

## Increase Victim Assistance Allocation in the VOCA Fund

### Sample Email Message

Subject: Increase Victim Assistance Allocation in the VOCA Fund

To: Member of Congress Email Address

Dear (Congressman, Congresswoman or Senator) Last Name:

As your constituent, I am writing to ask you to use the power and resources of Congress to increase funding for services to help victims in our communities cope with the aftermath of crime.

I am aware that the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Fund has a balance of close to \$2 billion. This Fund was created by Congress solely to assist crime victims and is sustained by criminal fines not taxpayer money. Therefore, I am asking you to support a one-time increase in the VOCA Fund cap to \$1 billion in the 2009 federal budget.

Even with this adjustment, the Fund still would have a balance of almost \$1 billion.

At a time when victims service providers are struggling in these tough economic times to respond to the many requests for assistance, I believe it's unfair to withhold non-taxpayer VOCA funding for services that offer safety and seek justice for innocent victims of crime.

The need is never more urgent; your support is never more necessary.

Thank you for your consideration.

Name

Address

Phone Number

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### Sample Phone Message

Hello, my name is (your name). As a constituent of (Member's Name), I am calling to urge the (Senator, Congresswoman or Congressman) to help the struggling victims service providers in my community. Please support a one-time increase in the VOCA Crime Victims Fund cap to \$1 billion in the 2009 federal budget. The need is urgent; the increase is critical. Thank you.