



Sharen Wilson Criminal District Attorney



For Immediate Release

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Note To Crime Victims: We Are Here For You Every Step Of The Way

(Fort Worth, TX) – After suffering a violent crime, many victims are in shock. Some are scared or angry; many don't know where to turn for help.

Our message this week, for National Crime Victims' Rights Week, is that victim advocates are here to help them through the criminal justice system.

"It's bad enough that people have been victims of violent crime," Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney Sharen Wilson said. "We don't want them to struggle through the criminal justice process as well. Victim advocates, or liaisons, will be with them every step of the way.

"We stand ready to listen to victims and help them," she said. "We are their voice in the legal system."

This week, our office will highlight the crucial work victim advocates do. Watch our social media accounts for posts and videos showcasing their very important work.

Also this week, county leaders, police chiefs, victim advocates and many people in our office will wear blue silicone bracelets imprinted with the phrase "Every Step Of The Way" to show support.

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.

Victim advocates are crucial in Tarrant County, so much so that the Criminal District Attorney's Office first staffed a team of Victim Assistance Coordinators in the 1980s, before Texas law ever required them.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week runs from April 18-24. The national theme this year is: Support Victims. Build Trust. Engage Communities.

This week has been recognized since 1981, providing a way for law enforcement to renew its commitment to crime victims every year – and to promote awareness about resources available to them.

For more information about victim services at the CDA, go online to cda.tarrantcounty.com and click the Services and Information button. For more information about National Crime Victims' Rights Week, visit ovc.ojp.gov.

