

Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

April 21, 2009

“25 Years of Rebuilding Lives: Celebrating the Victims of Crime Act”.

The Indiana Historical Bureau is hosting a window display recognizing National Victims' of Crime Week (April 26 – May 2) and honoring the 25th year anniversary of the signing of the landmark Victims of Crime Act. The display will run through the month of May.

The display begins in 1984 with an old rotary phone, a wooden clipboard with a “crime clock,” and a worn pencil attached. Then, there is a picture of President Ronald Reagan, who signed the Victims of Crime Act, October, 1984. Included are quotations from President Reagan’s 1984 blue ribbon crime commission. A *Victim Rights Timeline* highlights important events at the national level and in Indiana.

Next, are pictures and quotes from victims and families, including timely notations about identity theft, elder abuse, victims of terrorist attacks, and domestic violence.

The next display gives a nod to forensic nurse examiners, advocates, and counselors who assist victims, including a small poster in Spanish. The word “Hope” is included to show the power of hope that these trained professionals provide. The word “Peace” is centered in the last display, next to a kneeling angel, and an uplifted hand as a tribute to victims and those advocates who support and serve them on a daily basis.

The Indiana Historical Bureau is located at 315 West Ohio Street, Indiana State Library and Historical Building, just west of the Indiana State House