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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Domestic violence impacts many facets of our society, including the health care system, the economy, the welfare system, immigration, and housing. The impact often translates to an undue fiscal burden, such as health care costs, lost wages and the expenses related to the child welfare system. Most immediate is the untold effect of domestic violence on the lives of its victims and their children.

Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig acknowledges the problem stating, "Domestic violence is everyone's business and not just a family matter. It impacts more than just the family involved and it is a crime." In 2006 California law enforcement responded to 176,299 domestic violence calls, of which 80,946 involved weapons. Over 43,911 batterers were arrested for spousal abuse in 2006 and 110 women and 24 men were domestic violence homicide victims.

The Yolo County Board of Supervisors will be recognizing October 2008 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month by signing a proclamation at their meeting on September 30, 2008. Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig, the staff of the Yolo County District Attorney Victim Services and Adrienne Monroe, Executive Director of Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Center (SADVC) of Yolo County will be present to accept the proclamation.

The agencies mentioned will also hold a press conference on October 1, 2008 at 12:00pm in front of the courthouse to announce all of the events that

are being held to recognize October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This includes, "Race to End Domestic Violence", a 5k walk/run being held on October 18, 2008 at Pioneer Park in Woodland. The second annual 5k walk/run organized by Yolo County Victim Services will raise money for SADVC to continue to provide services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Yolo County District Attorney Victim Services serves victims and witnesses involved in the criminal justice system and are dedicated to providing comprehensive services to victims of violent crime.

The Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Center of Yolo County was created in 1977. The Center provides crisis intervention services to battered women and sexual assault victims with a 24-hour crisis hotline, individual counseling and a battered women's shelter. The mission of SADVC is to eliminate sexual assault and domestic violence through sensitive prevention, intervention, and treatment. For more information, contact Julia Hernandez at the Yolo County District Attorney's Office Victim Services Program (530) 666-8187.

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