



# FLORIDA COMMISSION ON OFFENDER REVIEW

(formerly Florida Parole Commission)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### COMMISSION HOSTS VICTIMS' RIGHTS PANEL PRESENTATION

TALLAHASSEE, FLA – In observance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, the Florida Commission on Offender Review (FCOR) will host 'A Conversation about Crime Victims' Rights' - a panel presentation focused on victims' rights issues and services in Florida's post conviction processes.

Moderated by Commission Chair Tena M. Pate, panelists including State Attorney William "Willie" Meggs, The Peyton Tuthill Foundation founder Pat Tuthill, Director of Victim Services & Criminal Justice Programs for the Office of the Attorney General Emery Gainey, and victims' advocate Cecilia McAdams will discuss a variety of victims' issues in front of an audience of lawmakers, victims' rights advocates and public safety stakeholders.

"Ensuring that crime victims have a voice in the post-conviction process is at the core of the Commission's mission," stated Commission Chair Tena M. Pate. "This event will give the public safety and victims' rights communities the ability to highlight the progress we've made in victims' issues around the state, as well as identify additional opportunities to provide support to crime victims in the future."

The event will be held Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. on the 22nd floor of the Capitol Building and is open to the public.

The 2015 National Crime Victims' Rights week is April 19-25. This year's theme - *Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.* – emphasizes the role of the entire community, individually and collectively in their support of victims of crime and empowering them to direct their own recovery. For more information on NCVRW visit <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw/>.

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*The Florida Commission on Offender Review (FCOR) (formerly the Florida Parole Commission), is a constitutionally authorized, quasi-judicial, decision-making body which has been serving the citizens of this state since 1941. The Commission holds offenders accountable for their behaviors and ensures public safety through its careful selection of offenders for re-entry into society by administering parole, conditional medical release, control release, conditional release, and addiction recovery release supervision. The Commission also acts as the investigative arm of the Governor and Cabinet, sitting as the Board of Executive Clemency in clemency matters. The Commission's mission is to ensure public safety and provide victim assistance through the post prison release process.*