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October 8, 2012

To Whom it May Concern:

Danielle Delaney was the victim of random violent crimes in both 2005 and 2007, from which she suffered serious injuries. In addition to physical assault and rape, she was the victim of identity theft and was forced to relocate immediately for her own safety, since her attackers now possessed her personal information, contact numbers and addresses of her family, friends and colleagues. Law enforcement officials felt she and her close family and friends could suffer witness intimidation and further violence if she remained in her residence and neighborhood.

Ms. Delaney worked diligently for years to rehabilitate her leg injuries and regain her ability to walk. The traumatic brain injury she suffered in the attack was seriously debilitating, and it took some time for her to regain her physical and mental health. She suffered for years with both Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Rape Trauma Syndrome.

Despite these tremendous challenges, Ms. Delaney became an advocate for victims of violent crime. She became a Certified Court Advocate, and returned to school to earn her Certification as a Crisis Counselor in order to help others. She now works with individuals in Aftercare in the field of Addiction & Recovery, assisting people in all forms of crises, working with rape survivors and adults molested as children. Ms. Delaney counsels individuals and guides them through the justice system as they reach for both recovery and resolution of legal issues.

Ms. Delaney has proven herself an asset to the City and County of Los Angeles. She has chosen to help others rather than remaining a passive victim, and guides others in seeing that they, too, can overcome their personal trials. Any employment interruptions or delays in bill payment for Ms. Delaney were due entirely to her injuries and forced relocation. The perpetrators of the crimes against Ms. Delaney, including any fraud against her bank accounts, are the fault of her attackers, and should not prevent her from re-establishing previously earned credit standing. Victims of violent crimes should not be required by any corporation or public utility to "start over" to prove her creditworthiness. Ms. Delaney deserves the chance to begin her financial life again without suffering further harm after her lengthy recovery. Official police reports should provide adequate evidence for offering special consideration, without crime victims being re-traumatized by having to repeatedly re-live the violence and aftermath that were always beyond their individual control.

Please use the information in this letter to seek appropriate measures to provide Ms. Delaney with necessary assistance.

Sincerely, ceo@lacounty.gov