

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Laura Valdes. Program Coordinator

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Yolo County District Attorney Victim Services Program Awarded Grant

Federal monies will help fund National Crime Victims' Rights Week

(Woodland/CA) – February 19, 2010 – Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced that the Yolo County District Attorney's Victim Services Program received funding from the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators (NAVAA) to promote community awareness of crime victims' rights and services during 2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week. The grant comes through the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC).

The week of April 18 – 24, 2010 is National Crime Victims' Rights Week, which was first designated by President Ronald Reagan in 1981. This annual observance seeks to increase public awareness of crime victims and survivors about the wide range of rights and services available to people who have been victimized by crime. The theme for 2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week is "Crime Victims Rights: Fairness. Dignity. Respect."

Yolo County District Attorney's Victim Services Program was one of 70 projects recommended by the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators and selected for funding by OVC for 2010 from the 142 applications that were submitted.

According to Laura Valdes, Yolo County District Attorney's Victim Services Program Coordinator, the Community Awareness Project that will be sponsored in Yolo County will provide funding for the annual Victims' Rights Ceremony to honor individuals who have fallen victim to criminal offenders yet bravely persevered through the difficult court process. Any funds remaining will be used for public awareness publications.

"The support from NAVAA and OVC for our 2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week activities will help *us* help *crime victims*," states District Attorney Jeff Reisig. "Members of our community are encouraged to help promote justice through service to crime victims by joining our 2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week activities and supporting victim assistance programs throughout the year."

For additional information about 2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week activities or about victims' rights and services in Yolo County, please contact Laura Valdes, Program Coordinator at 530.666.8187, or visit our Web site at www.yolocounty.org and click on District Attorney, then Victim Services. For information about national efforts to promote 2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week, please visit the Office for Victims of Crime Web site at http://www.ovc.gov.

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