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Victims of Crime

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January 2010

Dear Colleague:

The National Center for Victims of Crime is proud to present the 2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide (NCVRRW), prepared in partnership with the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The *2010 NCVRRW Resource Guide* includes a wealth of ideas and tools to help your community plan an exceptional National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

This year's theme—"Crime Victims' Rights: Fairness. Dignity. Respect."—captures the ideals that inspired the victims' rights movement. Only a few decades ago, shocking numbers of crime victims experienced unfairness, indignities, and disrespect. Yet years of work by victims and advocates led to thousands of statutes and 32 state constitutional amendments that establish victims' rights. Every year, we celebrate that progress and commit ourselves to ensuring that all victims know about and can exercise these rights.

The National Center for Victims of Crime continues to help advance that progress. We developed *VictimLaw*, a comprehensive, user-friendly database of victims' rights laws at www.victimlaw.info. You can research the terms fairness, dignity, and respect on *VictimLaw* to learn more about how these ideals influenced victims' rights laws. The National Center Web site, www.ncvc.org, offers updates on victim-related legislation, Congressional testimony, and a host of other resources. Also, our National Crime Victim Helpline, 1-800-FYI-CALL, helps victims understand and exercise their rights.

You might notice that your *NCVRRW Resource Guide* is somewhat "leaner" this year. With input and guidance from representatives from the victim services community, the National Center and OVC agreed on some changes to conserve energy and help distribute the Resource Guide more swiftly. This mailing includes hard copies of all Resource Guide artwork, the entire contents of the guide on the enclosed CD-ROM, and an assortment of media resources on the DVD. As always, you can download the entire Resource Guide from the OVC Web site, www.ovc.gov/ncvrrw2010.

We are sure the *2010 NCVRRW Resource Guide* will inspire, inform, and support your National Crime Victims' Rights Week preparations, and we are honored to share our work with you again this year.

Sincerely,



Mark Butler
Acting Executive Director