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For Immediate Release

AMERICA COMMEMORATES THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA)

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' WEEK
APRIL 6 – 12, 2014

VOICES OF JUSTICE COMMUNITY RALLY
SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2014
10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. AT EASTERN MARKET

On April 6, 2014, citizens will join local officials throughout Wayne County to mark National Crime Victims' Rights Week April 6-12, 2014. This year's theme, "**30 Years: Restoring the Balance of Justice**" commemorates the 30th anniversary of the enactment of the U.S. Victims of Crime Act.

During Crime Victims' Rights Week, the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, in collaboration with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Sasha Center and the Children's Center, will host a Community Rally "**Voices of Justice**" on Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at Eastern Market, Shed 4 – Russell Street between Mack and Gratiot, Detroit, MI. The rally will promote public awareness of rights and services for victims of all crimes through storytelling and poetry. Various service organizations will be available with resources.

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The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984 was an attempt by federal government to help victims of criminal action through means other than punishment of the criminal. VOCA created a Federal victim-compensation account funded by fines assessed in Federal criminal convictions. It established provisions to assist state programs that compensated victims of crimes.

Wayne County Prosecutor, Kym L. Worthy and U.S. Attorney Eastern District, Barbara McQuade are expected to be in attendance.

U.S. Attorney McQuade said: "It is important to remember that crimes have real victims, and that once a prosecution ends, a victim's healing may be just beginning. The Victims of Crimes Act focuses on helping victims recover physically, emotionally and financially."

"Through the generations, the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) has provided an avenue for victims of crimes to assert their rights," said Prosecutor Worthy. "It is through this effort that crime victims can finally be heard and justice is restored."

The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office is grateful to have received funding from the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators (NAVAA) through a grant from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), within the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, to promote community awareness of crime victims' rights and services during 2014 National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

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