



**Closing Remarks as Delivered by OVW Director Cindy Dyer at the  
Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Regional Summit II**

**Washington, D.C.  
Friday, July 18, 2008 - 1:45 P.M.**

Thank you so much to the Attorney General for his remarks and leadership. I share his commitment to strengthening the criminal justice response, to holding offenders accountable, and to keeping victims safe. And thank you all for joining us. Your attendance, presentations, and participation have been crucial to the success of this metropolitan area Summit.

I am so inspired by your enthusiasm and interest that I have witnessed over the past two days. It is so important for us to engage in this dialogue, work together, and share information. By partnering together we can develop innovative strategies and best practices to help the victims of these crimes and hold offenders accountable. I look forward to our next steps together.

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is committed to supporting a new supervised visitation special initiative here in the metro area. As we have learned, often the most dangerous time for a mother and her children is when she separates from the batterer.

At OVW, our Supervised Visitation grant program helps communities implement promising practices to increase safety for a victim and her children using visitation and exchange services. Our goal is to support a new Initiative in the metro area to: increase the capacity of the area to address custody and visitation issues, and examine local interstate custody issues for families using supervised visitation and safe exchange services.

In addition, we plan to increase training opportunities for judicial officials and law enforcement in Maryland, D.C., and Virginia

I look forward to these new initiatives. OVW staff will be in contact with you regarding the implementation and progress of these next steps. Working together we can be a formidable opponent to ending the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking here in our own community.

Thank you again for coming.

###