or someone you know is a victim of crime, help and hope are available in [*your community*]. There are services to help you understand your rights and feel safe and supported as you deal with the effects of victimization. And if you want to make a positive difference in making [*your community*] safer and helping those who have been hurt by crime, now is a good time to get involved! Remember, you can *get help* or *help out*. For information about services for crime victims or volunteer opportunities, please call [*agency*] at [*area code/telephone number*], or visit our Web site at [*Web site address*].

:15 Seconds: If you are a victim of crime, you have rights and services available to help you. It's National Crime Victims' Rights Week. This week and throughout the year, you can call us to *get help* or *give help*. Pick up the phone—you'll be glad you did. Call us at [*area code/telephone number*] for more information about crime victim services in [*your community*].

Sample Opinion/Editorial Column

“Reach for the Stars of Safety and Justice”

For nearly thirty years, countless volunteers and professionals have dedicated their lives to helping victims of crime and making our communities safer for us all. It has not been an easy journey, because its “pilots” *and* “passengers” are confronted on a daily basis with the human devastation and destruction that violence wreaks on our society. The road to victim justice has led its travelers toward creative, collaborative approaches that recognize the domino effect of crime on individuals, families, and communities, and promote cooperation to ensure that victims no longer fall through cracks in systems that must be designed to protect them.

This dynamic history is reflected in the words of Lieutenant General Omar Bradley, a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under President Harry Truman: “We need to learn to set our course by the stars, not by the lights of every passing ship.” For crime victims and those who serve them, the “stars” that have provided the guiding light for nearly three decades comprise the basic concept of “victim justice.” Shouldn’t people whose lives have been devastated by crime have a voice in seeking justice? Shouldn’t our society work diligently to ensure that victims are treated with respect and provided with rights that keep them *informed* and *involved* in justice processes? And shouldn’t our communities be concerned with holding offenders accountable and providing them with opportunities to “right the wrongs” they have caused by their criminal and delinquent actions?

The answer to each of these questions is a resounding “yes!”. The course set by the stars of *safety and justice for all* is one that recognizes the pain and suffering of crime victims and validates their value as family members and friends who are hurt by crime; as important witnesses who can help hold offenders accountable for their actions; and as community members who are deserving of support and services.

April 22 to 28 is National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, a time to reflect upon the significant accomplishments of America’s victims’ rights discipline, and to pay tribute to the millions of Americans whose lives have been irrevocably marred by crime. Today in our nation, over 10,000 community- and justice system-based programs provide services and support to victims of crime. More than 30,000 laws at the federal, state, and community level help to ensure that victims can participate in justice processes and that individuals and communities are safer.

The year 2001 also marks the 25 year anniversary of the “victim impact statement”—a powerful tool that allows victims to define the harm they endured as a result of crime and delinquency and make sure that the justice system and offenders know about the physical, emotional, and financial losses they have suffered. The voices of victims tell us of the control and degradation that confront victims of family violence and sexual assault. They offer insights into the overwhelming fear that victims of child abuse face, often at the hands of someone they know and trust. Victims’ voices shed powerful light on the often-hidden crime of elder abuse and neglect that tarnishes the golden years of far too many elderly people in America. And the voices of victims whose loved ones have been murdered ensure that someone is speaking up for the rights of those who can no longer speak themselves.

By reaching for the stars of safety and justice, crime victims and those who serve them perform a public service of immense proportions. They take care of individuals and families who are hurting; they work with communities to prevent crime and promote protective measures that contribute to public safety; and they work closely with justice professionals and agencies to ensure that crime victims remain *informed* and *involved* throughout our criminal and juvenile justice systems.

During National Crime Victims’ Rights Week and throughout the year, every person in [*community*] can join in our crusade for victims’ rights, victim services, and victim justice. Our individual and community safety depends on such involvement, and our journey toward “justice for all” cannot be completed without the involvement and commitment of everyone. You can join our many initiatives that “reach for the stars of safety and justice” and, in doing so, can make a positive difference in the lives of countless victims who *need* and *deserve* your support.

Provide a two-to-three sentence description of the author’s title, agency, and relevant role at the end of this opinion/editorial column.

Twenty creative ideas that tie into this year's theme— "Victims' Rights: Reach for the Stars"— are offered to stimulate your thinking. These suggestions can be implemented "as is," or tailored to fit the particular needs or style of your organization, agency or jurisdiction. It is important to involve as many individuals and organizations in your community as possible in your National Crime Victims' Rights Week public awareness activities and commemorative events.

PLEASE NOTE:

FREE MULTICOLOR PUBLIC EDUCATION POSTER

POSTER: The Office for Victims of Crime is pleased to announce that it is offering a graphically designed, multicolor, 24 x 38 inch poster to enhance your public education efforts during National Crime

Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year. You will receive the large poster in conjunction with the 2001 Resource Guide. To receive a limited number of additional copies of the poster, please contact the Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center at 800-627-6872.

BROADCAST PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

You will also receive, as a component of the 2001 NCVRW Resource Guide, a videotape containing a 30-second broadcast-quality public service announcement (PSA), incorporating the graphic design and themes of this year's Guide. This PSA can be distributed to national affiliate, public broadcasting, and/or local television stations for broadcasting prior to NCVRW. The PSA can also be used as an introductory segment for NCVRW commemorative activities.



Twenty Tips for Community Outreach

The following twenty tips are designed to highlight this year's theme—"Victims' Rights: Reach for the Stars"—and can also commemorate the 25th anniversary of the victim impact statement. Many of the concepts presented here have been successfully sponsored in past years by state and local victim service organizations and coalitions.

Each of these ideas should be tailored to fit the specific needs of the sponsoring agency, coordinating committee, or community. The ultimate key to success is to involve as many different individuals and organizations—from the criminal and juvenile justice systems, victim services, and the community—in planning and implementing your 2001 National Crime Victims' Rights Week activities.

1. Create a large, **wall-size visual of "the universe of the victim"** with the heading "2000 National Crime Victims' Rights Week: Reach for the Stars." On the sun, print "Reach for the Stars: Victims' Rights and Services for *ALL* Victims." Include depictions of planets that are entitled "crime prevention" through "law enforcement," "prosecution," "courts," "probation," "parole," "corrections," and "community volunteers." Then fill the "universe" with silver stars that feature the names of all your jurisdiction's system- and community-based victim service programs. Display this visual "universe" in a prominent place, such as a courthouse, police department, or city hall.
2. Contact your county probation department to arrange for juvenile and adult probationers to cut out **large stars** out of cardboard or poster board and cover them with aluminum foil, and glue a plain index card on both sides that says "2001: Celebrating 25 Years of Victims' Voices." The stars can then be provided to crime victims to write their thoughts and feelings about their experiences, or provide a written memorial to a loved one. Then, display the stars on a wall, or hang them on a tree as a backdrop for 2000 NCVRW commemorative events.
3. Sponsor a **poster and essay contest** for elementary and middle school students, and challenge participants to "reach for the stars of safety in our homes, schools, and communities." Create a panel of judges consisting of victims, criminal and juvenile justice professionals,

elected officials and civic leaders, and victim advocates. Display the artwork and essays at 2001 NCVRW commemorative events; seek donations of children's books and toys as prizes, in addition to giving certificates to all participants.

4. Sponsor a contest for your staff and volunteers to come up with the best, most creative **desk decorations and design** that incorporate the "Victims' Rights: Reach for the Stars" theme of 2001 NCVRW. Provide a box of star-related supplies (that can be purchased at reasonable prices at most floral/craft and "dollar stores"). Then seek permission to transfer the desk design/decorations to desks or counters at highly visible locations, such as the front counter of police or sheriffs departments or the reception areas of courts or probation agencies, for the duration of NCVRW.
5. April 2001 is also National Volunteer Recognition Month. Honor your program's volunteers by producing a banner with the heading, "**Everybody is a Star at [name of agency] —Thanks to Our Volunteers in Victim Services.**" Take photos of your volunteers and display each on a star on the banner.
6. Think of creative ways to involve juvenile offenders in **restorative community service initiatives** to support 2000 NCVRW. For example, in Denver in 1999, juvenile offenders provided community service hours to put up NCVRW public awareness posters across the city and, at the same time, fulfilled their accountability agreements and learned the importance of publicizing the rights and needs of crime victims. In Cedar Rapids, Iowa, youthful offenders prepared beautiful "dream catchers" that were given to homicide family survivors at the annual candlelight vigil, in keeping with the 1999 theme "Dare to Dream"; this creative approach can be utilized with this year's theme, "Victims' Rights: Reach for the Stars," as well.
7. Engage community service projects that publicize NCVRW by arranging for probationers to cut **8-inch swatches of blue and silver ribbons**. Make copies of the "ribbon card" included in the camera-ready artwork in this *Resource Guide*, so the double ribbons can be pinned to the card (using two-inch stickpins that can be purchased at most floral/crafts stores). Then, widely distribute the ribbons prior to and during NCVRW, engaging local businesses and public venues to hang the theme poster (also included in this *Guide*) and place a basket of ribbons in a prominent display area.

