

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“NOT IN MY COUNTY.”

***More than 40 Tarrant County schools, businesses & other organizations
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 residents around Tarrant County to join her in a staunch warning to abusers:

Not in my County.



STOP intimate partner violence.

@TarrantCountyDA

For the second year in a row, this powerful 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.

This year’s effort to raise awareness about the prevalence of intimate partner violence in this area focused on residents at favorite locations, businesses and other organizations, with people at more than 40 diverse locations participating in a united message: this kind of violence will not be tolerated here in our county.

"We've been confronting intimate partner violence head-on here in Tarrant County," **said CDA Wilson.** "Our work continues each day – and we are making progress. This month's Texas Council on Family Violence report shows not only that the number of intimate partner murders in our county decreased from 2016 to 2017, but that Tarrant County is now ranked lower than both Harris and Bexar Counties, also an improvement over last year.

"Our special IPV prosecution unit has spent the last two years working proactively to change the way these crimes are prosecuted, investigated by law enforcement, and thought about by the community as a whole. We are focusing on evidence-based prosecution, which alleviates the singular reliance on the victim's testimony by ensuring all partners secure the strongest evidentiary case at every step of the process. Our team is aggressively prosecuting these cases, and obtaining higher sentences from Tarrant County juries for these offenders than ever before.

"Our team is working closely with law enforcement, first responders, medical personnel, and non-profit organizations to develop the best procedures for engaging with both the offenders and the survivors from the first contact; and we've visited with schools, churches, businesses and dozens of other community organizations to raise awareness among Tarrant County's residents of the prevalence of this problem, and what they can do to assist survivors in our community.

"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 <https://www.facebook.com/tarrantcountyda/> or
Twitter account at: @TarrantCountyDA.**

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