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Folder Title:
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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 24, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN CEREMONY FOR NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK

The Rose Garden

10:02 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Please be seated, and welcome. Welcome to the Rose Garden on this beautiful Friday. We're here to commemorate National Crime Victims Rights Week. I first salute the Attorney General, who is doing a superb job for our country in the whole area of law enforcement -- Bill Barr, standing here. (Applause.) May I also single out Director Sessions, the head of the FBI, with us today. Bill, welcome, sir. (Applause.)

And to others, may I just say that the people seated in this garden are representatives of one of this country's strongest traits -- compassion. And this compassion is the driving force behind the improvements that are balancing the scales of justice -- strengthening the rights of the crime victims.

For far too long, the agonizing experiences each victim must endure have been overlooked. The seldom realized truth is that the crime is just the beginning of a process that will last months, if not years or lifetimes.

The award winners we honor today realize this fact. They've set out to improve, protect, and strengthen the rights of crime victims. As Attorney General Barr will explain shortly, each and every one of them is a hero worthy of saluting in this war on crime. But before the Attorney General begins the presentations, I would like to take this opportunity to reenforce our administration's commitment to the rights of crime victims. This administration, in particular the Department of Justice, has fought hard to make strides on behalf of the victims in the courtroom.

In 1991, we gained a landmark Supreme Court decision for crime victims in the case known as Payne versus Tennessee -- a case which authorizes, against a constitutional challenge, the admission of victim impact evidence during the sentencing phase of capital cases. In the Payne versus Tennessee case, the Supreme Court recognized that the jury should be allowed to know the tragic impact that homicide crimes have on a survivor.

In this case, the jury was allowed to know not only about the murderer's brutality toward his victims, but toward the survivors. The jury was allowed to know the pain and suffering caused three-year-old Nicholas, the survivor of homicide victims, who missed his mother, Charisse, and his two-year-old sister, Lacie. This decision rings of plain common sense and it rings of fundamental fairness -- a jury should know the victim, as well as the defendant.

I want to continue to see strides made in the courtroom. I've said it once and I let me just say it again: None of us should rest until all of our laws duly reflect the sympathy we should have for victims of crime. A key part of our program to make our cities safe again has been the appointment of judges who interpret the law and do not legislate from the bench. And that is exactly what I have done in naming these people to the bench.

MORE

This is a step in the right direction. And as we continue down the path of equal justice for accusers and the accused alike, we've encountered an uphill climb, frankly, one that is making our work more difficult and slowing the pace of progress considerably. As you might know, that hill that I'm talking about is Capitol Hill with all of its special interest groups.

Here is just one typical example of what we are up against. In 1990, the Congress created 11 new circuit and 74 new district judgeships to help us wage the war on crime. And yet, two and a half weeks ago, special interest groups managed to postpone a vote on my nominee to the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, Ed Carnes. Ed Carnes's nomination has been before the Senate since January 27. He has first-rate credentials, strong support through his home state of Alabama.

In addition, no senator has yet indicated opposition. However, some interest groups, not the Senate but the interest groups oppose his nomination. Their reason? As a prosecutor, Ed Carnes has actively campaigned against procedural technicalities designed to prevent imposition of the death penalty. Their course of action? To obtain a one-month postponement on the vote. And the justification? The nomination needed -- you've heard it before -- "further study."

Personally, I do not understand the priorities of those special interest groups. Why so little concern for the victims and so much for criminals? It is my hope that the Democratic leadership of the Senate agrees with this. And if so, they will not allow Mr. Carnes's nomination to be held hostage any longer, and will vote on it immediately as scheduled upon their return.

It is also my hope that they will resist future efforts to play politics with the courts and will not yield to any more requests for delay on this or other judicial nominations.
(Applause.) I see one person agrees.

And those of you here today play an important role in stopping this practice by special interest groups. You must make your voices heard. And let Congress know that these interest groups do not speak for you. Believe me, it will make a real difference if you check in on this point.

I am proud of what this administration has accomplished on behalf of crime victims and their survivors. But I am even more proud of this nation's compassionate citizens who identified a fault in the system and then, through citizen action, set out to correct it.

I thank you for your dedication, for your hard work, and applaud your successes. And I will now turn the meeting over to Attorney General Barr, asking him to do the honors. And may God bless you all. Thank you. (Applause.)

(Awards are presented.)

END

10:09 A.M. EDT

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/23/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ---

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK
FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1992

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>FINDLAY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>KAUFMAN</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FIRESTONE			<u>MCGROARTY</u>		

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 23, 1992

32 APR 23 P1:43

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID F. DEMAREST *DD*
FROM: CHRISTINA MARTIN *CM*
SUBJECT: PROPOSED REMARKS FOR NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS
RIGHTS WEEK

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, April 24 at 10:00 a.m. you will deliver brief remarks to an audience of 200 at the National Crime Victims awards ceremony in the Rose Garden.

Attendees include Vice President Quayle, Attorney General Barr, award recipients, their families and various crime prevention organizations.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks, (approximately 7 minutes / cards) focus on the Administration's commitment to the rights of crime victims.

After your remarks, Attorney General Barr will introduce the honorees.

