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NEWS RELEASE

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**Philadelphia Coalition for Victim Advocacy Honors District Attorney
Lynne Abraham, Veteran Homicide Prosecutor Roger King and
Victims Advocate Leslie Davila**

This Year's Theme is 'Every Victim, Every Time'

WHAT: Seventeenth Annual Philadelphia Coalition for Victims Advocacy
Awards Ceremony and Luncheon
WHERE: Colleen's Restaurant, 2200 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
WHEN: April 25, 2007---11:30am-2pm

1pm---Awards Presentation

The Philadelphia Coalition for Victim Advocacy (PCVA)) is hosting its annual awards luncheon in recognition of individuals in our community who have made significant contributions to the lives of crime victims. The luncheon will be held on Wednesday April 25, 2007 at Colleen's on the Parkway to coincide with national Crime Victims Rights Week.

In 1975, the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office created the first Crime Victims Week, leading to the National Crime Victims Week proclaimed in 1981.

PCVA annually honors local individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the lives of crime victims or have addressed or advocated for the needs of crime victims. This year's theme is *'Every Victim, Every Time.'*

This year, three of the seven people receiving awards are from the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office. They are being recognized for their outstanding efforts and exceptional records of advocating for crime victims in Philadelphia.

SPECIAL MERIT AWARD

Lynne Abraham, District Attorney of Philadelphia

Lynne Abraham was born and raised in Philadelphia and educated in its schools. In her professional career, she has always been a dedicated public servant to the citizens of Philadelphia. She has served as District Attorney of Philadelphia for 16 years.

Since graduating from Temple University School of Law, she has served in numerous elective and appointed positions including serving as a judge in both the Court of Common Pleas and Philadelphia Municipal Court. She also served as a research assistant to the Honorable Alexander Barbieri and a legislative consultant to Council of the City of Philadelphia. She served as the Executive Director of the Redevelopment Authority and as an attorney in the Regional Counsel's Office of the United States. She also served as Assistant District Attorney here in Philadelphia for seven years.

She is receiving an award today for her long history of advocacy for crime victims and willingness to use her considerable influence in the general assembly to enact legislation that protects and empowers crime victims and to work to defeat efforts that were not in the interest of victims.

This has included: Act 179 – 2006- The Comprehensive Child Abuse Reform Package; Act 306-2006- Creating DUI Victim Impact Panels; Act 66-2005- Strengthening the state's PFA laws; Act 201-2003- Regarding the "Safe Haven" for those leaving a new born child; Act 85-2002- Expanding compensation for victims needing counseling, prescription medicine and medical device replacement; Act 28-1997- Permitting crime victims to submit a victim impact statement; Act 8-1995- Creating the Office of the Victim Advocate; Act 12-1995- Mandating restitution; Act 28-1993- Creating the crime of stalking; and Act 35-1991 Expanding the Crime Victim Compensation Act to include the crimes of DUI and vehicular homicide.

Finally, Lynne Abraham was instrumental in codifying the first Victims Bill of Rights (Act 111-1998). This list is only a small sampling of Judge Abraham's extensive contributions. As District Attorney, Lynne Abraham has dedicated herself to being the voice for victims not only in the court room but also in the General Assembly.

PROSECUTOR AWARD

Roger King, District Attorney's Office of Philadelphia

Roger King has been a prosecutor in the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office for 34 years, and has spent the last 31 years assigned to the Homicide Unit. Born and raised in Alabama, Mr. King received his undergraduate degree at the University of Southern California in 1967 and his law degree at UCLA School of Law in 1970. Mr. King is nationally recognized and the recipient of many awards for the trial of homicide cases. He was recently selected as one of "Pennsylvania's Super Lawyers 2006". Mr. King has prosecuted more capital murder cases and achieved more death sentences than any other Pennsylvania prosecutor. He has contributed significantly over time to the body of case law in murder prosecutions. He has prosecuted the murderer's of six Philadelphia Police Officers who were killed in the line of duty. Despite having recently retired, Mr. King

returned to the District Attorney's Office and continues to work full time as a prosecutor serving both the citizens of the City and the victims and co-victims of homicide.

CATHERINE BACHRACH AWARD

Leslie Davila, District Attorney's Office of Philadelphia

Leslie Davila has worked in the victim services field for 10 years. Ms. Davila has worked for the District Attorney's office for 8 years in various units and assisting victims and survivors of a broad variety of crimes including: Sexual Assault, Homicide, Child Abuse and Aggravated Assaults. Ms. Davila holds a Master of Science from Saint Joseph's University as well as a Bachelor of Arts degree from La Salle University. In addition, Ms. Davila is a trained crisis responder for the Keystone Crisis Intervention Team and has responded to many crisis situations throughout Philadelphia and Pennsylvania.

In addition to the direct service, Ms. Davila has worked as a training consultant for the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency for the Orientation for New Advocates since 2002. Ms. Davila has also provided many trainings about victim-related topics to a diverse group of professionals throughout Philadelphia.

Ms. Davila currently serves as Co-Chair of the Philadelphia Coalition for Victim Advocacy and has served on many committees as a member of the organization since 1999. In addition, Ms. Davila is a member of the Board of Directors for the Coalition of Pennsylvania Crime Victim Organizations (COPCVO). Ms. Davila has also served on the Southeastern Regional Anti-Terrorism Taskforce for the State of Pennsylvania.