8. **Challenge allied justice professionals** to engage their staff in *all* your observances of NCVRW, and to document and notate their participation. For example, in 1999 the Georgia Department of Corrections submitted a summary of over 30 activities in which probation officers had participated during NCVRW, including proclamation ceremonies, public information fairs, candlelight vigils and walk-a-thons, and distributing press releases and public service announcements publicizing NCVRW from a community corrections angle.
9. Encourage allied justice professionals to create their own **NCVRW “mini-Resource Guides”** that are specific to their staff, utilizing the materials included in this *Resource Guide*. For example, the Directors of the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections and the California Youth Authority send out selected resource materials—including the theme posters, statistical overviews, media materials, and toll-free telephone numbers for information and referrals—to agency work sites, with a cover memorandum that includes suggestions on how to utilize them for NCVRW commemorative activities, as well as suggestions for how to utilize these resources throughout the year.
10. Seek opportunities for **training and cross-training**, involving allied professionals and community members. For example, in 1999 the state of Texas provided victim compensation training for adult protective services professionals and child protective services, and the Department of Corrections rolled out its posters for its new trauma response team for workplace violence and staff victimization.
11. Consider creative ways to **engage and involve allied justice professionals and community members** in your NCVRW activities. In 1999, the South Carolina Department of Corrections co-sponsored the statewide victim assistance conference and provided two-way radios for conference organizers, flower arrangements for banquet tables, and potted plants from its Horticulture Program that were auctioned at the fundraiser.
12. Consider presenting **“niche” workshops** on victimization topics that offer new ideas and perspectives to audiences that are not always considered “traditional” victim assistance venues. For example, the Executive Director of Aid for Victims of Crime in St. Louis, Missouri—one of the nation’s three oldest victim assistance organizations—conducted a session for small businesses and security companies concerned about crime entitled “Humpty Dumpty 101: Putting the Pieces Back Together.” The session focused on the unexpected roles that business managers have—beyond their policy requirements and liability issues—to provide a leadership role when crime and violence strike in the workplace.

13. Utilize the camera-ready artwork provided in this *Resource Guide* to create a “**calendar of events**” for your community, jurisdiction, or state. In 1999, Washington County, Oregon published an attractive one-page flyer that included:
- C Dates of special events.
 - C Title of the event.
 - C Brief description of the activity.
 - C Location.
 - C Key presenters.
 - C Notation that all events are “free and open to the public.”

On the reverse side, Washington County printed event locations and “contacts for more information.”

14. Ask criminal and juvenile justice and correctional agencies to sponsor a “**moment of silence**” to pay tribute to victims of crime and those who serve them. This idea was submitted from Sacramento, California which, in 1999, sponsored this tribute and, at the same time, presented a check for almost \$4000 raised in a silent auction to the Sacramento County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy Group that provides “first response” to victims of crime.
15. Ask a local printer to reproduce copies of the **bookmark artwork** included in this *Guide* (make sure you personalize the original first with contact information for your agency). Distribute stacks of bookmarks to libraries, bookstores, universities, and schools in your community by Friday, April 20.
16. In 1999, the Connecticut Office of Victims Services utilized the camera-ready artwork in the *Resource Guide* to print **attractive posters** that publicized its programs and services, and included a “**tear off pad**” with a listing of its services and its toll-free telephone numbers. This creative approach offers a permanent poster that publicizes victims’ rights and services, along with a simple method for crime victims and concerned citizens to take a handy reference sheet with vital information for victim assistance.
17. In 1999, the Multnomah County (Oregon) Department of Community Justice and its Victim Services Program sponsored a series of **open houses**. The Department advertised this special event in local newspapers, and sent out invitations to crime victims and service providers in its database.

18. **Lapel buttons** commemorating NCVRW in Ohio were designed and produced by inmates of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. In addition, the Department published a **book of poetry** written by victims and survivors, as well as a **calendar** that depicts the Department's vision and programs for restorative justice that addresses the interests and needs of crime victims, offenders, and the community. Both of these creative ideas lend a visual voice to victims and communities hurt by crime, and offer offenders the opportunity to perform community service that helps crime victims and those who serve them.
19. Utilize the *camera-ready artwork* in this *Resource Guide* to create bulletin boards, bumper stickers, bookmarks, grocery bags, and other visual depictions of how victims and those who serve them "reach for the stars" of safety and justice. Ask local printers or correctional work programs to donate printing services.
20. Solicit a meeting with your local newspaper's editorial board, focusing on how victims' rights and services have made your community a safer and better place to live. Ask victims who have had a positive influence on public policy or community safety to accompany you. Provide editorial board members with this year's theme, along with supportive resources from this year's *Resource Guide*, and encourage them to write an **editorial about the importance of victims' rights and services**, and the contributions they have made to your community.

Perhaps the most replicated component of the NCVRW Resource Guide is the camera-ready artwork. The artwork can be utilized in many ways during NCVRW and throughout the year. Various pieces can be used as "stand alone" documents or incorporated into publications such as brochures, annual reports, and fact sheets. They can also be copied onto overhead transparencies for use in training programs.

The 2001 Resource Guide camera-ready artwork reflects the theme of NCVRW, along with other salient issues relevant to crime and victimization. When appropriate, the artwork can be personalized with local victim service providers' contact information. Local printers and/or correctional agencies may be willing to donate printing services and/or paper, or provide these services at a reduced cost.

The ten categories of artwork include:

Public Awareness Poster, Buttons, Bookmarks, Logos, Bumper Sticker, NCVRW Letterhead, Cover/Title Page, Certificate of Appreciation, Crime Victim Resources Brochure & National Toll-free Information and Referral Telephone Numbers

■ An 11 x 17 inch poster, presenting the NCVRW theme, is included in the Resource Guide. The poster can be enlarged and/or reduced for use in newsletters, brochures, and

even as billboards. Victim service providers should insert their organization's contact information prior to duplicating the poster artwork.

■ The artwork for buttons can be printed in one or more colors to add dimension to the message.

■ Each of the bookmarks should be printed on two sides, and print best on paper that is at least 80 pound stock.

■ Sample letterhead and logos can be used to encourage coalitions and/or NCVRW planning committees to show a united effort under one banner: 2001 National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Victim service providers may wish to incorporate a listing of NCVRW Planning Committee members onto the letterhead prior to reproducing it.

Logos can be used on brochures, programs, invitations, centerpieces, etc. Also, color can be easily incorporated to add more depth to the designs.

■ A bumper sticker is included for reproduction and distribution to local constituencies.

■ Also included is a cover or title page for your Victims' Rights Week material. Space has been left so you can incorporate the logo or name of your agency/organization.

■ A certificate of appreciation is included in the Resource Guide,

honoring victim service providers and others for their contributions to victim assistance. The certificate can be reproduced on attractive card stock, with the recipient's name written in calligraphy. Spaces are provided for the date of the award and the signature of the Director of the organization giving the award. You may also wish to modify the certificate to honor volunteers who assist crime victims and advocates, tying the event into National Volunteer Week, which will also be commemorated during the week of April 22-28, 2001.

■ The list of national toll-free information and referral telephone numbers can be reprinted as a "stand alone" document or incorporated into other victim service organizations' publications. This list can also be utilized for training and technical assistance, especially for criminal and juvenile justice and allied professionals who are in need of good referral programs for the victims with whom they have contact.

■ A crime victim resources brochure is provided as a double-sided, camera-ready, tri-fold brochure. It includes basic information about victims' rights and services nationwide, as well as a listing of national referral numbers. Space is provided for local contact information.



A? THIS CRIME SCENE WILL RETURN TO NORMAL. BUT WHAT ABOUT THE VICTIM? TH

APRIL 22-28, 2001

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

REACH FOR THE STARS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

SPONSORED BY **VALOR** OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME 1-800-627-6872

CAMERA-READY ARTWORK FOR NCVRW LOGOS & BUTTONS

**NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS'
RIGHTS WEEK**

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APRIL 22-28, 2001

**NATIONAL CRIME
VICTIMS'
RIGHTS WEEK**

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APRIL 22-28, 2001

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APRIL 22-28 2001

**NATIONAL
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REACH FOR THE STARS

**NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS'
RIGHTS WEEK** **APRIL 22-28 2001**

**NATIONAL CRIME
VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK
APRIL 22-28, 2001**



**VICTIMS' RIGHTS:
REACH FOR
THE STARS**

**FOR ASSISTANCE OR MORE
INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS
OF CRIME AT**

(800) 627-6872

OR GO ON-LINE

www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc

**VICTIMS'
RIGHTS:
REACH
FOR THE
STARS**

**IF YOU OR SOMEONE
YOU KNOW HAS BEEN
A VICTIM OF CRIME,
YOU SHOULD KNOW:**

YOU HAVE RIGHTS;

YOU CAN GET HELP;

**YOU CAN WORK
FOR POSITIVE CHANGE.**

(800) 627-6872

**OFFICE FOR
VICTIMS OF CRIME**

**NATIONAL CRIME
VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK
APRIL 22-28, 2001**

NATIONAL TOLL-FREE NUMBERS

Information and Referrals on Victims' Rights,
Services, and Criminal & Juvenile Justice Resources

Battered Women's Justice Project
(800) 903-0111

Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Country
Child Abuse Hotline (800) 633-5155

Childhelp USA National Hotline
(800) 4-A-CHILD TDD Hotline (800) 2-A-CHILD

Family Violence Prevention Fund/Health Resource
Center (800) 313-1310

Justice Statistics Clearinghouse
(800) 732-3277

Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse
(800) 638-8736

Mothers Against Drunk Driving
(800) GET-MADD

National Center for Missing and Exploited
Children (800) 843-5678
TDD Hotline (800) 826-7653

National Center for Victims of Crime
(800) FYI-CALL

National Children's Alliance (800) 239-9950

National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug
Information (800) 729-6686
TDD Hotline (800) 487-4889
Hearing Impaired (800) 735-2258

National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and
Neglect (800) 394-3366

National Criminal Justice Reference Service
(800) 851-3420

National Domestic Violence Hotline
(800) 799-7233 TTY Hotline (800) 787-3224

National Fraud Information Hotline
(800) 876-7060

National Organization for Victim Assistance
(800) TRY-NOVA

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
(800) 537-2238
TTY Hotline (800) 553-2508

Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center
(800) 627-6872

Parents of Murdered Children (888) 818-POMC

Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network
(800) 656-4673

Resource Center on Domestic Violence, Child
Protection and Custody (800) 527-3223

VALOR/National Victim Assistance Academy
(877) 748-NVAA

**NATIONAL
CRIME
VICTIMS'
RIGHTS WEEK**

**APRIL 22-28
2001**

**VICTIMS'
RIGHTS:
REACH
FOR THE
STARS**

**FOR ASSISTANCE OR MORE
INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
THE OFFICE FOR VICTIMS**

**OF CRIME AT
(800) 627-6872**

**OR GO ON-LINE
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc**

CAMERA-READY ARTWORK FOR NCVRW BOOKMARKS

2001 EVENTS

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
THE EVENTS LISTED BELOW.

