



United States Department of Justice

# Office on Violence Against Women

*Working Together to End the Violence*

## Cindy Dyer



Cindy Dyer currently serves as the Director of the United States Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women. Ms. Dyer was nominated to this position by President George W. Bush on August 2, 2007 and confirmed by the United States Senate on December 19, 2007. As Director Ms. Dyer serves as the liaison between the Department of Justice and Federal, State and International governments on the crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. In this role, she is responsible for handling the Department's legal and policy issues regarding the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act and oversees an annual budget of almost \$400 million.

As Director, Ms. Dyer has spoken at numerous conferences, meetings, professional training sessions and informal gatherings before local, national and international audiences. In April 2008, she joined the U.S. Delegation to serve as an expert in the thematic debate on violence against women at the U.N. Crime Commission. Successful in negotiating a draft decision, the Crime Commission concluded another experts meeting was needed to revise the "U.N. Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (1998)." She continues to be involved with the formal deliberations.

Ms. Dyer is an experienced prosecutor and a recognized authority on the topic of family violence and sexual assault. Prior to her appointment she was with the Dallas County, Texas, District Attorney's Office. She was the first prosecutor to join the Family Violence Division during its inception in 1994 and became the Chief Prosecutor of that division in 1998. She has received numerous awards and recognition for her service to victims, including the Henry Wade Prosecutor of the Year award from the Greater Dallas Crime Commission, the Equal Justice Award from the Legal Services of NorthWest Texas (Now the Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas), and the Stephen Von Riesen Lecturer of Merit Award from the National College of District Attorneys.

As an active member of her community in Dallas, she has served on the board of the Texas Council on Family Violence, assisted in proposing and drafting legislation to help victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and volunteered for local organizations, including a non-profit women's shelter.

Ms. Dyer graduated from Texas A&M University and Baylor University Law School.

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**Office on Violence Against Women**

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