



COUNTY OF YOLO
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
JEFF W. REISIG, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

(Woodland, CA) Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced today that October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

What began close to two decades ago in scattered communities, as a visible gesture of support for survivors and victims of domestic violence, today has become one of the most widely recognized symbols of the battered women's movement – the purple ribbon.

Across the country, families and friends of victims have adopted the purple ribbon to remember and honor their loved ones who have lost their lives at the hands of a person they once loved and trusted. Shelters and local battered women's programs use the purple ribbon to raise awareness about the crime of domestic violence in their communities. This year, the public's awareness is paramount since shelters across this state are struggling to keep their doors open to serve domestic violence victims after the Governor's significant funding cuts. Our Yolo County Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center lost 20 % of its funding. The legislature is currently looking for ways to restore the funding.

To continue to raise awareness, the Yolo County District Attorney Victim Services Program will be holding events to demonstrate support for victims and survivors throughout Yolo County. At the Yolo County Board of Supervisors meeting on October 13, 2009, the Yolo County Victim Services Program will be asking the Yolo County Board of Supervisors to sign a resolution proclaiming October 2009 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. A survivor of domestic violence who has overcome the abuse and fear and is now successful in her life will accept the resolution. Throughout the long court process, the Yolo County Victim Services Program and the Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Center of Yolo County supported her.

Other events organized for the month include, "Wear Purple to Work Wednesdays at the Yolo County District Attorney's Office," which will encourage all district attorney staff to wear purple to raise awareness. There will also be Purple Ribbon displays at all seven Yolo County libraries as well as the Woodland library. The displays include information and brochures for the public to take that will have information about what to do and who can help if you are in an abusive relationship.

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