JANUARY

CRIME STOPPERS MONTH

Crime Stoppers International
(800) 245-0009
www.c-s-i.org

APRIL

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse
(312) 663-3520
www.childabuse.org

NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

National Coalition Against Sexual Assault
(phone number to come)
(web site to come)

APRIL 22-28 - NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

Points of Light Foundation
(202) 729-8000
www.pointsoflight.org

APRIL 20 & 21 - NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY

Youth Service America
(202) 296-2992
www.ysa.org

APRIL 22-28 - NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

U.S. Department of Justice
Office for Victims of Crime
(800) 627- 6872 (OVC Resource Center)
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc

MAY

MAY 1 - NATIONAL LAW DAY

American Bar Association
(312) 988-5522
www.abanet.org

MAY 6-12 - NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WEEK

International Association of Correctional
Officers
(800) 255-2382

MAY 5-12 - NATIONAL SAFE KIDS WEEK

National SAFE KIDS Campaign
(202) 662-0600
www.safekids.org

MAY 13-19 - NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc.
(573) 346-4911
www.nationalcops.org

MAY 15 - NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL DAY

Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc.
(573) 346-4911
www.nationalcops.org

MAY 25 - NATIONAL MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY

National Center for Missing and
Exploited Children
(800) 843-5678
www.missingkids.com

JUNE

JUNE 24-29 - NATIONAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACADEMY

Victims' Assistance Legal Organization
(VALOR)
(877) 748-NVAA
www.nvaa.org

AUGUST

AUGUST 7 - NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Association of Town Watch
(610) 649-7055
www.nationaltownwatch.org

OCTOBER

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
(303) 839-1852
www.ncadv.org

CRIME PREVENTION MONTH

National Crime Prevention Council
(202) 466-6272
<http://www.nepc.org>

OCTOBER 21-27 - AMERICA'S SAFE SCHOOLS WEEK

National School Safety Center
(805) 373-9977
www.nssc1.org

OCTOBER 14-20 - WEEK WITHOUT VIOLENCE

YWCA of the USA
(888) 992-2463
www.ywca.org

NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 29, 2001-JANUARY 1, 2002 - TIE ONE ON FOR SAFETY

Mothers Against Drunk Driving
(800) GET-MADD
www.madd.org

DECEMBER

NATIONAL DRUNK AND DRUGGED DRIVING PREVENTION MONTH

Mothers Against Drunk Driving
(800) GET-MADD
www.madd.org



**NATIONAL
CRIME VICTIMS'
RIGHTS WEEK
APRIL 22-28, 2001**

**VICTIMS'
RIGHTS:
REACH
FOR THE
STARS**

**IF YOU
OR SOMEONE
YOU KNOW HAS
BEEN A VICTIM
OF CRIME,
YOU SHOULD
KNOW:**

**YOU HAVE
RIGHTS;
YOU CAN
GET HELP;**

**YOU CAN WORK
FOR POSITIVE
CHANGE.**

LOCAL CONTACT:



CAMERA-READY ARTWORK FOR NCVRW BOOKMARKS

CAMERA-READY ARTWORK FOR NCVRW BUMPER STICKERS

APRIL 22-28, 2001

**NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS'
RIGHTS WEEK**

REACH FOR THE STARS

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APRIL 22-28, 2001

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

REACH FOR THE STARS

...A? THIS CRIME SCENE WILL RETURN TO NORMAL. BUT WHAT ABOUT THE VICTIM? T

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK APRIL 22-28, 2001

R E A C H F O R T H E S T A R S



CERTIFICATE of APPRECIATION

Presented to

For outstanding service on behalf of crime victims

Date

Presented by

APRIL 22-28, 2001

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

REACH FOR THE STARS

INFORMATION AND REFERRALS ON VICTIMS' RIGHTS, SERVICES, AND CRIMINAL & JUVENILE JUSTICE RESOURCES

Battered Women's Justice Project		800-903-0111
Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Country Child Abuse Hotline		800-633-5155
Childhelp USA National Hotline		800-4-A-CHILD
	TDD Hotline	800-2-A-CHILD
Justice Statistics Clearinghouse		800-732-3277
Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse		800-638-8736
Mothers Against Drunk Driving		800-GET-MADD
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children		800-843-5678
	TDD Hotline	800-826-7653
National Center for Victims of Crime		800-FYI-CALL
National Children's Alliance		800-239-9950
National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information		800-729-6686
	TDD Hotline	800-487-4889
	Hearing Impaired	800-735-2258
National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect		800-394-3366
National Criminal Justice Reference Service		800-851-3420
National Domestic Violence Hotline		800-799-7233
	TTY Hotline	800-787-3224
National Fraud Information Hotline		800-876-7060
National Organization for Victim Assistance		800-TRY-NOVA
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence		800-537-2238
	TTY Hotline	800-553-2508
Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center		800-627-6872
Parents of Murdered Children		888-818-POMC
Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network		800-656-4673
Resource Center on Domestic Violence, Child Protection & Custody		800-527-3223
VALOR/National Victim Assistance Academy		877-748-NVAA

YOU HAVE RIGHTS

Every state has enacted laws that provide basic rights to crime victims. Over half of the states have amended their constitution to further protect the rights of crime victims. While these rights vary across the nation, most victims have the following rights:

- **THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION** about your case as it progresses through the justice system;
- **THE RIGHT TO NOTIFICATION** of many different types of justice proceedings;
- **THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE** in court proceedings related to the offense;
- **THE RIGHT TO BE REASONABLY PROTECTED** from your accused offender;
- **THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION** about the conviction, sentencing, imprisonment, and release of the offender; and
- **THE RIGHT TO RECEIVE RESTITUTION** from the offender.

IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF CRIME, THESE RIGHTS MAY APPLY TO YOU!

Literally thousands of programs now exist to provide services, sanctuary, advocacy, and financial support to crime victims. These programs are located within both government agencies and private non-profit or charitable organizations.

YOU CAN GET HELP

ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL, MANY ORGANIZATIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP YOU:

Hotlines for Round-the-clock Immediate Referrals and Assistance

Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Country Child Abuse Hotline (800) 633-5155

Childhelp USA National Hotline (800) 4-A-CHILD
TDD Hotline (800) 2-A-CHILD

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (800) 843-5678 TDD Hotline (800) 826-7653

National Domestic Violence Hotline (800) 799-7223 TTY Hotline (800) 797-3224

Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (800) 656-4673

Non-emergency Information & Referrals

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (800) GET-MADD

National Children's Alliance (800) 239-9950

National Center for Victims of Crime (800) FYI-CALL

National Organization for Victim Assistance (800) TRY-NOVA

YOU CAN WORK FOR CHANGE

Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center (800) 627-6872

Parents of Murdered Children (800) 818-POMC

Resource Center on Domestic Violence,
Child Protection & Custody (800) 527-3223

VALOR/National Victim Assistance Academy
(877) 748-NVAA

America is more sensitive to the treatment of crime victims today because of the efforts of thousands of crime victims that have channeled their pain, grief and frustration into a force for positive change.

Many crime victims and survivors serve as volunteers for local victim assistance programs, join legislative advocacy and victim activist groups to work to change laws and public policy, and serve on victim impact panels to help sensitize offenders about the impact of the crime on the victim.



RESOURCES

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO HELP YOU IN YOUR STATE AND COMMUNITY:

CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAMS have been established in every state to help crime victims cope with many crime related expenses such as medical costs, mental health counseling, lost wages, or funeral and burial costs. Please contact the Compensation Program in your state to find out more about this vital form of assistance.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS provide many important services for crime victims including crisis support, peer support, referrals to counseling, advocacy within the justice system and, in some cases, emergency shelter. Contact the agencies and organizations listed in this brochure for further information.

APRIL 22-28, 2001

**NATIONAL
CRIME VICTIMS'
RIGHTS WEEK**

REACH FOR THE STARS

LOCAL CONTACTS

Provided as a public service by the
Office for Victims of Crime and the
Victims' Assistance Legal Organization.

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW

HAS BEEN

A VICTIM

OF CRIME,



YOU SHOULD KNOW:



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REACH FOR THE STARS

CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS IN AMERICA: AN HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The incredible accomplishments, struggles and victories of the past three decades of America's victims' rights discipline are incorporated into this impressive document, which was originally contributed to the Resource Guide by the National Center for Victims of Crime (formerly the National Victim Center). These landmark achievements are highlighted in Crime Victims' Rights in America: An Historical Overview, which can be reproduced as a document on its own, or incorporated into speeches, brochures and other public outreach activities sponsored during NCVRW and throughout the year.

VICTIMS' RIGHTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendments materials contain a brief history of efforts to enact federal and state crime victims' rights constitutional amendments, along with a summary of states that have amended their constitutions to guarantee an array of rights for victims.

APRIL 22-28, 2001

**NATIONAL
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RIGHTS WEEK**

REACH FOR THE STARS

Crime Victims' Rights in America

An Historical Overview

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” Margaret Mead

1965

C The first crime victim compensation program is established in California.

C By 1970, five additional compensation programs are created—New York, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Maryland and the Virgin Islands.

1972

C The first three victim assistance programs are created:

- Aid for Victims of Crime in St. Louis, Missouri.
- Bay Area Women Against Rape in San Francisco, California.
- Rape Crisis Center in Washington, D.C.

1974

C The Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) funds the first victim/witness programs in the Brooklyn and Milwaukee District Attorneys’ offices, plus seven others through a grant to the National District Attorneys Association, to create model programs of assistance for victims, encourage victim cooperation, and improve prosecution.

C The first law enforcement-based victim assistance programs are established in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and Indianapolis, Indiana.

C The U.S. Congress passes the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act which establishes

the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect (NCCAN). The new Center creates an information clearinghouse, provides technical assistance and model programs.

1975

C The first “Victims’ Rights Week” is organized by the Philadelphia District Attorney.

C Citizen activists from across the country unite to expand victim services and increase recognition of victims’ rights through the formation of the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA).