Martin\Bunton
April 23, 1992
Draft Two
VICTIMS

Proposed Presidential Remarks: Ceremony for National Crime
Victims Rights Week
Rose Garden
Friday, April 24, 1992
10:00 a.m.

Let me begin by welcoming everyone to the White House this morning to commemorate National Crime Victims Rights Week. The people seated in this garden are representative of one of this country's strongest traits -- compassion. And this compassion is the driving force behind the improvements that are balancing the scales of Justice -- strengthening the rights of Crime Victims. For far too long, the agonizing experiences each victim must endure have been overlooked. The seldom realized truth is that the crime is just the beginning of a process that will last months -- if not years or lifetimes.

The award winners whom we honor today realize this fact. They have set out to improve, protect, and strengthen the rights of crime victims. As Attorney General Barr will explain shortly, each and every one of them is a hero worthy of saluting in this war on crime. But before the Attorney General begins the presentation, I would like to take this opportunity to re-enforce this Administration's commitment to the rights of crime victims.

This Administration, in particular the Department of Justice, has fought hard to make strides on behalf of the victims in the courtroom. In 1991, we gained a landmark Supreme Court decision for crime victims in Payne v. Tennessee -- a case which

authorizes, against a constitutional challenge, the admission of victim impact evidence during the sentencing phase of capital cases. In Payne v. Tennessee, the Supreme Court recognized that the jury should be allowed to know the tragic impact that homicide crimes have on a survivor. In this case, the jury was allowed to know not only about Pervis Tyrone Payne's brutality toward his victims, but toward the survivors. The jury was allowed to know the pain and suffering caused three year old Nicholas, the survivor of homicide victims, who missed his mother Charisse and his two year old sister Lacie. This decision rings of plain common sense and fundamental fairness -- a jury should know the victim, as well as the defendant.

I want to continue to see strides made in the court room. I've said it once and I will say it again: "None of us should rest until all of our laws duly reflect the sympathy we should have for victims of crime . . ." A key part of our program to make our cities safe again has been the appointment of judges who interpret the law and do not legislate from the bench. And that is exactly what I have done. It was Justice David Souter, my first appointee to the Supreme Court, who cast a critical vote in the Payne v. Tennessee decision.

This is a step in the right direction. And as we continue down the path of equal justice for accusers and the accused alike, we've encountered an uphill climb -- one that is making our work more difficult and slowing the pace of progress

considerably. As you might know, that hill is Capitol Hill with all of its special interest groups.

Here is just one typical example of what we are up against. In 1990, the Congress created 11 new circuit and 74 new district judgeships to help us wage the war on crime. And yet, two and a half weeks ago, special interest groups managed to postpone a vote on my nominee to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, Ed Carnes. Ed Carnes' nomination has been before the Senate since January 27. He has first rate credentials and strong support throughout his home state of Alabama. In additon, no Senator has indicated opposition.

However, some interest groups oppose his nomination. Their reason? As a prosecutor, Ed Carnes has actively campaigned against elaborate procedural technicalities designed to prevent imposition of the death penalty. Their course of action? To obtain a one month postponement on the vote. The justification? the nomination needed "further study."

Personally, I do not understand the priorities of these special interest groups. Why so little concern for the victims and so much for criminals? It is my hope that the Democratic leadership of the Senate agrees. If so, they will not allow Mr. Carnes' nomination to be held hostage any longer; and will vote on it immediately as scheduled upon their return.

It is also my hope that they will resist future efforts by these interest groups to play politics with the courts, and will

not yield to any more baseless requests for delay on this or other judicial nominations.

Those of you here today also play an important role in stopping this unprincipled practice. You must make your voices heard. Let Congress know that these special interest groups do not speak for you. Believe me, it will make a real difference.

I am proud of what this Administration has accomplished on behalf of crime victims and their survivors, but I am even more proud of this Nation's compassionate citizens who identified a fault in the system and set out to correct it. I thank you for your dedication and hard work, and applaud your successes. God bless you all. Attorney General Barr, if you'll do the honors.

[Turn mike over to Barr who will introduce the honorees.]

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 23, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID F. DEMAREST *DD*

FROM: CHRISTINA MARTIN *CM*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REMARKS FOR NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS
RIGHTS WEEK

** 412342 Be sure Boydman!
02 APR 23 11:43 AM
Nick Calio sign off on
"A" page 3
important that
Biden
cooperate.*

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*should not
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I am proud of what this Administration has accomplished on behalf of crime victims and their survivors, but I am even more proud of this Nation's compassionate citizens who identified a fault in the system and set out to correct it. I thank you for your dedication and hard work, and applaud your successes. God bless you all. Attorney General Barr, if you'll do the honors.

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[Turn mike over to Barr who will introduce the honorees.]

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**CEREMONY FOR NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK
ROSE GARDEN \ FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1992 \ 10:00 A.M.**

LET ME BEGIN BY WELCOMING EVERYONE TO THE WHITE HOUSE THIS MORNING TO COMMEMORATE NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK. VICE PRESIDENT QUAYLE. ATTORNEY GENERAL BARR. THE PEOPLE SEATED IN THIS GARDEN ARE REPRESENTATIVE OF ONE OF THIS COUNTRY'S STRONGEST TRAITS -- COMPASSION. AND THIS COMPASSION IS THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE IMPROVEMENTS THAT ARE BALANCING THE SCALES OF JUSTICE -- STRENGTHENING THE RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS.

