





## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Raising Awareness for Victims**

(Fort Worth, TX) – This week is National Crime Victims' Rights Week, a time to honor survivors and promote the resources that are available to crime victims.

The Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office is honoring victims by placing wreaths at subcourthouses throughout Tarrant County. The wreaths, decorated with ribbons, are a tribute to crime victims and a promise that all victims will have the rights and services they need to recover from crime.

"We are the voice for crime victims," CDA Sharen Wilson said. "We tell their stories in court and seek justice for them.

"We will always be here for them."

Teams of victim advocates are at local police departments, the Criminal District Attorney's Office, the Community Supervision and Corrections Department and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. These advocates are crucial in Tarrant County, so much that the Criminal District Attorney's Office first staffed a team of Victim Assistance Coordinators in the 1980s, before Texas law ever required them.

These Victim Assistance Coordinators listen to victims, go to court with them and make sure they understand all that's happening at trial. They also make sure victims understand their rights and refer them to services that can help.

Wreath ceremonies to mark this week will be held at 10:30 a.m. today throughout Tarrant County at these locations:

Tarrant County Administration Building, 100 E. Weatherford Street, Fort Worth Southwest Subcourthouse, 6551 Granbury Road, Fort Worth Subcourthouse in Arlington, 700 East Abram Street, Arlington Northeast Subcourthouse, 645 Grapevine Highway, Hurst Northwest Subcourthouse, 6713 Telephone Road, Lake Worth

The theme of this National Crime Victims' Rights Week is Rights, access, equity, for all victims. The theme stresses how important it is to help crime victims find their justice.



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