1976

C The National Organization for Women forms a task force to examine the problem of battering. It demands research into the problem, along with money for battered women’s shelters.

C Nebraska becomes the first state to abolish the marital rape exemption.

C The first national conference on battered women is sponsored by the Milwaukee Task Force on Women in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

C In Fresno County, California, Chief Probation Officer James Rowland creates the first victim impact statement to provide the judiciary with an objective inventory of victim injuries and losses prior to sentencing.

C Women's Advocates in St. Paul, Minnesota starts the first hotline for battered women. Women's Advocates and Haven House in Pasadena, California establish the first shelters for battered women.

1977

C The National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards is established by the existing 22 compensation programs to promote the creation of a nationwide network of compensation programs.

C Oregon becomes the first state to enact mandatory arrest in domestic violence cases.

1978

C The National Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NCASA) is formed to combat sexual violence and promote services for rape victims.

C The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) is organized as a voice for the battered women's movement on a national level. NCADV initiates the introduction of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act in the U.S. Congress.

C Parents of Murdered Children (POMC), a self-help support group, is founded in Cincinnati, Ohio.

C Minnesota becomes the first state to allow probable cause (warrantless) arrest in cases of domestic assault, regardless of whether a protection order had been issued.

1979

C Frank G. Carrington, considered by many to be "the father of the victims' rights movement," founds the Crime Victims' Legal Advocacy Institute, Inc., to promote the rights of crime

victims in the civil and criminal justice systems. The nonprofit organization was renamed VALOR, the Victims' Assistance Legal Organization, Inc., in 1981.

C The Office on Domestic Violence is established in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, but is later closed in 1981.

C The U.S. Congress fails to enact the Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) and federal funding for victims' programs is phased out. Many grassroots and "system-based" programs close.

1980

C Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) is founded after the death of 13-year-old Cari Lightner, who was killed by a repeat offender drunk driver. The first two MADD chapters are created in Sacramento, California and Annapolis, Maryland.

C The U.S. Congress passes the Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act of 1980.

C Wisconsin passes the first "Crime Victims' Bill of Rights."

C The First National Day of Unity in October is established by NCADV to mourn battered women who have died, celebrate women who have survived the violence, and honor all who have worked to defeat domestic violence. This Day becomes Domestic Violence Awareness Week and, in 1987, expands to a month of awareness activities each October.

C NCADV holds its first national conference in Washington, D.C., which gains federal recognition of critical issues facing battered women, and sees the birth of several state coalitions.

C The first Victim Impact Panel is sponsored by Remove Intoxicated Drivers (RID) in Oswego County, New York.

1981

C Ronald Reagan becomes the first President to proclaim “Crime Victims’ Rights Week” in April.

C The disappearance and murder of missing child Adam Walsh prompt a national campaign to raise public awareness about child abduction and enact laws to better protect children.

C The Attorney General’s Task Force on Violent Crime recommends that a separate Task Force be created to consider victims’ issues.

1982

C In a Rose Garden ceremony, President Reagan appoints the Task Force on Victims of Crime, which holds public hearings in six cities across the nation to create a greatly needed national focus on the needs of crime victims. The Task Force *Final Report* offers 68 recommendations that become the framework for the advancement of new programs and policies. Its final recommendation, to amend the Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution to guarantee that “. . . the victim, in every criminal prosecution, shall have the right to be present and to be heard at all critical stages of judicial proceedings . . .,” becomes a vital source of new energy pushing toward the successful efforts to secure state constitutional amendments through the 1980s and beyond.

C The Federal Victim and Witness Protection Act of 1982 brings “fair treatment standards” to victims and witnesses in the federal criminal justice system.

C California voters overwhelmingly pass Proposition 8, which guarantees restitution and other statutory reforms to crime victims.

C The passage of the Missing Children’s Act of 1982 helps parents guarantee that identifying information about their missing child is promptly

entered into the FBI National Crime Information Center (NCIC) computer system.

C The first Victim Impact Panel sponsored by MADD, which educates drunk drivers about the devastating impact of their criminal acts, is organized in Rutland, Massachusetts.

1983

C The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is created by the U.S. Department of Justice within the Office of Justice Programs to implement recommendations from the President’s Task Force on Victims of Crime. OVC establishes a national resource center, trains professionals, and develops model legislation to protect victims’ rights.

C The U.S. Attorney General establishes a Task Force on Family Violence, which holds six public hearings across the United States.

C The U.S. Attorney General issues guidelines for federal victim and witness assistance.

C In April, President Reagan honors crime victims in a White House Rose Garden ceremony.

C The First National Conference of the Judiciary on Victims of Crime is held at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada, with support from the National Institute of Justice. Conferees develop recommendations for the judiciary on victims’ rights and services.

C President Reagan proclaims the first National Missing Children’s Day in observance of the disappearance of missing child Etan Patz.

C The International Association of Chiefs of Police Board of Governors adopts a Crime Victims’ Bill of Rights and establishes a victims’ rights committee to bring about renewed emphasis on the needs of crime victims by law enforcement officials nationwide.

1984

C The passage of the Victims Of Crime Act (VOCA) establishes the Crime Victims Fund, made up of federal criminal fines, penalties and bond forfeitures, to support state victim compensation and local victim service programs.

C President Reagan signs the Justice Assistance Act, which establishes a financial assistance program for state and local government and funds 200 new victim service programs.

C The National Minimum Drinking Age Act of 1984 is enacted, providing strong incentives to states without “21” laws to raise the minimum age for drinking, saving thousands of young lives in years to come.

C The first of several international affiliates of MADD is chartered in Canada.

C The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) is created as the national resource agency for missing children. Passage of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act provides a Congressional mandate for the Center.

C The Spiritual Dimension in Victim Services is founded to involve the faith community in violence prevention and victim assistance.

C Crime Prevention Week in February is marked by a White House ceremony with McGruff.

C The Task Force on Family Violence presents its report to the U.S. Attorney General with recommendations for action, including the criminal justice system’s response to battered women; prevention and awareness; education and training; and data collection and reporting.

C The U.S. Congress passes the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, which earmarks federal funding for programs serving victims of domestic violence.

C The ad-hoc committee on the constitutional amendment formalizes its plans to secure passage of amendments at the state level.

C Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) is organized at the first police survivors’ seminar held in Washington, D.C. by 110 relatives of officers killed in the line of duty.

C The first National Symposium on Sexual Assault is co-sponsored by the Office of Justice Programs and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, highlighting on the federal level the important needs of victims of rape and sexual assault.

C A victim/witness notification system is established within the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

C The Office for Victims of Crime hosts the first national symposium on child molestation.

C Victim/witness coordinator positions are established in the U.S. Attorneys’ offices within the U.S. Department of Justice.

C California State University-Fresno initiates the first Victim Services Certificate Program offered for academic credit by a university.

C Remove Intoxicated Drivers (RID) calls for a comprehensive Sane National Alcohol Policy (SNAP) to curb aggressive promotions aimed at youth.

C OVC establishes the National Victims Resource Center, now named the Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center (OVCRC), to serve as a clearinghouse for OVC publications and other resource information.

1985

C The Federal Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$68 million.

C The National Victim Center (renamed The National Center for Victims of Crime in 1998) is founded in honor of Sunny von Bulow to promote the rights and needs of crime victims, and to educate Americans about the devastating effect of crime on our society.

C The United Nations General Assembly passes the *International Declaration on the Rights of Victims of Crime and the Abuse of Power*.

C President Reagan announces a Child Safety Partnership with 26 members. Its mission is to enhance private sector efforts to promote child safety, to clarify information about child victimization, and to increase public awareness of child abuse.

C The U.S. Surgeon General issues a report identifying domestic violence as a major public health problem.

1986

C The Office for Victims of Crime awards the first grants to support state victim compensation and assistance programs.

C Two years after its passage, the Victims of Crime Act is amended by the Children's Justice Act to provide funds specifically for the investigation and prosecution of child abuse.

C Over 100 constitutional amendment supporters meet in Washington, D.C. at a forum sponsored by NOVA to refine a national plan to secure state constitutional amendments for victims of crime.

C Rhode Island passes a constitutional amendment granting victims the right to restitution, to submit victim impact statements, and to be treated with dignity and respect.

C Victim compensation programs have been established in thirty-five states.

C MADD's "Red Ribbon Campaign" enlists motorists to display a red ribbon on their automobiles, pledging to drive safe and sober during the holidays. This national public awareness effort has since become an annual campaign.

1987

C The Victims' Constitutional Amendment Network (VCAN) and Steering Committee is formed at a meeting hosted by the National Victim Center.

C Security on Campus, Inc. (SOC) is established by Howard and Connie Clery, following the tragic robbery, rape and murder of their daughter Jeanne at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. SOC raises national awareness about the hidden epidemic of violence on our nation's campuses.

C The American Correctional Association establishes a Task Force on Victims of Crime.

C NCADV establishes the first national toll-free domestic violence hotline.

C Victim advocates in Florida, frustrated by five years of inaction on a proposed constitutional amendment by their legislature, begin a petition drive. Thousands of citizens sign petitions supporting constitutional protection for victims' rights. The Florida legislature reconsiders, and the constitutional amendment appears on the 1988 ballot.

1988

C OVC establishes funds for the Victim Assistance in Indian Country (VAIC) grant program to provide direct services to Native Americans by establishing "on-reservation" victim assistance programs in Indian Country.

C The National Aging Resource Center on Elder Abuse (NARCEA) is established in a

cooperative agreement among the American Public Welfare Association, the National Association of State Units on Aging, and the University of Delaware. Renamed the National Center on Elder Abuse, it continues to provide information and statistics.

C *State v. Ciskie* is the first case to allow the use of expert testimony to explain the behavior and mental state of an adult rape victim. The testimony is used to show why a victim of repeated physical and sexual assaults by her intimate partner would not immediately call the police or take action. The jury convicts the defendant on four counts of rape.

C The Federal Drunk Driving Prevention Act is passed, and states raise the minimum drinking age to 21.