- 2 -

FOR FAR TOO LONG, THE AGONIZING EXPERIENCES EACH VICTIM MUST ENDURE HAVE BEEN OVERLOOKED. THE SELDOM REALIZED TRUTH IS THAT THE CRIME IS JUST THE BEGINNING OF A PROCESS THAT WILL LAST MONTHS -- IF NOT YEARS OR LIFETIMES.

THE AWARD WINNERS WE HONOR TODAY REALIZE THIS FACT. THEY HAVE SET OUT TO IMPROVE, PROTECT, AND STRENGTHEN THE RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS.

AS ATTORNEY GENERAL BARR WILL EXPLAIN SHORTLY, EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM IS A HERO WORTHY OF SALUTING IN THIS WAR ON CRIME. BUT BEFORE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BEGINS THE PRESENTATION, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RE-ENFORCE THIS ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO THE RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS. THIS ADMINISTRATION, IN PARTICULAR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, HAS FOUGHT HARD TO MAKE STRIDES ON BEHALF OF THE VICTIMS IN THE COURTROOM.

IN 1991, WE GAINED A LANDMARK SUPREME COURT DECISION FOR CRIME VICTIMS IN PAYNE V. TENNESSEE -- A CASE WHICH AUTHORIZES, AGAINST A CONSTITUTIONAL CHALLENGE, THE ADMISSION OF VICTIM IMPACT EVIDENCE DURING THE SENTENCING PHASE OF CAPITAL CASES. IN PAYNE V. TENNESSEE, THE SUPREME COURT RECOGNIZED THAT THE JURY SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO KNOW THE TRAGIC IMPACT THAT HOMICIDE CRIMES HAVE ON A SURVIVOR.

IN THIS CASE, THE JURY WAS ALLOWED TO KNOW NOT ONLY ABOUT PERVIS TYRONE PAYNE'S BRUTALITY TOWARD HIS VICTIMS, BUT TOWARD THE SURVIVORS. THE JURY WAS ALLOWED TO KNOW THE PAIN AND SUFFERING CAUSED THREE YEAR OLD NICHOLAS, THE SURVIVOR OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS, WHO MISSED HIS MOTHER CHARISSE AND HIS TWO YEAR OLD SISTER LACIE. THIS DECISION RINGS OF PLAIN COMMON SENSE AND FUNDAMENTAL FAIRNESS -- A JURY SHOULD KNOW THE VICTIM, AS WELL AS THE DEFENDANT.

I WANT TO CONTINUE TO SEE STRIDES MADE IN THE COURT ROOM. I'VE SAID IT ONCE AND I WILL SAY IT AGAIN: "NONE OF US SHOULD REST UNTIL ALL OF OUR LAWS DULY REFLECT THE SYMPATHY WE SHOULD HAVE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME . . ." A KEY PART OF OUR PROGRAM TO MAKE OUR CITIES SAFE AGAIN HAS BEEN THE APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES WHO INTERPRET THE LAW AND DO NOT LEGISLATE FROM THE BENCH. AND THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT I HAVE DONE.

- 7 -

THIS IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. AND AS WE CONTINUE DOWN THE PATH OF EQUAL JUSTICE FOR ACCUSERS AND THE ACCUSED ALIKE, WE'VE ENCOUNTERED AN UPHILL CLIMB -- ONE THAT IS MAKING OUR WORK MORE DIFFICULT AND SLOWING THE PACE OF PROGRESS CONSIDERABLY. AS YOU MIGHT KNOW, THAT HILL IS CAPITOL HILL WITH ALL OF ITS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS.

HERE IS JUST ONE TYPICAL EXAMPLE OF WHAT WE ARE UP AGAINST.

- 8 -

IN 1990, THE CONGRESS CREATED 11 NEW CIRCUIT AND 74 NEW DISTRICT JUDGESHIPS TO HELP US WAGE THE WAR ON CRIME. AND YET, TWO AND A HALF WEEKS AGO, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS MANAGED TO POSTPONE A VOTE ON MY NOMINEE TO THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS, ED CARNES. ED CARNES' NOMINATION HAS BEEN BEFORE THE SENATE SINCE JANUARY 27. HE HAS FIRST RATE CREDENTIALS AND STRONG SUPPORT THROUGHOUT HIS HOME STATE OF ALABAMA. IN ADDITION, NO SENATOR HAS INDICATED OPPOSITION.

HOWEVER, SOME INTEREST GROUPS OPPOSE HIS NOMINATION. THEIR REASON? AS A PROSECUTOR, ED CARNES HAS ACTIVELY CAMPAIGNED AGAINST ELABORATE PROCEDURAL TECHNICALITIES DESIGNED TO PREVENT IMPOSITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY. THEIR COURSE OF ACTION? TO OBTAIN A ONE MONTH POSTPONEMENT ON THE VOTE. THE JUSTIFICATION? THE NOMINATION NEEDED "FURTHER STUDY."

