

October 31, 2017 skjordan@tarrantcountytx.gov

"NOT IN MY COUNTY."

Governor Abbott, Roger Staubach, Gary Patterson, Texas Rangers, local community leaders join DA Sharen Wilson to send a clear message about intimate partner violence

(Tarrant County, TX) – Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney Sharen Wilson marked National Domestic Violence Awareness Month by asking familiar faces around the Metroplex to join her in a staunch warning to abusers:





This effort to raise awareness about the prevalence of intimate partner violence in this area brings together high-profile residents such as **Roger Staubach**, **TCU Football Coach Gary Patterson**, **Texas Rangers Manager Jeff Banister and Outfielder Ryan Rua**, with police chiefs, local and state officials, first responders and non-profits, all with a united message: this kind of violence will not be tolerated here.

"One in 3 women in Tarrant County will experience intimate partner violence at some point in her lifetime," **said Sharen Wilson.** "That is almost 10 percent higher than the national average. The voices and stories of these intimate partner violence stories have been kept quiet for too long. My office is the voice for Tarrant's crime victims, and we will not be silenced." This message has been featured prominently on the Criminal District Attorney's social media channels throughout the month of October, highlighting photos of those who support the cause, and sharing statistics and information to educate the public about intimate partner violence in our community.

Law enforcement agencies, including the Tarrant County Sheriff, Fort Worth, Arlington and HEB Police Chiefs, and out of area supporters are demonstrating their commitment to this cause with a companion message for offenders:





"Thirteen men and women and one infant have been murdered in intimate partner violence crimes in Tarrant County so far this year," **Wilson said.** "Our office has a special unit dedicated to the aggressive prosecution of these offenders, and we're working in close partnership with the police agencies to develop the best procedures for dealing with these criminals and assisting the survivors.

"The response I've received from people wanting to participate in getting out this message is both overwhelming and inspiring. This is a problem we can eliminate, and that starts right here at home."

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month runs through October. If you want to report a suspected incident of intimate partner violence, call your local police department, or the Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office at 817.884.1400.

To follow this campaign, visit the Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney Facebook page at <u>https://www.facebook.com/tarrantcountyda/</u> or Twitter account at: @TarrantCountyDA.

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