C Constitutional amendments are introduced in Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Michigan, South Carolina and Washington. Florida's amendment is placed on the November ballot, where it passes with 90 percent of the vote. Michigan's constitutional amendment passes with over 80 percent of the vote.

C The first "Indian Nations: Justice for Victims of Crime" conference is sponsored by the Office for Victims of Crime in Rapid City, South Dakota.

C VOCA amendments legislatively establish the Office for Victims of Crime, elevate the position of Director by making Senate confirmation necessary for appointment, and induce state compensation programs to cover victims of domestic violence, homicide and drunk driving. In addition, VOCA amendments added a new "priority" category of funding victim assistance programs at the behest of MADD and POMC for "previously underserved victims of crime."

C OVC also establishes a Federal Emergency Fund for victims in the federal criminal justice system.

1989

C The legislatures in Texas and Washington pass their respective constitutional amendments, which are both ratified by voters in November.

C OVC provides funding for the first time to the National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards to expand national training and technical assistance efforts.

1990

C The Federal Crime Victims Fund deposits total over \$146 million.

C The U.S. Congress passes the Hate Crime Statistics Act requiring the U.S. Attorney General to collect data of incidence of certain crimes motivated by prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation or ethnicity.

C The Student Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act, requiring institutions of higher education to disclose murder, rape, robbery and other crimes on campus, is signed into law by President Bush.

C The Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990, which features reforms to make the federal criminal justice system less traumatic for child victims and witnesses, is passed by the U.S. Congress.

C The Victims' Rights and Restitution Act of 1990 incorporates a Bill of Rights for federal crime victims and codifies services that should be available to victims of crime.

C U.S. Congress passes legislation proposed by MADD to prevent drunk drivers and other offenders from filing bankruptcy to avoid paying criminal restitution or civil fines.

C The Arizona petition drive to place the victims' rights constitutional amendment on the ballot succeeds, and it is ratified by voters.

C The first *National Incidence Study on Missing, Abducted, Runaway and Throwaway Children in America* shows that over one million children fall victim to abduction annually.

C The National Child Search Assistance Act requires law enforcement to enter reports of missing children and unidentified persons in the NCIC computer.

1991

C U.S. Representative Ilena Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) files the first Congressional Joint Resolution to place victims' rights in the U.S. Constitution.

C The Violence Against Women Act of 1991 is considered by the U.S. Congress.

C California State University-Fresno approves the first Bachelors Degree Program in Victimology in the nation.

C The Campus Sexual Assault Victims' Bill of Rights Act is introduced in the U.S. Congress.

C The results of the first national public opinion poll to examine citizens' attitudes about violence and victimization, *America Speaks Out*, are released by the National Victim Center during National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

C The Attorney General's Summit on Law Enforcement and Violent Crime focuses national attention on victims' rights in the criminal justice system.

C The U.S. Attorney General issues new comprehensive guidelines that establish procedures for the federal criminal justice system to respond to the needs of crime victims. The 1991 Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance implement new protections of the Crime Control Act of 1990, integrating the requirements of the Federal Crime Victims' Bill of Rights, the Victims of

Child Abuse Act and the Victim and Witness Protection Act of 1982.

C The first national conference that addresses crime victims' rights and needs in corrections is sponsored by the Office for Victims of Crime in California.

C The first International Conference on Campus Sexual Assault is held in Orlando, Florida.

C The American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) establishes a Victim Issues Committee to examine victims' issues and concerns related to community corrections.

C The International Parental Child Kidnapping Act makes the act of unlawfully removing a child outside the United States a federal felony.

C The Spiritual Dimension in Victim Services facilitates a conference of leaders of 13 religious denominations to plan ways in which these large religious bodies can increase awareness of crime victims' needs and provide appropriate services.

C The New Jersey legislature passes a victims' rights constitutional amendment, which is ratified by voters in November.

C Colorado legislators introduce a constitutional amendment on the first day of National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Fifteen days later, the bill is unanimously passed by both Houses to be placed on the ballot in 1992.

C In an 8-0 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Simon & Schuster v. New York Crime Victims Board* that New York's notoriety-for-profit statute was overly broad and, in the final analysis, unconstitutional. Notoriety-for-profit statutes had been passed by many states at this time to prevent convicted criminals from profiting from the proceeds of depictions of their crime in the media or publications. States must now review their existing statutes to come into compliance with the Supreme Court's decision.

C By the end of 1991, seven states have incorporated victims' rights into their state constitutions.

C OVC provides funding to the National Victim Center for *Civil Legal Remedies for Crime Victims* to train victim advocates nationwide about additional avenues for victims to seek justice within the civil justice system.

1992

C *Rape in America: A Report to the Nation*, published during National Crime Victims' Rights Week by the National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center and the National Victim Center, clarifies the scope and devastating effect of rape in this nation, including the fact that 683,000 women are raped annually in the United States.

C The Association of Paroling Authorities, International establishes a Victim Issues Committee to examine victims' needs, rights and services in parole processes.

C The U.S. Congress reauthorizes the Higher Education Bill which includes the Campus Sexual Assault Victims' Bill of Rights.

C The Battered Women's Testimony Act, which urges states to accept expert testimony in criminal cases involving battered women, is passed by Congress and signed into law by President Bush.

C In a unanimous decision, the U.S. Supreme Court—in *R.A.V. vs. City of St. Paul*—struck down a local hate crimes ordinance in Minnesota.

C Five states—Colorado, Kansas, Illinois, Missouri and New Mexico—ratify constitutional amendments for victims' rights.

C Twenty-eight states pass anti-stalking legislation.

C Massachusetts passes a landmark bill creating a statewide computerized domestic violence registry and requires judges to check the registry when handling such cases.

C The first national conference is convened, using OVC funds, that brings together representatives from VOCA victim assistance and victim compensation programs.

1993

C Wisconsin ratifies its constitutional amendment for victims' rights, bringing the total number of states with these amendments to 14.

C President Clinton signs the "Brady Bill" requiring a waiting period for the purchase of handguns.

C Congress passes the Child Sexual Abuse Registry Act, establishing a national repository for information on child sex offenders.

C Twenty-two states pass stalking statutes, bringing the total number of states with anti-stalking laws to 50, plus the District of Columbia.

1994

C The American Correctional Association Victims Committee publishes the landmark *Report and Recommendations on Victims of Juvenile Crime*, which offers guidelines for improving victims' rights and services when the offender is a juvenile.

C Six additional states pass constitutional amendments for victims' rights—the largest number ever in a single year—bringing the total number of states with amendments to 20. States with new amendments include Alabama, Alaska, Idaho, Maryland, Ohio, and Utah.

C President Clinton signs a comprehensive package of federal victims' rights legislation as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The Act includes:

- Violence Against Women Act, which authorizes more than \$1 billion in funding for programs to combat violence against women.
- Enhanced VOCA funding provisions.
- Establishment of a National Child Sex Offender Registry.
- Enhanced sentences for drunk drivers with child passengers.

C Kentucky becomes the first state to institute automated telephone voice notification to crime victims of their offender's status and release date.

C OVC establishes the Community Crisis Response (CCR) program, using the NOVA model, to improve services to victims of violent crimes in communities that have experienced crimes resulting in multiple victimizations.

1995

C The Federal Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$233,907,256.

C Legislatures in three states—Indiana, Nebraska, and North Carolina—pass constitutional amendments that will be placed on the ballot in 1996.

C The National Victims' Constitutional Amendment Network proposes the first draft of language for a federal constitutional amendment for victims' rights.

C The U.S. Department of Justice convenes a national conference to encourage implementation of the Violence Against Women Act.

C The first class graduates from the National Victim Assistance Academy in Washington,

D.C. Supported by the Office for Victims of Crime, the university-based Academy provides an academically credited 45-hour curriculum on victimology, victims' rights and myriad other topics.

1996

C Federal Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendments are introduced in both houses of Congress with bi-partisan support.

C Both presidential candidates and the Attorney General endorse the concept of a Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendment.

C The Federal Crime Victims Fund reaches an historic high with deposits over \$525 million.

C Eight states ratify the passage of constitutional amendments for victims' rights—raising the total number of state constitutional amendments to 29 nationwide.

C The Community Notification Act, known as "Megan's Law," provides for notifying communities of the location of convicted sex offenders by amendment to the national Child Sexual Abuse Registry legislation.

C President Clinton signs the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act, providing one million dollars in funding to strengthen antiterrorism efforts, making restitution mandatory in violent crime cases, and expanding the compensation and assistance services for victims of terrorism both at home and abroad, including victims in the military.

C The Office for Victims of Crime uses its new authority under the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act to provide substantial financial assistance to the victims and survivors of the Oklahoma City bombing.

C The Mandatory Victims' Restitution Act, enacted as Title II of the Antiterrorism and

Effective Death Penalty Act, allows federal courts to award “public harm” restitution directly to state VOCA victim assistance programs. As a result of the new sentencing guidelines, judges can require federal offenders in certain drug offense cases to pay “community restitution.”

C The National Domestic Violence Hotline is established to provide crisis intervention information and referrals to victims of domestic violence and their friends and family.

C OVC launches a number of international crime victim initiatives, including working to foster worldwide implementation of a United Nations declaration on victims’ rights and working to better assist Americans who are victimized abroad.

C The Church Arson Prevention Act is signed into law in July, in response to increasing numbers of acts of arson against religious institutions around the country.

C The Drug-Induced Rape Prevention Act is enacted to address the emerging issue of the use of sedating drugs by rapists on victims.

C The Office for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), within the U.S. Department of Justice, issues the *Juvenile Justice Action Plan* that includes recommendations for victims’ rights and services for victims of juvenile offenders within the juvenile justice system.

C President Clinton directs the Attorney General to hold the federal system to a higher standard of services for crime victims.

1997

C In January, a federal victims’ rights constitutional amendment is reintroduced in the opening days of the 105th Congress with strong bi-partisan support.

C In February, OVC convenes the first National Symposium on Victims of Federal Crimes. Coordinated by the National Organization for Victim Assistance, the symposium provides intensive training to nearly 1,000 federal employees who work with crime victims around the world.

