

TAJF Recognizes National Crime Victims' Rights Week (April 21-27, 2013)

Every day throughout Texas, victims of domestic violence and other violent crimes are struggling to regain control of their lives. According to the Texas Council on Family Violence, 47 percent of all Texans have personally experienced at least one form of domestic violence.

Supporting all crime victims is the purpose of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, which is April 21 – 27. The Texas Access to Justice Foundation (TAJF) welcomes the opportunity to emphasize the importance of recognizing domestic violence as an issue that has far-reaching consequences for many Texans.

Victims of domestic violence may spend weeks or even years working through legal issues. They may need protective orders; children left parentless due to a crime may be faced with conservatorship issues.

For those who cannot afford a lawyer, these crucial needs go unmet. Legal aid organizations can help by providing free legal assistance to low-income Texans with civil matters, including problems arising due to violent crimes.

The Texas Access to Justice Foundation is the leading state funding source for legal aid in Texas. TAJF grantees assist low-income Texans with basic and critical legal problems, such as getting free from domestic violence. Each time legal aid helps a mother escape an abusive spouse or protects a child from physical or emotional harm, families are able to heal and become productive members of our communities.

Victims of a crime should not have to face the justice system alone. Getting the support of a skilled lawyer during this trying time can help provide access to justice and peace of mind.

