



RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
NEWS RELEASE
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DA HESTRIN HOSTS THREE CANDLELIGHT VIGILS NEXT WEEK HONORING CRIME VICTIMS

RIVERSIDE – Over three days next week, at locations across the county, District Attorney Mike Hestrin will host candlelight vigils to honor victims of crime.

The annual event, held in conjunction with National Crime Victims' Rights Week, is an opportunity for the DA's Office to pay tribute to those who have lost their life to violent crime.

"As prosecutors we seek justice for crime victims in our courts every day," DA Hestrin said. "But what is sometimes forgotten is that crime, especially violent crime, also assaults the victim's dignity as a human being. So apart from all our efforts in the courts, we hold these vigils and stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the victims of crime to remind them that they are not alone and will never be forgotten."

The public is invited to all the vigils, which begin at 7 p.m. each night and will be held as follows:

- Tuesday, April 21, at the Palm Desert Civic Center Park amphitheater, 43-900 San Pablo St., Palm Desert
- Wednesday, April 22, at the Harveston Center at Harveston Lake Park, 40135 Village Road, Temecula
- Thursday, April 23, at the Riverside Historic Courthouse, 4050 Main St., Riverside

NOTE: Immediately following the Riverside vigil there will be a gathering at the Victims Memorial Courtyard at the District Attorney's Office, 3960 Orange St., Riverside for the unveiling of new names on the Victims Memorial Wall.

DA Hestrin will address those in attendance at each event which will also feature a keynote speaker who lost a loved one to crime. Each keynote speaker is expected to talk about what they have endured and how they have coped with their loss. The names of victims who have recently died will be read at each venue and candles will be lit to remember those who have been killed.

This year's keynote speakers are:

Palm Desert: Mika Moulton, who started Christopher's Clubhouse in the Coachella Valley after her 10-year-old son, Christopher, was abducted and murdered in 1995 in Illinois. Christopher's Clubhouse provides comprehensive community safety and educational programs for children and families. It received national recognition when Mika testified before numerous Senate subcommittee hearings on child abduction and safety.

Temecula: Glenda "Faye" Williams-Jenkins, whose daughter Quiana was murdered alongside her husband just two months after they were married. Quiana Jenkins-Pietrzak and her husband, U.S. Marine Sgt. Jan Pietzak, were murdered in 2008 by four U.S. Marines during a home-invasion robbery at the couple's Winchester/French Valley area home, just outside Murrieta.

Riverside: Rozzy and Koby Rael, the brother and son of Brandi Morales-Rael who was murdered in her home in 2011 by a former boyfriend. The murderer shot Brandi and then lit her body on fire while her six children were in their Moreno Valley home. The killer also fired another shot, nearly missing Koby, who was 15 at the time. Three of Brandi's children used cups of water in an attempt to put out the fire on their mother's body.

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