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DARCEL D. CLARK DISTRICT ATTORNEY, BRONX COUNTY **198 EAST 161ST STREET BRONX, N.Y. 10451** (718) 590-2234

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## BRONX DISTRICT ATTORNEY DARCEL D. CLARK STATEMENT ON 2020 NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK Bronx DA Office Assisting Crime Victims During COVID-19 Crisis

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark announced today that National Crime Victims' Rights Week began yesterday and reminds the community that the Bronx DA's Office is here to assist victims every day of the year.

District Attorney Clark said, "It has never been more important to remember, celebrate and serve victims of crime as we are engulfed in the COVID-19 crisis. We are unable to hold our yearly vigil and other public expressions of support, but we commemorate this annual event by doing what we have always done and continue to do: assist victims of crime and their loved ones.

"Our Crime Victims Assistance Unit serves thousands of clients every year, through referrals, counseling, and assistance with their court cases. Even if there is no criminal case, the victims can receive help. And during the pandemic, CVAU staff is working tirelessly. Just in the last week, they have conducted 73 therapy sessions remotely, taken on 86 new clients, providing them with referrals to services; and followed up with over 400 victims.

"I want victims and survivors in the Bronx community to know they are not alone, and our Assistant District Attorneys are dedicated and committed to working on their behalf every day and especially during COVID-19. Things are stressful enough during this time, and if you are victimized it can be even more traumatic. Please call CVAU at (718) 590-2115."



This year's NCVRW theme—**Seek Justice | Ensure Victims' Rights | Inspire Hope**—commemorates the individuals and groups whose advocacy has propelled the victims' rights movement forward for the past half century, inspiring in victims and their loved ones a feeling of hope for progress, justice, and healing.