

Department of Iustice

Office of Justice Programs



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, April 7, 2014

Contact: Starr Stepp (202) 307-0703 www.ojp.gov

STATEMENT BY OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME DIRECTOR JOYE FROST HONORING MICKEY ROONEY

WASHINGTON— Joye Frost, Director of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime, released the following statement honoring the contributions of Mickey Rooney.

"Today the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) joins those saddened by the loss of one of our Nation's most accomplished actors, Mickey Rooney. Among his many awards, Mr. Rooney was honored in 2012 with a U.S. Department of Justice Special Courage Award for speaking out on crime against the elderly. The award recognizes extraordinary bravery in the aftermath of a crime or a courageous act on behalf of a victim or potential victim. In March 2011, Mr. Rooney testified before the U.S. Senate at a hearing entitled, "Justice for All: Ending Elder Abuse, Neglect and Financial Exploitation" where he shared his personal experience of mistreatment and exploitation.

As we take time to reflect on his life, we will also remember that Mr. Rooney's work as an advocate against such abuses will continue to provide hope, determination and inspiration to other victims and those who continue to work on their behalf."

This week, April 6- 12, OVC leads our nation in observing the annual National Crime Victims' Rights Week which focuses on those who have made substantial contributions to identifying and responding to crime victims. OVC will long remember Mickey Rooney as one of those great individuals.

###

The Office of Justice Programs, headed by Assistant Attorney General Karol V. Mason, provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice and assist victims. OJP has six components: the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; the Office for Victims of Crime and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking. More information about OJP can be found at www.ojp.gov