C In March, Congress passes at historic speed the Victims Rights Clarification Act of 1997 to clarify existing federal law allowing victims to attend a trial and to appear as “impact witnesses” during the sentencing phase of both capital and non-capital cases. Supported by the Justice Department, President Clinton immediately signs the Act, allowing the victims and survivors of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City to both observe the trial that is scheduled to begin within days and to provide input later at sentencing.

C In April, the Senate Judiciary Committee conducts hearings on the proposed federal constitutional amendment. While not endorsing specific language, Attorney General Janet Reno testifies in support of federal constitutional rights for crime victims.

C In June, President Clinton reaffirms his support of federal constitutional rights for crime victims in a Rose Garden ceremony attended by members of Congress, criminal justice officials, and local, state, and national victims’ rights organizations. Also that month, the Judiciary Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives conducts its first hearing on the proposed amendment.

C In July, the Crime Victims Assistance Act is introduced into the U.S. Senate, offering full-scale reform of federal rules and federal law to establish stronger rights and protections for victims of federal crime. This legislation further proposes to assist victims of state crime through the infusion of additional resources to make the criminal justice system more supportive of crime victims.

C To fully recognize the sovereignty of Indian Nations, OVC for the first time provides victim assistance grants in Indian Country directly to the tribes.

C A federal anti-stalking law is enacted by Congress.

C The Federal Crime Victims Fund reaches its second highest year in fund collections with deposits totaling \$363 million.

C Due to the large influx of VOCA funds in the previous fiscal year, OVC hosts a series of regional meetings with state VOCA administrators to encourage states to develop multi-year funding strategies to help stabilize local program funding, expand outreach to previously underserved victims, and to support the development and implementation of technologies to improve victims' rights and services.

C OVC continues its support of the victims and survivors of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City by funding additional advocates, crisis counseling, and travel expenses to court proceedings for the bombing victims. When the venue of the trial is changed to Denver, Colorado, OVC provides funding for a special closed-circuit broadcast to victims and survivors in Oklahoma City.

C OVC representatives join the United States Delegation to the United Nations Commission on Criminal Justice and Crime Prevention. OVC plays a leadership role in the development of an International Victim Assistance Training Manual to implement the *U.N. Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power*.

C The National Victim Center utilizes its extensive legislative database to create the *Legislative Sourcebook*, a comprehensive compendium of victims' rights laws in all states. Developed with support from OVC, the *Sourcebook* becomes the definitive digest of state

legislation on crime victims' rights laws for the nation.

C The third National Victim Assistance Academy is held, bringing the total number of students graduated to over 300 from 48 states. Supported by OVC and sponsored by the Victims' Assistance Legal Organization, California State University-Fresno, and the Medical University of South Carolina, the 45-hour Academy is conducted simultaneously at four universities across the nation linked by distance learning technology.

C A comprehensive national training for VOCA Compensation and Assistance programs is hosted by the National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards and the National Organization for Victim Assistance with support from OVC. VOCA representatives from all 50 states and every territory are in attendance.

C During National Crime Victims Rights Week, OVC officially launches its homepage <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/>>, providing Internet access to its comprehensive resources about victims' rights and services.

C *New Directions from the Field: Victims Rights and Services for the 21st Century* is completed with support from OVC. It assesses the nation's progress in meeting the recommendations set forth in the *Final Report* of the 1982 President's Task Force on Victims of Crime, and issues over 250 new recommendations from the field for the next millennium.

1998

C Senate Joint Resolution 44, a new version of the federal Victims' Rights Amendment, is introduced in the Senate by Senators Jon Kyl and Dianne Feinstein. The Senate Judiciary Committee subsequently approves SJR 44 by an 11-6 vote. No further action is taken on SJR 44 during the 105th Congress.

C Four new states pass state victims' rights constitutional amendments: Louisiana by a voter margin of approval of 69 percent; Mississippi by 93 percent; Montana by 71 percent; and Tennessee by 89 percent. Also in 1998, the Supreme Court of Oregon overturns the Oregon state victims' rights amendment, originally passed in 1996, citing structural deficiencies.

C The fourth National Victim Assistance Academy (NVAA), sponsored and funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime, is held at four university sites around the country, bringing the total number of NVAA graduates to nearly 700. To date, students from all fifty states, one American territory, and three foreign countries have attended the Academy.

C PL 105-244, the Higher Education Amendments of 1998, is passed. Part E of this legislation, "Grants to Combat Violent Crimes Against Women on Campus," is authorized through the year 2003, and appropriates a total of \$10 million in grant funding to the Violence Against Women Grants Office for fiscal year 1999. Another primary aim of this legislation is to reduce binge drinking and illegal alcohol consumption on college campuses.

C The Child Protection and Sexual Predator Punishment Act of 1998 is enacted, providing for numerous sentencing enhancements and other initiatives addressing sex crimes against children, including crimes facilitated by the use of interstate facilities and the Internet.

C The Crime Victims with Disabilities Act of 1998 is passed, representing the first effort to systematically gather information on the extent of the problem of victimization of individuals with disabilities. This legislation directs the Attorney General to conduct a study on crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities within eighteen months. In addition, the Bureau of Justice Statistics must include statistics on the nature of crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities and victim

characteristics in its annual *National Crime Victimization Survey* by 2000.

C The Identity Theft and Deterrence Act of 1998 is signed into law in October 1998. This landmark federal legislation outlaws identity theft and directs the U.S. Sentencing Commission to consider various factors in determining penalties including the number of victims and the value of to any individual victim. The Act further authorizes the Federal Trade Commission to log and acknowledge reports of identity theft, provide information to victims, and refer complaints to appropriate consumer reporting and law enforcement agencies.

1999

C On January 19, 1999, the Federal Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendment (Senate Joint Resolution 3, identical to SJR 44) is introduced before the 106th Congress.

C The Victim Restitution Enforcement Act of 1999 (S. 145), sponsored by Senator Abraham Spencer and introduced in the Senate Judiciary Committee on January 19, 1999 is officially titled a *Bill to Control Crime by Requiring Mandatory Victim Restitution*. Components of the proposed bill include establishment of procedures regarding the court's ascertaining of the victim's losses; requirement that restitution to victims be ordered in the full amount of their losses without consideration of the defendant's economic circumstances; and authorization of the court, upon application of the United States, to enter a restraining order or injunction, require the execution of a satisfactory performance bond, or take any other action necessary to preserve the availability of property or assets necessary to satisfy the criminal restitution order.

C On January 20, 1999, Senator Joseph Biden introduces the Violence Against Women Act II, a bill that extends and strengthens the original 1994 Violence Against Women Act. Key provisions of this bill would: (1) strengthen

enforcement of “stay away” orders across state lines; (2) boost spending for more women’s shelters; (3) end insurance discrimination against battered women; (4) extend the Family and Medical Leave Act to cover court appearances by battered women; and (5) target the “date rape drug,” Rohypnol, with maximum federal penalties.

C The fifth National Victim Assistance Academy is held in June 1999 at five university locations across the United States, bringing the total number of Academy graduates to nearly 1,000.

2000

C The U.S. Congress passes a new national drunk driving limit of 0.08 blood alcohol concentration (BAC) with the strong support of Mothers Against Drunk Driving and other victim advocacy organizations, as well as leading highway safety, health, medical, law enforcement, and insurance groups. The new law, which passed with strong bipartisan support, requires the states to pass 0.08 “per se intoxication” laws or lose a portion of their annual federal highway funding.

C In October 2000, the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 is signed into law by President Clinton, extending VAWA through 2005, and authorizing funding at \$3.3 billion over the five-year period. Highlights include:

- Authorizes \$80 million a year for rape prevention and education grants.
- Expands federal stalking statute to include stalking on the Internet.
- Authorizes \$875 million over five years for battered women’s shelters.
- Provides \$25 million in 2001 for transitional housing programs.

- Provides funding totaling \$25 million to address violence against older women and women with disabilities.

C The Internet Fraud Complaint Center Web site <www.ifccfbi.gov> is created by the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the National White Collar Crime Center to combat Internet fraud by giving consumers nationwide a convenient way to report violations and by centralizing information about fraud for law enforcement.

C The National Crime Victimization Survey victimization rates in 1999 are the lowest recorded since the survey’s creation in 1973.

C In April 2000, the Federal Victims’ Rights Constitutional Amendment (SJR 3) is addressed for the first time by the full U.S. Senate. On April 27, 2000, following two-and-a-half days of debate, SJR 3 is withdrawn for further consideration by its co-sponsors, Senators Kyl (R-AZ) and Feinstein (D-CA), when it becomes apparent that the measure would not receive a two-thirds majority vote for approval.

C In June 2000, the Sixth National Victim Assistance Academy is held at five university sites across the country. A total of 347 students representing 47 states, the District of Columbia, 2 foreign countries, and 3 U.S. Territories graduates from the 2000 Academy.

C In November 2000, the National Victim Assistance Academy launches its *Advanced Topic Series* with an offering of “The Ultimate Educator: Maximizing Adult Learning Through Training and Instruction” at Georgetown University Conference Center, Washington, DC.

Compiled by the National Center for Victims of Crime with the support and assistance of the U.S. Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime, Victims’ Assistance Legal Organization, Inc. (VALOR), and the many national, state and local victim service providers who offered documentation of their key victims’ rights landmark activities.

Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendments

“When someone is a victim, he or she should be at the center of the criminal justice process, not on the outside looking in. Participation in all forms of government is the essence of democracy. Victims should be guaranteed the right to participate in proceedings related to crimes committed against them. People accused of crimes have explicit constitutional rights. Ordinary citizens have a constitutional right to participate in criminal trials by serving on a jury. The press has a constitutional right to attend trials. All of this is as it should be. It is only the victims of crime who have no constitutional right to participate, and that is not the way it should be.”

