

THE FOLLOWING IS A BROADCAST EMAIL TO ALL OVS FUNDED VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Dear Colleague:

The NYS Crime Victim Memorial, located on the north side of the Empire State Plaza in Albany, is undergoing a significant and important renovation. VAPs are encouraged to share this information with victims and their families and direct them to the New York Crime Victims' Assistance Task Force website at www.nycrimevictimstaskforce.org for updates and information regarding the 2015 Brick Dedication Ceremony. It is expected that the renovation will be completed by April.

As you know, the memorial was established in April 1996 with the placement of a limestone and calcite boulder with a bronze plaque on the boulder reading: "Dedicated to All New York State Men, Women and Children and Their Families Who Are Victims of Crime. May Justice Prevail." The Memorial Walkway, a brick pathway from the monument to the adjacent sidewalk, was dedicated on April 13, 1997. Each brick is engraved with the name of a survivor or deceased victim of violent crime in New York State.

The renovation will include replacing worn bricks with more durable ones and a re-configuration that will change the shape of the memorial from separate paths to a semi-circle. The new memorial design will ensure adequate space to incorporate 1,000 additional names. The names of approximately 850 people are currently included in The Memorial Walkway, and bricks with the names of the 23 crime victims read during the 2014 ceremony will be added during the renovation. The existing blue stone bench at the memorial will be relocated, and a second bench will be added.

On behalf of the Office, we look forward to working with you in our continued effort to provide the highest quality services to innocent victims of crime in New York State.

Sincerely,

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