For Immediate Release  
April 22, 2015

Today, the National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI), together with more than 20 national victim and survivor organizations, will announce shared policy priorities for the next decade today at a breakfast in Washington, DC in recognition of National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, April 19-25. The event will be live streamed on Twitter (@CrimeVictimsOrg).

Six policy priorities were identified late last fall at a convening of leaders in the crime victims and survivors advocacy field. The broad collection of national victim and survivor advocacy organizations that met to develop the priorities included advocates for homicide survivors; human trafficking victims; elder victims; victims of drunk driving; victims of domestic violence and sexual assault; victims of campus violence; victims of color; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender victims of violence; and many more.

NCVLI and our partners invite others at the national, state, tribal, and local levels to read the report and sign on immediately following the announcement at www.victimsofcrime.org.

The collaborating organizations committed to using their combined energies over the next decade to:

• Ensure that amounts collected for the Crime Victims Fund are released for their intended purpose, at levels necessary to meet the needs of crime victims and reduce the impact of victimization on individuals and society.
• Reform crime victim compensation to increase benefits, improve access, reduce barriers, and promote standardization across jurisdictions.
• Incorporate racial justice concerns in victim and survivor advocacy efforts.
• Protect the physical safety, emotional well-being, and financial security of all crime victims and witnesses.
• Pursue justice for all crime victims by continuing to reform our justice systems to increase transparency, ensure that victims’ voices are heard, and provide meaningful accountability.
• Promote fair and thoughtful roles for institutions in preventing and responding to victimization.

“Working with so many intelligent, dedicated and passionate individuals to identify ways to improve our country’s victimization prevention and response efforts has been a privilege,” said Meg Garvin, Executive Director of NCVLI. “Today, as we stand together to announce these joint priorities I am inspired; inspired because when we stand together there is no doubt we can effect change.”

A recording of the announcement will be available to National Center for Victims of Crime Twitter followers for 24 hours immediately following the event.

Founded in 2000, the National Crime Victim Law Institute is a national resource for crime victim lawyers and advocates to support the assertion and enforcement of victims’ rights in criminal and civil processes. NCVLI continues to be the only national organization whose mission is focused on enforcement of victims’ rights in the courts.