



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

SHERIFF PAUL N. WHITE

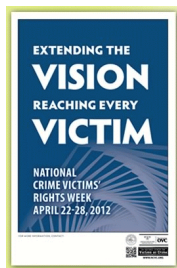
April 18, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Crime Victims' Rights Week – April 22nd through April 28th, 2012

“Extending the Vision: Reaching Every Victim.”

The Anderson County Sheriff's Department joins national commemoration of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 22nd through April 28th, 2012. This year's theme – *Extending the Vision: Reaching Every Victim* – celebrates the vision behind that progress and the ideal of serving all victims of crime.



The vision that launched the victims' rights movement emerged more than 30 years ago. Then – as now – crime victims endured physical and emotional wounds, costly financial burdens, an often hostile criminal justice system, and an alarming public tendency to blame them for the crimes against them. Victims were often excluded from courtrooms, disrespected by officials, and afforded few rights. They began organizing to confront these challenges and to promote fair, compassionate, and respectful responses to victims of crime.

Since the 1980s, the nation has made dramatic progress in securing rights, protections, and services for victims of crime. Every state has enacted victims' rights laws, and thirty-two states have constitutional victims' rights amendments. All states have victim compensation funds, and more than 10,000 victim service agencies have been established throughout the country. The Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice, supports a range of programs for crime victims, and seeks to extend those services to those who are under served.

Please visit the Office for Victims of Crime: www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc.

Sheriff Paul White