



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office for Victims of Crime

Washington, D.C. 20531

Dear Public Service Director:

Each year, crime in America affects countless individuals, families, and communities. In crime's wake, victims and survivors often struggle with the physical, emotional, financial and spiritual impact of criminal victimization, and need information and assistance to help them cope with the effects of crime, and to understand the criminal justice process.

Help and hope are available. The U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) provides federal funds to support victim compensation and assistance programs across the Nation. OVC's mission is to enhance the Nation's capacity to assist crime victims and to provide leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims. OVC has produced seven public service announcements—in 20, 30 and 60 second formats and including one in Spanish—to inform crime victims about their rights and the wide range of services available to assist them. These PSAs will also increase the public's awareness about the availability of crime victims' rights and services in case they are ever needed.

This public service campaign commences during the 25th observance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week—April 10 to 16, 2005—but is timeless in its message and impact. It features the actual experiences of 16 survivors who describe how victim assistance programs helped them in the aftermath of crime. These powerful public service announcements provide vital information that can help crime victims, their families and friends, and anyone concerned about justice and public safety, to access the resources they need.

Justice isn't served until crime victims are.

Thank you in advance for helping to promote justice for all by promoting greatly needed services for victims and survivors of crime.

Sincerely,

John W. Gillis

John W. Gillis
Director, Office for Victims of Crime

TV PSAs

English & Spanish

Crime and Victimization in America

According to the U.S. Department of Justice:

- There were 24.2 million violent and property crime victimizations in 2003.
- In 2003, 48 percent of all violent crimes and 38 percent of all property crimes were reported to law enforcement.
- The direct tangible costs to crime victims annually are estimated to be \$105 billion in medical expenses, lost earnings, and public program costs related to victim assistance. Pain, suffering, and reduced quality of life increase the cost to \$450 billion annually.

Providing Help and Hope to Victims of Crime and Awareness to Our Nation

The U.S. Department of Justice is committed to serving crime victims and survivors:

- The Office for Victims of Crime, within the U.S. Department of Justice, can provide information and assistance to crime victims, their families and friends, and referrals to supportive services through its award-winning Online Directory of Crime Victim Services: www.ovc.gov.
- There are over 10,000 victim assistance programs in the U.S. today that can help victims cope with the devastating impact of crime, including many in your community.
- There are victim compensation programs in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico to which violent crime victims can apply to help them recover some of the financial losses that directly result from a crime.

"JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS" :60



MIRIAM: November 30, 2002. I was hit by a drunk driver. I lost both of my legs.



RUETT: When your child is murdered, it's devastating. You have to re-think life again.



EDWARD: It keeps on running over and over in my head all the time.



RUETT: A victims' advocate stood by us through the court process.



MIRIAM: They helped me with my medical expenses.



NOBUKO: With the right help, you can move on with your life.



MIRIAM: I will dance the salsa again.



ANNCR VO: Justice Isn't Served Until Crime Victims Are.

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