



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County Raises Awareness for Crime Victims' Rights at 24th Annual Rally & Walk

Carlisle PA – The Cumberland County District Attorney's Office observed National Crime Victims' Rights Week, held from April 6 -12, with its 24th Annual Victims' Rights Rally and One-Mile Walk. The event began at the historic courthouse, where two survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault shared their personal stories, and concluded with a one-mile walk through downtown Carlisle.

This year's theme, **KINSHIP: Connecting & Healing**, is a call to action, emphasizing the importance of shared humanity at the center of supporting all survivors and victims of crime. KINSHIP underscores the vital connection that enables access to services, rights, and healing, serving as the foundation of victim advocacy.

The Cumberland County Victim Services Division of the District Attorney's Office was established to assist victims and witnesses of crime during their involvement with the criminal justice system. The office strives to help victims recover from the physical, emotional, and financial impact of the crime.

"Last year, the Cumberland County Victim Services Division of the District Attorney's Office assisted 5,061 victims, providing crucial support and advocacy to victims and witnesses of crime as they navigated the criminal justice system," said Adrienne Vaughn, victim services director.

Awards were presented to advocates from the community, and from the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office and Criminal Investigation Division.

Cumberland County Victim Advocacy Award: Deputy Katie Blankenstein, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office

Skip Ebert Legacy Award: Cumberland County Criminal Investigation Division

Volunteer Recognition, YWCA Carlisle & Cumberland County: Roger Wilkinson and David Luo

Volunteer Recognition, Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland and Perry Counties: Carlisle United Methodist Church

Speakers included: Cumberland County District Attorney Seán M. McCormack, Commissioner Jean Foschi, Victim Services Director Adrienne Vaughn, and Crime Victim Survivors: Amanda Gayman and Megan Dunlap.

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