

August 15, 2007

**Statement of Kenneth R. Feinberg  
Concerning the Announcement and Dissemination of a Final Protocol for the Distribution  
of the Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund.**

Kenneth R. Feinberg, Consultant to the Virginia Tech Administration for the design, implementation and administration of the Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund, today announced the Final Protocol to be used in the distribution of approximately \$7M dollars to the families and victims of the April 16 tragedy :”I am grateful to the families and victims of the April 16 tragedy, and to President Charles Steger and other officials at Virginia Tech, for assisting me in designing a Final Protocol for the Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund. During the past few weeks, I have benefited greatly from the input of all interested parties. I particularly thank President Steger for his leadership in coordinating this intense effort to fashion an appropriate and workable HSMF distribution plan.”

The Final Protocol differs in many substantial respects from the draft that was earlier disseminated to all interested parties:

1. The amounts to be distributed to eligible claimants exceed in all categories amounts originally proposed.
2. Victims who were the most seriously injured will receive both free tuition and a compensation payment. Free tuition will encompass the number of years needed for a student to complete his/her existing course of study.
3. A summary accounting of the HSMF, requested by many families, is attached as part of the final protocol.
4. All necessary Claim Forms for filing a claim with the HSMF are also attached.
5. The HSMF deadline for contributions has been extended until the end of this year, December 31, 2007.

Claims from eligible families and victims will be processed beginning immediately with a claim filing deadline of September 15, 2007; “I will continue to work with eligible families and victims in providing assistance during the next 30 days as all claims are processed. It is very important that claimants comply with the filing deadline. In order to meet this deadline my staff and I will work with Virginia Tech officials to make sure that all eligible claimants file a timely claim.”

“My heart goes out to the families and victims of this tragedy.”