

Sample Proclamation

- Whereas,** every individual, family and community in America have the right to live free from fear and harm; and
- Whereas,** while most crimes continued to decrease in our nation in 1997, U.S. residents still experienced nearly 35 million criminal victimizations, including nearly nine million violent crimes; and
- Whereas,** the victims' rights discipline and countless individual victims have worked over a quarter of a century to ensure that victims' voices are heard throughout our justice system and in communities concerned with safety; and
- Whereas,** over 30,000 federal and state laws have been passed that define and protect the rights of crime victims, with over 10,000 national, state and local agencies today providing support and services to victims of crime; and
- Whereas,** during 1999 National Crime Victims' Rights Week, the powerful voices of victims and those who serve them will be commemorated with the theme "Victims' Voices: Silent No More"; and
- Whereas,** the voices of victims offer us important insights into the personal pain and loss that victims endure, and are voices that deserve our nation's attention and respect; **therefore, be it**
- Resolved,** that (individual or entity) proclaims the week of April 25 to May 1, 1999 to be (city/county/parish/state) Crime Victims' Rights Week; **and be it further**
- Resolved,** that we recognize the valuable contributions made *this year, and every year*, by crime victims and advocates who diligently promote justice for all, and offer strong voices for personal and public protection and safety; **and be it further**
- Resolved,** that a suitably prepared copy of this proclamation be presented to (your organization).