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March 17, 2006

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bill Frist
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Crime Victims Fund

Dear Congressional Leaders:

We are very concerned about the Bush Administration's proposed rescission of \$1.255 billion from the Crime Victims Fund in the 2007 Federal budget. For two decades this money, which comes from fines and forfeitures paid by criminals not taxpayers, has been devoted to providing critical support to crime victims across the country. If, however, this budget is passed that compact will be broken. Countless crime victims will be left without much needed support.

If there are no funds available at the beginning of the 2008 fiscal year the more than 4,400 state and local crime victim assistance programs and agencies that count on this funding will be forced to drastically reduce their services, if not close their doors. This will have a devastating impact on these crime victims. This must not be allowed to happen.

As a crime victim assistance agency, the only one in the country devoted exclusively to serving college and university campus crime victims nationally, we see first hand how important providing this assistance is. Please stand with us in support of the millions of crime victims who depend on this money, and oppose the rescission of the Crime Victims Fund balance.

Thank you,

Connie & Howard Clery, Co-Founders
Security On Campus, Inc.

c.c.: Senator Arlen Specter
Senator Patrick J. Leahy