PERSONALLY, I DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE PRIORITIES OF THESE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS. WHY SO LITTLE CONCERN FOR THE VICTIMS AND SO MUCH FOR CRIMINALS? IT IS MY HOPE THAT THE DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP OF THE SENATE AGREES. IF SO, THEY WILL NOT ALLOW MR. CARNES' NOMINATION TO BE HELD HOSTAGE ANY LONGER; AND WILL VOTE ON IT IMMEDIATELY AS SCHEDULED UPON THEIR RETURN.

- 11 -

IT IS ALSO MY HOPE THAT THEY WILL RESIST FUTURE EFFORTS BY THESE INTEREST GROUPS TO PLAY POLITICS WITH THE COURTS, AND WILL NOT YIELD TO ANY MORE BASELESS REQUESTS FOR DELAY ON THIS OR OTHER JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS.

THOSE OF YOU HERE TODAY ALSO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN STOPPING THIS UNPRINCIPLED PRACTICE BY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS. YOU MUST MAKE YOUR VOICES HEARD.

- 12 -

LET CONGRESS KNOW THAT THESE INTEREST GROUPS DO NOT SPEAK FOR YOU. BELIEVE ME, IT WILL MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE.

I AM PROUD OF WHAT THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS ACCOMPLISHED ON BEHALF OF CRIME VICTIMS AND THEIR SURVIVORS, BUT I AM EVEN MORE PROUD OF THIS NATION'S COMPASSIONATE CITIZENS WHO IDENTIFIED A FAULT IN THE SYSTEM AND SET OUT TO CORRECT IT.

- 13 -

**I THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION AND HARD WORK, AND
APPLAUD YOUR SUCCESSES. GOD BLESS YOU ALL. ATTORNEY
GENERAL BARR, IF YOU'LL DO THE HONORS.**

#

[TURN MIKE OVER TO BARR WHO WILL INTRODUCE THE HONOREES.]

**CEREMONY FOR NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK
ROSE GARDEN \ FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1992 \ 10:00 A.M.**

LET ME BEGIN BY WELCOMING EVERYONE TO THE WHITE HOUSE THIS MORNING TO COMMEMORATE NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK. VICE PRESIDENT QUAYLE. ATTORNEY GENERAL BARR. THE PEOPLE SEATED IN THIS GARDEN ARE REPRESENTATIVE OF ONE OF THIS COUNTRY'S STRONGEST TRAITS -- COMPASSION. AND THIS COMPASSION IS THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE IMPROVEMENTS THAT ARE BALANCING THE SCALES OF JUSTICE -- STRENGTHENING THE RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS.

- 2 -

FOR FAR TOO LONG, THE AGONIZING EXPERIENCES EACH VICTIM MUST ENDURE HAVE BEEN OVERLOOKED. THE SELDOM REALIZED TRUTH IS THAT THE CRIME IS JUST THE BEGINNING OF A PROCESS THAT WILL LAST MONTHS -- IF NOT YEARS OR LIFETIMES.

THE AWARD WINNERS WE HONOR TODAY REALIZE THIS FACT. THEY HAVE SET OUT TO IMPROVE, PROTECT, AND STRENGTHEN THE RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS.

AS ATTORNEY GENERAL BARR WILL EXPLAIN SHORTLY, EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM IS A HERO WORTHY OF SALUTING IN THIS WAR ON CRIME. BUT BEFORE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BEGINS THE PRESENTATION, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RE-ENFORCE THIS ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO THE RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS. THIS ADMINISTRATION, IN PARTICULAR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, HAS FOUGHT HARD TO MAKE STRIDES ON BEHALF OF THE VICTIMS IN THE COURTROOM.

IN 1991, WE GAINED A LANDMARK SUPREME COURT DECISION FOR CRIME VICTIMS IN PAYNE V. TENNESSEE -- A CASE WHICH AUTHORIZES, AGAINST A CONSTITUTIONAL CHALLENGE, THE ADMISSION OF VICTIM IMPACT EVIDENCE DURING THE SENTENCING PHASE OF CAPITAL CASES. IN PAYNE V. TENNESSEE, THE SUPREME COURT RECOGNIZED THAT THE JURY SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO KNOW THE TRAGIC IMPACT THAT HOMICIDE CRIMES HAVE ON A SURVIVOR.

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GENERAL BARR, IF YOU'LL DO THE HONORS.**

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[TURN MIKE OVER TO BARR WHO WILL INTRODUCE THE HONOREES.]

Document No. 323395ss

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 4/22/92 5:00pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CEREMONY FOR NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK -- FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1992 - 10:00 a.m.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>FINDLAY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>KAUFMAN</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FIRESTONE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>MCGROARTY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 5:00 p.m., TODAY, WED. APRIL 22, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*See comments. Thanks.
PE
Paul KooGenta
04/22*

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary

Martin\Bunton
April 22, 1992
Draft One
VICTIMS

22 APR 22 9:55

Proposed Presidential Remarks: Ceremony for National Crime
Victims Rights Week
Rose Garden
Friday, April 24, 1992
10:00 A.M.

