



Department of Justice



Office of Justice Programs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, April 20, 2012
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Office of Justice Programs
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ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER HONORS ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY WITH FINANCIAL RESTORATION AWARD

WASHINGTON—Attorney General Eric Holder recognized Assistant U.S. Attorney G. Wingate Grant of the Eastern District of Virginia with the Crime Victims Financial Restoration Award today at the 2012 annual victims' service awards ceremony, a prelude to the nation's observance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 22-28, 2012.

"This year's 12 awardees have touched, improved and even saved lives. Perhaps most impressively, many of today's award recipients have achieved these results by transforming their own experiences into a positive force for sweeping change," said Attorney General Holder. "Every one of them deserves the commendation that is being bestowed today – not only for their remarkable contributions in responding to protecting and defending crime victims and their loved ones but also for the examples they have set for others to follow."

Assistant U.S. Attorney Wingate Grant, a leading expert on federal forfeiture and restitution for victims of crime, conceived and implemented an innovative unit within the U.S. Attorney's Office designed to recover assets for crime victims. He developed training materials for federal victim professionals, including a policy guide for forfeiture practitioners and a brochure on remission and restoration of forfeited assets for victims. His efforts resulted in the recovery of millions of dollars in restitution for crime victims in the Eastern District of Virginia.

Mr. Grant received the Crime Victims Financial Restoration Award, recognizing individuals, programs, organizations, or teams which have developed innovative ways of funding services for crime victims, or have instituted innovative approaches for securing financial restoration for crime victims.

In addition to Mr. Grant, Attorney General Holder recognized the efforts of eleven other recipients for their extraordinary efforts in the aftermath of a crime, as well as their professional efforts to better serve the needs of victims with disabilities; for assisting U.S. citizens victimized outside the United States; and for ensuring victims receive compensation and other services at the state and local level.

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The Office of Justice Programs, headed by Acting Assistant Attorney General Mary Lou Leary, provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice, and assist victims. OJP has six components: the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; the Office for Victims of Crime; and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART). More information about OJP can be found at www.ojp.gov.