Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakotans acknowledge the impact crimes have on individuals, families, and communities by making sure rights, resources, and services are available to help rebuild lives; and,

Whereas, South Dakota recognizes that we make our homes, neighborhoods, and communities safer and stronger by serving victims of crime and assuring justice for all; and,

Whereas, 23 million Americans are victims of crime each year, and of those, 5.2 million are victims of violent crime; and,

Whereas, Observing victims' rights and treating victims with dignity and respect serves the public interest by engaging victims in the justice system, inspiring respect for public authorities, and promoting confidence in public safety; and,

Whereas, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 13-19, 2008, provides an opportunity for South Dakota to recognize victims of violent crimes and those who serve them during this week and throughout the year:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 13-19, 2008, as

CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirty-first Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State