Let me begin by welcoming everyone to the White House this morning to commemorate National Crime Victims Rights Week. The people seated in this garden are representative of one of this country's strongest traits -- compassion. And this compassion is the driving force behind the improvements that are balancing the scales of Justice -- strengthening the rights of Crime Victims. For far too long, the agonizing experiences each victim must endure have been overlooked. The seldom realized truth is that the crime is just the beginning of a process that will last months -- if not years or lifetimes.

The award winners who we honor today realize this fact. They have set out to improve, protect, and strengthen the rights of crime victims. As Attorney General Barr will explain shortly, each and every one of them is a hero in this war on crime worthy of saluting. But before Attorney General Barr begins the presentation, I would like to take this opportunity to re-enforce this Administration's commitment to the rights of crime victims.

This Administration, in particular the Department of Justice, has fought hard to make strides on behalf of the victims in the courtroom. In 1991, we ~~achieved~~ a landmark Supreme Court decision for crime victims in Payne v. Tennessee -- a case

gained (Justice)

2

(Justice)

which authorizes, against a constitutional challenge, the admission of victim impact evidence during the sentencing phase of capital cases. In Payne v. Tennessee, the Supreme Court ^{recognized} ~~took~~ the ^{jury's} ~~jury's~~ right to know about the tragic impact that homicide crimes had on a survivor. The jury had a right to know not only about Pervis Tyrone Payne's brutality toward his victims, but toward the survivors. The jury had a right to know the pain and suffering caused three year old Nicholas, the survivor of homicide victims, who missed his mother Charisse and his two year old sister Lacie. This decision rings of plain common sense and fundamental fairness -- a jury should know the victim, as well as the defendant.

I want to continue to see strides made in the court room. I've said it once and I will say it again: "None of us should rest until all of our laws duly reflect the sympathy we should have for victims of crime . . ." That applies to Capitol Hill as well. A key part of our program to make our cities safe again has been the appointment of judges who interpret the law and do not legislate from the bench. And that is exactly what I have done. It was Justice David Souter, my first appointee to the Supreme Court, who cast the critical vote in the Payne v. Tennessee decision.

This is a step in the right direction. And as we continue down the path of equal justice for accusers and the accused alike, we have encountered a hill -- one that is making our work more difficult and slowing the pace of progress considerably. As

you might know, that hill is Capitol Hill with all of its special interest groups.

Here is just one typical example of what we are up against. Two and a half weeks ago, special interest groups managed to postpone a vote on my nominee to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, Ed Carnes. Ed Carnes' nomination has been before the Senate since January 27. He has first rate credentials and is strongly supported by his home state ~~Senators~~ *of Alabama*. ~~Senators~~ *of Alabama* No Senator has indicated opposition.

(Justice)

Yet some interest groups oppose his nomination. Their reason? As a prosecutor, Ed Carnes has actively campaigned against elaborate procedural technicalities designed to prevent imposition of the death penalty. Their course of action? To obtain a one month postponement on the vote. The justification? the nomination needed "further study."

Personally, I do not understand this inordinate anxiety over the criminal defendant, especially noting that until last year crime victims and their families did not have a voice in the trial process. Why so little concern for the victims and so much for criminals? It is my hope that the Democratic leadership of the Senate agrees. If so, they will not allow Mr. Carnes' nomination to be held hostage any longer; and will vote on it immediately as scheduled upon their return.

It is also my hope that they will resist future efforts by these interest groups to play politics with the courts, and will

4

not yield to any more baseless requests for delay on this or other judicial nominations.

Those of you here today also play an important role in stopping this unprincipled practice. You must make your voices heard. Let Congress know that these special interest groups do not speak for you. Believe me, it will make a real difference.

I am proud of what this Administration has accomplished on behalf of crime victims and their survivors, but I am even more proud of this Nation's compassionate citizens who identified a fault in the system and set out to correct it. I thank you for your dedication and hard work, and applaud your successes. God bless you all. Attorney General Barr, if you'll do the honors.

[Turn mike over to Barr who will introduce the honorees.]

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 23, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT
THROUGH: DAVID F. DEMAREST *DD*
FROM: CHRISTINA MARTIN *cm*
SUBJECT: PROPOSED REMARKS FOR NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS
RIGHTS WEEK

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, April 24 at 10:00 a.m. you will deliver brief remarks to an audience of 200 at the National Crime Victims awards ceremony in the Rose Garden.

Attendees include Vice President Quayle, Attorney General Barr, award recipients, their families and various crime prevention organizations.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks, (approximately 7 minutes / cards) focus on the Administration's commitment to the rights of crime victims.

After your remarks, Attorney General Barr will introduce the honorees.

Martin\Bunton
April 23, 1992
Draft Two
VICTIMS

Proposed Presidential Remarks: Ceremony for National Crime
Victims Rights Week
Rose Garden
Friday, April 24, 1992
10:00 a.m.

Let me begin by welcoming everyone to the White House this morning to commemorate National Crime Victims Rights Week. The people seated in this garden are representative of one of this country's strongest traits -- compassion. And this compassion is the driving force behind the improvements that are balancing the scales of Justice -- strengthening the rights of Crime Victims. For far too long, the agonizing experiences each victim must endure have been overlooked. The seldom realized truth is that the crime is just the beginning of a process that will last months -- if not years or lifetimes.