*President William Jefferson Clinton
Remarks at Announcement of the Victims' Rights
Constitutional Amendment, June 25, 1996*

The issue of federal constitutional protection of victims' rights was first raised in the landmark President's Task Force on Victims of Crime *Final Report* published in 1982. Its authors proposed augmenting the Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution to provide that “. . . the victim, in every criminal prosecution, shall have the right to be present and to be heard at all critical stages of judicial proceedings.”

Prior to the 1998 elections, a total of twenty-nine states had passed state victims' rights constitutional amendments. In the Fall of 1998, the voters in four additional states approved state victims' rights constitutional amendments—Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, and Tennessee. Also in 1998, the Oregon Supreme Court overturned that state's victims' rights constitutional amendment, citing structural deficiencies. Thus, with one loss and four gains, a total of *thirty-three states have amended their constitutions*, but a total of thirty-two states enjoy *current* constitutional protection for victims, guaranteeing an array of rights, including notification, participation, protection, and input. A handful of states applies these constitutional rights to victims of juvenile as well as adult, offenders.

In April of 1996, and again in the opening session of the new Congress in January of 1997, a Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendment was introduced by Senators Jon Kyl (R-AZ) and Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) in the U.S. Senate and by Henry Hyde (R-IL) in the House of Representatives. In June of 1996, President Clinton endorsed the concept of a federal constitutional amendment for crime victims' rights in a special ceremony held at the White House. His moving words are quoted above.

The Judiciary Committees in the Senate and House of Representatives have held hearings on the federal constitutional amendment. Attorney General Janet Reno testified to the need for constitutional rights for crime victims at hearings held in 1997.

On April 1, 1998, Senators Jon Kyl and Dianne Feinstein introduced a new version of the constitutional amendment, Senate Joint Resolution 44. In order to gain key Senate Judiciary Committee support, this new version of the proposed federal Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendment incorporates two significant language changes to the previous version: (1) the amendment is limited to victims of *violent* crime; and (2) Section 2 now includes language stating that a violation of crime victims' rights pursuant to the Amendment gives no grounds to overturn a sentence or negotiated plea agreement. In July 1998, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted 11-6 in favor of SJR 44. No further action was taken on SJR 44 during the 105th Congress.

On January 19, 1999, Senate Joint Resolution 3, identical to SJR 44, was introduced before the 106th Congress. In April 2000, SJR 3 was addressed for the first time by the full U.S. Senate. On April 27, 2000, following two-and-a-half days of debate, SJR 3 was withdrawn for further consideration by its co-sponsors, Senators Kyl and Feinstein, when it became apparent that the measure would not receive a two-thirds majority vote for approval.

The proposed federal Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendment continues to receive strong bipartisan support, as well as support from organizations representing national, state, and local victim services, law enforcement, criminal justice, and community and institutional corrections.

For additional information about the federal constitutional amendment, contact your elected representative. You may also wish to contact:

National Victims' Constitutional Amendment Network
789 Sherman Street, Suite 670
Denver, Colorado 80203
800-529-8226

History of State Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendments

State	Year Passed	Electoral Support	State	Year Passed	Electoral Support
Alabama	1994	80%	Nebraska	1996	78%
Alaska	1994	87%	Nevada	1996	74%
Arizona	1990	58%	New Jersey	1991	85%
California	1982	56%	New Mexico	1992	68%
Colorado	1992	86%	North Carolina	1996	78%
Connecticut	1996	78%	Ohio	1994	77%
Florida	1988	90%	Oklahoma	1996	91%
Idaho	1994	79%	Oregon	1996	59%
Illinois	1992	77%	OVERTURNED	1998	
Indiana	1996	89%	Rhode Island	1986	*
Kansas	1992	84%	South Carolina	1996	89%
Louisiana	1998	69%	Tennessee	1998	89%
Maryland	1994	92%	Texas	1989	73%
Michigan	1992	84%	Utah	1994	68%
Mississippi	1998	93%	Virginia	1996	84%
Missouri	1992	84%	Washington	1989	78%
Montana	1998	71%	Wisconsin	1993	84%

* Passed by Constitutional Convention.

SAMPLE SPEECH

The sample speech reflects the 2001 NCVRW theme and offers a broad national perspective about the current status of victims' rights and services. It should be personalized to reflect local issues and concerns, as well as to educate the public about victims' rights and services available in the community in which the speech is delivered. Potential audiences for NCVRW speeches include: civic organizations; allied professional groups; schools, colleges and universities (classes, general assemblies, and student/faculty organizations); criminal and juvenile justice and victims' rights conferences; and religious institutions.

For more information about federally-funded victim service programs, you may wish to visit the Office for Victims of Crime homepage on the Internet at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/>.

NOTABLE QUOTABLES

This Resource Guide contains a variety of quotations that address the NCVRW theme and other salient issues relevant to victims' rights and victim justice. The "notable quotables" can be utilized in speeches, brochures, and all public outreach publications and activities sponsored during NCVRW and throughout the year.

SAMPLE SERMON

Supporters from the faith community for NCVRW can greatly enhance public outreach efforts. Many faith leaders are willing to incorporate messages relevant to victims' rights and services in order to commemorate NCVRW. Victim service providers should contact religious leaders at least six weeks prior to NCVRW to determine if they are willing to address crime victims' rights and needs in their sermons on Sunday, April 22, 2001.

APRIL 22-28, 2001

**NATIONAL
CRIME
VICTIMS'
RIGHTS
WEEK**

REACH FOR THE STARS

Sample Speech

It's National Crime Victims' Rights Week, a time for people across America—in communities large and small, urban and rural—to honor those who have been hurt by crime, and to celebrate the many successes of the victims' rights discipline in the United States. It is, indeed, a time for optimism:

- Between 1998 and 1999, violent crime rates declined ten percent (the lowest level ever recorded in the history of the National Crime Victimization Survey).
- During this same period, property crimes experienced a nine percent decline, continuing a 20-year decline.
- And in 1999, the Uniform Crime Index fell for the eighth straight year in a row, resulting in the lowest level since 1979.

It is a time for optimism built upon a solid record of accomplishment for victims of crime and those who serve them. As we reflect on the theme of this year's commemoration—"Victims' Rights: Reach for the Stars"—we reflect, too, on the progress that has been made in the past thirty years. Helen Keller once said, "No pessimist ever discovered the secret of the stars, or sailed to an uncharted land, or opened a new doorway for the human spirit." Our field has, for years, consisted of eternal optimists—activists who wouldn't take "no" for an answer when victims' rights and dignity were at stake; who believed that victim safety, information, and involvement could provide a strong foundation for our pursuit of justice and offender accountability; who thought, as homicide victim Stephanie Roper said, "One person can make a difference, and every one should try."

It was not too far in the distant past when "victims' rights" were considered by many to be an oxymoron. A quarter century ago, most courtroom doors were shut to victims, their voices unheard, their pleas for information unanswered. There were no victim assistance programs in the juvenile justice system, and community-based victim assistance groups struggled to keep their doors open, operating off of kitchen tables on shoestring budgets. Domestic violence was considered merely a "family matter." Rape victims were often blamed for the violence they endured. Crimes against vulnerable populations—children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities—were seldom discussed. And drunk driving was not even considered to be a crime. What the pioneers of our field did was put a face on individual victims, encourage their voices to be heard, and give reality to the crimes they endured.

The year 2001 marks a special anniversary—25 years since the first victim impact statement was heard in Fresno County, California. In reflecting on the impetus of this core victims’ right, then-Chief Probation Officer James Rowland observed that “victims of crime received no services, were isolated from the justice system, and were seldom provided with any information unless they were needed as a witness. I also learned that except for law enforcement officers, criminal justice practitioners—including judges—seldom had an opportunity to learn about the short- or long-term impact of crime on victims and their families.” Rowland credits the emergence of victim impact statements to a collaborative effort involving not only his agency, but a judge, public defender, and faith community representative—an important partnership that has resulted in “the voice of the victim” being heard in criminal and juvenile courts, by paroling authorities, and by offenders through the use of victim impact panels and victim awareness classes.

In reaching for the stars of safety and justice, crime victims and their advocates have helped *not only* individuals touched by crime, but *entire communities* as a whole. We have provided impetus for greater focus on early interventions and crime prevention that result in fewer victimizations. We have shed light on the considerable needs of victims of juvenile offenders in a system that traditionally excluded them. We have begun to convince communities that they have a critical stake and important role in justice—that their involvement as volunteers for victims, as mentors for at-risk youth and juvenile offenders, and as members of neighborhood safety initiatives can contribute to the safety and well-being of their homes and neighborhoods.

Yes, crime is down, but for the seven-and-a-half million violent crime victims and 21 million property crime victims last year, these optimistic statistics don’t mean much. It is *their* many needs and rights that we must recommit our individual and collective energies to address. It is *their* faces we must, ourselves, face with empathy and understanding. It is *their* voices we must amplify with our own, seeking justice for them, and comprehensive, supportive services to meet their many needs.

Here in [*community/state*], we continue our efforts to reach for the stars of safety and justice for victims and all community members. [*Here, describe innovative victim assistance programs, collaborative community initiatives, or new victims’ rights laws that are relevant to your specific audience*].

The Spanish poet Jose Marti once said, “People are like the stars; some generate their own light, while others reflect the brilliance they receive.” Not a day goes by in [*community*] without that “light” being generated: by the police officer who responds sensitively to a battered woman; by prosecutors who continually object to tactics that “blame the victim;” by the judge who ensures that the victim’s voice is heard before sentencing decisions are made; by probation officers who consider victims to be their “clients” and for whom “offender accountability” is not simply

rhetoric, but reality. This bright light is generated also by victim advocates who dedicate their lives to helping those who are hurt by crime, who themselves endure many sacrifices in order to better serve victims; and by community members and volunteers who make justice and safety their business. The “brilliance” Marti describes is, indeed, reflected in the lives of crime victims, for whom a helping hand can lead to healing of the mind, body, and spirit.

