



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20531

Dear Colleague:

I am pleased to present the *2012 National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) Resource Guide*, prepared by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, and the National Center for Victims of Crime. We urge you to take advantage of this resource to plan memorable events for your community during this year's NCVRW observance, April 22–28, 2012.

For three decades, National Crime Victims' Rights Week has successfully promoted awareness of victims' rights and services and honored countless crime victims and survivors. This year's theme—*Extending the Vision: Reaching Every Victim*—calls on us to expand the vision that inspired the movement and celebrate the progress achieved to date. It captures the spirit and resolve needed to realize our common goal of reaching each victim in need of hope and help, one victim at a time.

Although there is much to celebrate within the victim rights movement, we face multiple, complex challenges in reaching out to victims. New types of crime have emerged and proliferated as a result of changes brought about by technology, globalization, and demographics in our society. Meanwhile, long-standing types of victimization endure, demanding a renewed commitment to action.

In response, OVC has engaged the field in a strategic initiative—Vision 21: Transforming Victim Services—to inform us, collectively, where we are, where we need to go, and, most importantly, how to get there. This far-reaching initiative will culminate in an informed strategy to chart the course of our future. We look forward to sharing our recommendations and to collaborating with you to realize the promise of Vision 21. We also look forward to observing National Crime Victims' Rights Week with you in April. OVC applauds the skill, energy, and strength that you demonstrate in your work with crime victims every day, and we are grateful for the privilege of working with you in continuing to seek justice for all victims.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joye E. Frost", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Joye E. Frost
Acting Director
Office for Victims of Crime