The award winners whom we honor today realize this fact. They have set out to improve, protect, and strengthen the rights of crime victims. As Attorney General Barr will explain shortly, each and every one of them is a hero worthy of saluting in this war on crime. But before the Attorney General begins the presentation, I would like to take this opportunity to re-enforce this Administration's commitment to the rights of crime victims.

This Administration, in particular the Department of Justice, has fought hard to make strides on behalf of the victims in the courtroom. In 1991, we gained a landmark Supreme Court decision for crime victims in Payne v. Tennessee -- a case which

authorizes, against a constitutional challenge, the admission of victim impact evidence during the sentencing phase of capital cases. In Payne v. Tennessee, the Supreme Court recognized that the jury should be allowed to know the tragic impact that homicide crimes have on a survivor. In this case, the jury was allowed to know not only about Pervis Tyrone Payne's brutality toward his victims, but toward the survivors. The jury was allowed to know the pain and suffering caused three year old Nicholas, the survivor of homicide victims, who missed his mother Charisse and his two year old sister Lacie. This decision rings of plain common sense and fundamental fairness -- a jury should know the victim, as well as the defendant.

I want to continue to see strides made in the court room. I've said it once and I will say it again: "None of us should rest until all of our laws duly reflect the sympathy we should have for victims of crime . . ." A key part of our program to make our cities safe again has been the appointment of judges who interpret the law and do not legislate from the bench. And that is exactly what I have done. It was Justice David Souter, my first appointee to the Supreme Court, who cast a critical vote in the Payne v. Tennessee decision.

This is a step in the right direction. And as we continue down the path of equal justice for accusers and the accused alike, we've encountered an uphill climb -- one that is making our work more difficult and slowing the pace of progress

considerably. As you might know, that hill is Capitol Hill with all of its special interest groups.

Here is just one typical example of what we are up against. In 1990, the Congress created 11 new circuit and 74 new district judgeships to help us wage the war on crime. And yet, two and a half weeks ago, special interest groups managed to postpone a vote on my nominee to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, Ed Carnes. Ed Carnes' nomination has been before the Senate since January 27. He has first rate credentials and strong support throughout his home state of Alabama. In addition, no Senator has indicated opposition.

However, some interest groups oppose his nomination. Their reason? As a prosecutor, Ed Carnes has actively campaigned against elaborate procedural technicalities designed to prevent imposition of the death penalty. Their course of action? To obtain a one month postponement on the vote. The justification? The nomination needed "further study."

Personally, I do not understand the priorities of these special interest groups. Why so little concern for the victims and so much for criminals? It is my hope that the Democratic leadership of the Senate agrees. If so, they will not allow Mr. Carnes' nomination to be held hostage any longer; and will vote on it immediately as scheduled upon their return.

It is also my hope that they will resist future efforts by these interest groups to play politics with the courts, and will

not yield to any more baseless requests for delay on this or other judicial nominations.

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[Turn mike over to Barr who will introduce the honorees.]

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 4/22/92 5:00pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CEREMONY FOR NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK -- FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1992 - 10:00 a.m.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
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SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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DARMAN <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH <i>out of town</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY <i>see Leiberman 6257</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FIRESTONE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

Martin\Bunton
April 22, 1992
Draft One
VICTIMS

02 APR 22 A 9: 55

Proposed Presidential Remarks: Ceremony for National Crime
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Rose Garden
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92 APR 23 P1:32

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 4/22/92 5:00pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CEREMONY FOR NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK -- FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1992 - 10:00 a.m.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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FIRESTONE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 5:00 p.m., TODAY, WED. APRIL 22, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

NC - MES for DS

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

Martin\Bunton
April 22, 1992
Draft One
VICTIMS

22 APR 22 A 9: 55

Proposed Presidential Remarks: Ceremony for National Crime
Victims Rights Week
Rose Garden
Friday, April 24, 1992
10:00 a.m.

Let me begin by welcoming everyone to the White House this morning to commemorate National Crime Victims Rights Week. The people seated in this garden are representative of one of this country's strongest traits -- compassion. And this compassion is the driving force behind the improvements that are balancing the scales of Justice -- strengthening the rights of Crime Victims. For far too long, the agonizing experiences each victim must endure have been overlooked. The seldom realized truth is that the crime is just the beginning of a process that will last months -- if not years or lifetimes.

The award winners who we honor today realize this fact. They have set out to improve, protect, and strengthen the rights of crime victims. As Attorney General Barr will explain shortly, each and every one of them is a hero in this war on crime worthy of saluting. But before Attorney General Barr begins the presentation, I would like to take this opportunity to re-enforce this Administration's commitment to the rights of crime victims.

