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## Saluting Employees

# TDCJ, Victim Services support Crime Victims' Rights Week

April marked the 30th anniversary of National Crime Victims' Rights Week and TDCJ's Victim Services Division (VSD) participated in several events honoring those who work to establish and maintain victims' rights. This year's Crime Victims' Rights Week theme – 30 Years: Restoring the Balance of Justice – celebrated three decades of working to support crime victim assistance programs around the nation.

Only 30 years ago, crime victims had virtually no rights and no assistance; today, victims' rights have made great progress, but there is still a lot of work to be done. "Our commitment to reaching every victim of crime is stronger than ever," noted Joye E. Frost, director of the Office for Victims of Crime at the U.S. Department of Justice. "For 30 years, VOCA has represented hope, healing,

and justice. Our message to all victims of crime is this: You are not alone."



**Judy Brumbelow, keynote speaker for the Travis County Crime Victims' Rights Week ceremony, places a note in honor of her daughter on a memorial tree during the event.**

TDCJ's Victim Services Division was represented at the National Crime Victims' Service Awards Ceremony hosted by the U.S. Department of Justice and the Congressional

Victims' Rights Caucus Awards and Policy Forum. VSD also attended a breakfast hosted by the Huntsville Police Department, participated in a wreath ceremony at courthouses in Corpus Christi and in San Antonio, and participated in an Ask the Expert portion of a Corpus Christi network television affiliate. Agency staff helped with presentation at the Nueces County Commemorative and Awards Ceremony, and represented the TDCJ at the Bexar, Collin, Dallas and Travis counties' Crime Victims' Rights Week ceremonies.

VSD also helped host an Evening of Empowerment Event for crime victims in Plano. Attendees received complimentary dinner and child care and were given an opportunity to learn about mental health resources and legal aid. ●