This week, we celebrate our accomplishments, ever mindful of the other fifty-one weeks of the year during which our commitment and resolve remain vital to victims’ rights and services. So as we reach for the stars of safety and justice for all, let us be mindful of the need, as James Rowland once said, to not rest on our laurels “until victims’ rights are *not just celebrated annually, but practiced daily.*”

Notable Quotables

“Victims’ Rights: Reach for the Stars” Theme Quotations

Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you’ll land among the stars. *Les Brown*

It is not in the stars to hold our destiny but in ourselves. *William Shakespeare*

No pessimist ever discovered the secret of the stars, or sailed to an uncharted land, or opened a new doorway for the human spirit. *Helen Keller*

I always have to dream up there against the stars. If I don’t dream I will make it, I won’t even get close. *Henry J. Kaiser*

People are like the stars; some generate their own light, while others reflect the brilliance they receive. *Jose Marti*

Some things are meant to happen, some things are bound to be.

Love has a way of making doubting hearts believe.

Sometimes in spite of difference, sometimes against all odds,

Some things are meant to happen, it’s in the stars. *Amie Comeaux*

We need to learn to set our course by the stars, not by the lights of every passing ship.
Omar Bradley

When you reach for the stars, you may not quite get one, but you won’t come up with a handful of mud either. *Leo Burnett*

Psychologically, “having it all” is not a valid concept. The marvelous thing about human beings is that we are perpetually reaching for the stars. The more we have, the more we want. And for this reason, we never have it all. *Joyce Brothers*

Additional Inspirational Quotations

It is good to have an end to journey toward, but it is the journey that matters in the end.

Ursula K. LeGuin

If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded. *Maya Angelou*

It is the constant and determined effort that breaks down resistance, sweeps away all obstacles.

Claude M. Bristol

Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Willing is not enough; we must do. *Johann von Goethe*

He who does not have the courage to speak up for his rights cannot earn the respect of others.

Rene G. Torres

Adversity is the first path to truth. *George Gordon Byron*

A will finds a way. *Orison Swett Marden*

I learned that it is the weak who are cruel, and that gentleness is to be expected only from the strong. *Leo Rosten*

You may be disappointed if you fail, but you are doomed if you don't try. *Beverly Sills*

The great end of life is not knowledge, but action. *T. H. Huxley*

Action springs not from thought, but from a readiness for responsibility. *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

The more we do, the more we can do. *William Hazlitt*

Justice cannot be for one side alone, but must be for both. *Eleanor Roosevelt*

I have come to believe that the one thing people cannot bear is a sense of injustice. Poverty, cold, even hunger are more bearable than injustice. *Millicent Fenwick*

It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a person stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope. *Robert F. Kennedy*

Sample Sermon

Those who plant in tears will harvest with shouts of joy. They weep as they go to plant their seed, but they sing as they return with the harvest. —Psalm 126: 5–6

Today marks the beginning of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, a week when we are asked to remember and honor innocent victims of crime and those who serve them in so many different capacities throughout our communities, states, and country.

Each one of us here today has most likely been touched in one way or another by crime. Some of us have had our own personal experiences; others of us know loved ones, friends, or neighbors who have suffered painful and sometimes tragic losses through no fault of their own. Every time we turn on the television set or pick up a newspaper, we are reminded of the destruction that human beings can wreak upon each other as we are confronted with news stories and statistics about child abuse, homicide, family violence, abuse of the elderly, financial crimes, drunk driving crashes, rape, and victimization of individuals with disabilities. And it often seems that the most vulnerable members of our communities—children, elderly individuals, people with mental and physical disabilities—are the ones that we are least able to protect.

The tragedies that unfold in peoples' lives as a result of crime victimization are excruciatingly painful, and it is very human to want to seek vengeance when a wrong has been committed. When we hear of such atrocities, or even worse, when we experience them ourselves within our own families, our own neighborhoods, our own communities and churches, we are filled with a sense of outrage and disbelief. We feel we must do something to right such a wrong, to somehow return the traumatized victims and their families to what life was like before this terrible incident occurred.

Psalm 126 reminds us that we are not alone in the suffering that is inflicted by the maltreatment and abuse of others. This can be difficult for victims of crime to remember as they confront the grim and forever altered aftermath of their lives after victimization. There is so much to despair and grieve in the broken relationships and connections that are torn asunder by crime. There are some relationships that cannot be repaired, losses that irrevocably change lives, and murdered victims who will never return to us in this life.

Perhaps one of the most important things we can do is be the messengers to victims and their loved ones that they are, indeed, not alone. That they are promised a new day when their tears shall become shouts of joy. This does not mean that we should encourage crime victims to forget

their pain; however, in simply being with our brothers and sisters who are suffering from victimization and in acknowledging the unspeakable tragedies they are enduring, we can offer them a glimmer of hope that is promised beyond this suffering. We can help them put one foot in front of the other, with just the tiniest of steps at first, in slowly making their way out of paralyzing despair and hopelessness and into the first glimmer of life after victimization.

The theme for this year's National Crime Victims' Rights Week is *Victims' Rights: Reach for the Stars*. Reaching for the stars is a fitting comparison to what we ask crime victims to do when recovering from the trauma of victimization. Believing that they can recover, believing that God is there for them throughout their suffering may at first seem as inconceivable as believing they might reach out and touch the stars. Although it is difficult for crime victims to really "recover" from crime in terms of returning to the state of their lives prior to victimization, we can assist them in the very long process of adjustment and acceptance to whatever changes in their lives the victimization has wrought. For many crime victims, this long process is a "dark night of the soul" and filled with despair, anger, and hopelessness at the injustice of random and unexplained violence and violation.

Even though it is extremely difficult to be with people who are experiencing such tragedy, this is exactly where we can be most helpful—in physically being present with victims and reminding them, when the time is right, that God is present in their lives and will assist them in the long journey ahead. We can remind them, again when they are ready to hear, that some day their tears will be harvested with joy and they will return from the harvest singing. We can't explain to them why terrible injustices can occur, any more than we can explain why horrible things happen every day throughout the world. We can only help them in every way we can to do what they need to do to proceed on their journey, and remain steadfast in our faith that God is there guiding us all along the way.

One of the hardest things in life to do is to be present with another individual who is in intolerable pain—physical, emotional, psychological, or spiritual. Everything in us cries out to make it better, to do something to take away the pain. But sometimes all we are asked to do is to sit still and listen and simply be there for someone. And again, when the time is right and in many different ways, we can be the voice that reminds one of our brothers or sisters that God is still there, like the everpresent stars in the heavens. In reaching out to our friends and neighbors in need, we are a physical reminder of God's presence, and maybe we can be the one person who is able to bring someone back from the brink of hopelessness and despair and encourage them to make that first tiny effort at "reaching for the stars," at reaching out for new life and new meaning in the midst of tragedy, at reaching out and reclaiming their own lives in a journey of faith.

Dear Friend:

Welcome to the 2001 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide, published by the Victims' Assistance Legal Organization, Inc. (VALOR) and the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime. This year marks the 21st anniversary of the official commemoration of National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW), a time-honored tradition observed by crime victims and those who serve them in the United States. The 2001 Guide is designed to help victim service providers plan and implement public awareness activities to commemorate this special week.

The theme for 2001 NCVRW is "Victims' Rights: Reach for the Stars." This year's graphic artwork is designed to illustrate the efforts that we in the field of victim assistance have undertaken during the last 30-plus years in our ongoing and determined fight for better rights and services for victims of crime. We have reached for what was once a seemingly unreachable star— recognition within the criminal and juvenile justice systems and other service systems that it is the *victim* who has been harmed by the crime and who is entitled to basic legal rights, protection and services. And over and over, all across this great country, we have been successful in reaching for that star. This theme is reflected in all the Resource Guide components which can be utilized throughout the year in public education and community outreach efforts.

The contents of the 2001 Guide include the following: public education and community awareness materials; information about electronic resources available from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service; a comprehensive website listing; resources for the news media to help

promote NCVRW; statistical overviews that address 17 topics relevant to crime and victimization; a listing of toll-free information and referral numbers for victim assistance; and camera-ready artwork for posters, bookmarks, buttons, bumper stickers, cover/title page for NCVRW material, and NCVRW letterhead.

Victim advocates and allied professionals should take a few moments to review the following information regarding the organization of the 2001 NCVRW Resource Guide. All contents are organized within the following 8 main topics as they appear within your 2001 Resource Guide folder (from top left to bottom right):

1. STATISTICAL OVERVIEWS AND RESOURCES

- Statistical Overviews
 - Child Abuse and Victimization
 - Cost of Crime
 - Crime and Education
 - Crime and Victimization
 - Domestic Violence
 - Drunk Driving
 - Elder Abuse and Neglect
 - Financial Crime
 - Hate and Bias Crime
 - Homicide
 - Juvenile Crime and Victimization
 - Rape and Sexual Assault
 - Sentencing and Corrections
 - Stalking
 - Substance Abuse and Crime
 - Victims With Disabilities
 - Workplace Violence and Crime
- Accessing Information: OVC Resource Center and Other Services
- NCVRW Resource Guide Co-Sponsors
- Resource Guide Evaluation

2. SAMPLE PROCLAMATION

3. WORKING WITH THE MEDIA

- Sample Press Release
- Sample Public Service Announcements
- Sample Opinion/Editorial Column

4. TWENTY TIPS FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH

5. CAMERA-READY ARTWORK

- Certificate of Appreciation
- Cover/Title Page
- Crime Victim Resources Brochure
- Bookmarks
- Bumper Stickers
- Buttons
- Logos
- NCVRW Letterhead
- National Toll-free Information and Referral Telephone Numbers
- Poster

6. LANDMARKS IN VICTIMS' RIGHTS AND SERVICES

- Crime Victims' Rights in America: An Historical Overview
- Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendments

7. MAXIMIZING COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS

- Sample Speech
- Notable Quotables
- Sample Sermon

8. OVERVIEW OF RESOURCE GUIDE

You will find more detailed information and tips about the specific content and suggested uses for each of the individual contents of the Guide on the cover page of each section. These tips provide useful ideas for utilizing these valuable resources to ensure the best implementation of 2001 National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

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