This Administration, in particular the Department of Justice, has fought hard to make strides on behalf of the victims in the courtroom. In 1991, we celebrated a landmark Supreme Court decision for crime victims in Payne v. Tennessee -- a case

which authorizes, against a constitutional challenge, the admission of victim impact evidence during the sentencing phase of capital cases. In Payne v. Tennessee, the Supreme Court held that the jury had a right to know about the tragic impact that homicide crimes had on a survivor. The jury had a right to know not only about Pervis Tyrone Payne's brutality toward his victims, but toward the survivors. The jury had a right to know the pain and suffering caused three year old Nicholas, the survivor of homicide victims, who missed his mother Charisse and his two year old sister Lacie. This decision rings of plain common sense and fundamental fairness -- a jury should know the victim, as well as the defendant.

I want to continue to see strides made in the court room. I've said it once and I will say it again: "None of us should rest until all of our laws duly reflect the sympathy we should have for victims of crime . . ." That applies to Capitol Hill as well. A key part of our program to make our cities safe again has been the appointment of judges who interpret the law and do not legislate from the bench. And that is exactly what I have done. It was Justice David Souter, my first appointee to the Supreme Court, who cast the critical vote in the Payne v. Tennessee decision.

This is a step in the right direction. And as we continue down the path of equal justice for accusers and the accused alike, we have encountered a hill -- one that is making our work more difficult and slowing the pace of progress considerably. As

you might know, that hill is Capitol Hill with all of its special interest groups.

Here is just one typical example of what we are up against. Two and a half weeks ago, special interest groups managed to postpone a vote on my nominee to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, Ed Carnes. Ed Carnes' nomination has been before the Senate since January 27. He has first rate credentials and is strongly supported by his home state Senators. In fact, no Senator has indicated opposition.

Yet some interest groups oppose his nomination. Their reason? As a prosecutor, Ed Carnes has actively campaigned against elaborate procedural technicalities designed to prevent imposition of the death penalty. Their course of action? To obtain a one month postponement on the vote. The justification? the nomination needed "further study."

Personally, I do not understand this inordinate anxiety over the criminal defendant, especially noting that until last year crime victims and their families did not have a voice in the trial process. Why so little concern for the victims and so much for criminals? It is my hope that the Democratic leadership of the Senate agrees. If so, they will not allow Mr. Carnes' nomination to be held hostage any longer; and will vote on it immediately as scheduled upon their return.

It is also my hope that they will resist future efforts by these interest groups to play politics with the courts, and will

not yield to any more baseless requests for delay on this or other judicial nominations.

Those of you here today also play an important role in stopping this unprincipled practice. You must make your voices heard. Let Congress know that these special interest groups do not speak for you. Believe me, it will make a real difference.

I am proud of what this Administration has accomplished on behalf of crime victims and their survivors, but I am even more proud of this Nation's compassionate citizens who identified a fault in the system and set out to correct it. I thank you for your dedication and hard work, and applaud your successes. God bless you all. Attorney General Barr, if you'll do the honors.

[Turn mike over to Barr who will introduce the honorees.]

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

92 APR 22 P4:01

April 22, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAN MCGROARTY
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
COMMUNICATIONS AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR

FROM: LEE S. LIBERMAN *LSL*
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Crime Victims Rights

Attached please find proposed edits to the draft remarks.
Because most of them are legally based or important to our
approach on judicial confirmations, please let me know if you are
not planning on taking any of the edits. *Thanks!*

cc: Phil Brady

— MASTER —

Martin\Bunton
April 22, 1992
Draft One
VICTIMS

2 APR 22 A 9: 55

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egs The award winners who we honor today realize this fact. They have set out to improve, protect, and strengthen the rights of crime victims. As Attorney General Barr will explain shortly, *egs* each and every one of them is a hero *worthy of saluting (Peters)* in this war on crime. *egs* ~~worthy of saluting.~~ *the (Peters)* But before Attorney General Barr begins the presentation, I would like to take this opportunity to re-enforce this Administration's commitment to the rights of crime victims.

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which authorizes, against a constitutional challenge, the admission of victim impact evidence during the sentencing phase of capital cases. In Payne v. Tennessee, the Supreme Court held that the jury ^{was allowed (DJS)} ~~had a right~~ to know about the tragic impact that homicide crimes had on a survivor. The jury ^{was allowed} ~~had a right~~ to know not only about Pervis Tyrone Payne's brutality toward his victims, but toward the survivors. The jury ^{was allowed} ~~had a right~~ to know the pain and suffering caused three year old Nicholas, ^{who survived the attack but murdered (Porter)} ~~the survivor of homicide victims~~, who missed his mother Charisse and his two year old sister Lacie. This decision rings of plain common sense and fundamental fairness -- a jury ^{is allowed to} ~~should~~ know the victim, as well as the defendant.

I want to continue to see strides made in the court room. I've said it once and I will say it again: "None of us should rest until all of our laws duly reflect the sympathy we should have for victims of crime . . ." ~~That applies to Capitol Hill as well.~~ A key part of our program to make our cities safe again has been the appointment of judges who interpret the law and do not legislate from the bench. And that is exactly what I have done. It was Justice David Souter, my first appointee to the Supreme Court, who cast ^{the} ~~the~~ critical vote in the Payne v. Tennessee decision.

