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Crime-Fighting Technology Pioneers Honored by National Center for Victims of Crime

New York, NY---The National Center for Victims of Crime, the nation's leading resource and advocacy organization for crime victims, today presented its 2008 Annual Leadership Award to three innovators in the use of technology to combat crime: Michael Davis, President and Co-Founder, Appriss Inc.; Leonard Klevan, Ph.D., President, Applied Markets Division, Applied Biosystems; and Derek Smith, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, ChoicePoint, Inc.

Under Michael Davis, Appriss Inc. developed VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday), the nation's first and most widely used system of automated victim notification. Leonard Klevan spearheaded Applied Biosystems' investment in new technologies to tackle forensic DNA analysis challenges. And Derek Smith has advanced ChoicePoint's commitment to corporate community service and support for background screening services for the nonprofit sector.

"These three visionaries have harnessed the power of technology to help victims of crime," said Mary Lou Leary, executive director of the National Center for Victims of Crime. "Their work has helped notify and protect victims of violent crime, solve crimes and free the innocent, and prevent future crime."

The Appriss VINE system--launched after a young Kentucky woman was murdered by a former assailant who, without her knowledge, had been released from jail--now keeps victims informed 24 hours a day on the custody or court

status of offenders in more than 2,000 communities in 43 states. Innovations by Applied Biosystems have dramatically advanced DNA analysis in sexual assaults and other crimes. ChoicePoint's background screening program has helped resolve thousands of cases of missing children and protect thousands of children from registered sex offenders.

Appriss Inc., Applied Biosystems, and ChoicePoint have also advanced corporate generosity to crime victims and their advocates. Appriss Inc. helped establish the Mary Byron Foundation, which supports domestic violence programs. Applied Biosystems supports education and training for victims, victim assistance professionals, and law enforcement officers. And ChoicePoint has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to expedite justice in no-suspect rape cases.

"Our Annual Leadership Award honors the vision and generosity of these three leaders," said Mary Lou Leary. "We applaud their initiative and celebrate their partnerships with the National Center for Victims of Crime."

The National Center for Victims of Crime is dedicated to forging a national commitment to help victims of crime rebuild their lives. Through the National Crime Victim Helpline, 1-800-FYI-CALL, the National Center helps victims learn their legal rights and options, access victim compensation, develop safety plans, navigate the criminal justice social service systems, and find the most appropriate local services. For more information, please visit www.ncvc.org