

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

06 - CR-027

February 8, 2007

Secretary of the Advisory Committee on the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure
Office of Public Affairs
Administrative Office of the United States Court
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Advisory Committee on the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure:

As Co-Chairs of the Congressional Victim's Rights Caucus, we are writing to encourage a meaningful incorporation of the rights of crime victims found in the Crime Victims' Rights Act (CVRA) of 2004. These rights include: (1) to be reasonably protected from the rights of the accused; (2) to confer with the Government's attorney; (3) proceedings free from unreasonable delay; (4) to be treated with fairness and respect for the victim's dignity and privacy; and (5) the right for the victim, or representative, to assert rights.

For too long in our nation's criminal justice systems, rights of crime victims have been ignored. As federal policymakers, we have the ability and the duty to protect victims of crime and prevent feelings of further victimization at the hands of the criminal justice system.

We encourage the committee to work towards meaningful incorporation of the CVRA rights into the federal rules.

Sincerely,



TED POE (TX-02)
Co-Chair
Congressional Victim's
Rights Caucus



JIM COSTA (CA-20)
Co-Chair
Congressional Victim's
Rights Caucus