This is a step in the right direction. And as we continue down the path of equal justice for accusers and the accused alike, we have encountered ^{an uphill climb -- (DZ)} ~~a hill~~ -- one that is making our work more difficult and slowing the pace of progress considerably. As

yes - DOJ
no Counsel
banned

Recognized (DJS)

no

no

yes

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*yes, course
no - DOT*

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*no - Porter
yes - course*

It is also my hope that they will resist future efforts by these interest groups to play politics with the courts, and will

yes, but
rewriter

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Finally, it is my hope that they will move

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[Turn mike over to Barr who will introduce the honorees.]

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1990 by creating
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in the war on crime.
Now we must
finish the job.

Swiftly to
confirm
the
many
judicial
nominations
pending
before them
Congress
took an
important
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the end of

no
check

Document No. 323395ss

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 4/22/92 5:00pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CEREMONY FOR NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK -- FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1992 - 10:00 a.m.

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DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

Comments by phone
XOO

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

Martin\Bunton
April 22, 1992
Draft One
VICTIMS

02 APR 22 A 9: 55

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[Turn mike over to Barr who will introduce the honorees.]

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 22, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAN MCGROARTY

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Ceremony for National Crime
Victims

We have reviewed the attached remarks and have noted a few suggested changes on the draft.

Please let us know if you have any questions or if we may help in any other way.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, 4/22/92 5:00pm

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Assistant to the President
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Ext. 2702

Martin\Bunton
April 22, 1992
Draft One
VICTIMS

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[Turn mike over to Barr who will introduce the honorees.]

#

PETERS MEYER

Martin\Bunton
April 22, 1992
Draft One
VICTIMS

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[Turn mike over to Barr who will introduce the honorees.]

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Martin\Bunton
April 22, 1992
Draft One
VICTIMS

Proposed Presidential Remarks: Ceremony for National Crime
Victims Rights Week
Rose Garden
Friday, April 24, 1992
10:00 a.m.

Let me begin by welcoming everyone to the White House this morning to commemorate National Crime Victims Rights Week. The people seated in this garden are representative of one of this country's strongest traits -- compassion. And this compassion is the driving force behind the improvements that are balancing the scales of Justice -- strengthening the rights of Crime Victims. For far too long, the agonizing experiences each victim must endure have been overlooked. The seldom realized truth is that the crime is just the beginning of a process that will last months -- if not years or lifetimes.

The award winners who we honor today realize this fact. They have set out to improve, protect, and strengthen the rights of crime victims. As Attorney General Barr will explain shortly, each and every one of them is a hero in this war on crime worthy of saluting. But before Attorney General Barr begins the presentation, I would like to take this opportunity to re-enforce this Administration's commitment to the rights of crime victims.

This Administration, in particular the Department of Justice, has fought hard to make strides on behalf of the victims in the courtroom. In 1991, we celebrated a landmark Supreme Court decision for crime victims in Payne v. Tennessee -- a case

which authorizes, against a constitutional challenge, the admission of victim impact evidence during the sentencing phase of capital cases. In Payne v. Tennessee, the Supreme Court held that the jury had a right to know about the tragic impact that homicide crimes had on a survivor. The jury had a right to know not only about Pervis Tyrone Payne's brutality toward his victims, but toward the survivors. The jury had a right to know the pain and suffering caused three year old Nicholas, the survivor of homicide victims, who missed his mother Charisse and his two year old sister Lacie. This decision rings of plain common sense and fundamental fairness -- a jury should know the victim, as well as the defendant.

I want to continue to see strides made in the court room. I've said it once and I will say it again: "None of us should rest until all of our laws duly reflect the sympathy we should have for victims of crime . . ." That applies to Capitol Hill as well. A key part of our program to make our cities safe again has been the appointment of judges who interpret the law and do not legislate from the bench. And that is exactly what I have done. It was Justice David Souter, my first appointee to the Supreme Court, who cast the critical vote in the Payne v. Tennessee decision.

This is a step in the right direction. And as we continue down the path of equal justice for accusers and the accused alike, we have encountered a hill -- one that is making our work more difficult and slowing the pace of progress considerably. As

you might know, that hill is Capitol Hill with all of its special interest groups.

Here is just one typical example of what we are up against. Two and a half weeks ago, special interest groups managed to postpone a vote on my nominee to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, Ed Carnes. Ed Carnes' nomination has been before the Senate since January 27. He has first rate credentials and is strongly supported by his home state Senators. In fact, no Senator has indicated opposition.

Yet some interest groups oppose his nomination. Their reason? As a prosecutor, Ed Carnes has actively campaigned against elaborate procedural technicalities designed to prevent imposition of the death penalty. Their course of action? To obtain a one month postponement on the vote. The justification? the nomination needed "further study."

Personally, I do not understand this inordinate anxiety over the criminal defendant, especially noting that until last year crime victims and their families did not have a voice in the trial process. Why so little concern for the victims and so much for criminals? It is my hope that the Democratic leadership of the Senate agrees. If so, they will not allow Mr. Carnes' nomination to be held hostage any longer; and will vote on it immediately as scheduled upon their return.

It is also my hope that they will resist future efforts by these interest groups to play politics with the courts, and will

not yield to any more baseless requests for delay on this or other judicial nominations.

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