



RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
**NEWS RELEASE**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
OCTOBER 1, 2015

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## OCTOBER IS NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

**RIVERSIDE** – Domestic violence comes in many forms, can impact anyone, and far too often goes unreported to law enforcement.

While domestic violence unfortunately still happens every day, each October is recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and gives us all the opportunity to not only remember the impact domestic violence has, but to continue working with and for those victimized by this crime.

“This October, we must renew our efforts to fight domestic violence in all of its forms,” Riverside County District Attorney Mike Hestrin said. “I want to take this opportunity to also tell victims of domestic violence that they are not alone. Our partners in law enforcement, in agencies serving victims, and throughout our community stand with you. We all continue to strive for the day that, together, we can eradicate domestic violence from our society so that families can live free of fear and in a loving, healthy environment.”

Domestic Violence Awareness Month developed from the Day of Unity held in October 1981 and conceived by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (<http://www.ncadv.org/>). In October 1987, Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed for the first time.

National statistics such as the following provide a powerful look at the impact of domestic violence: 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have been victims of severe physical violence committed upon them by a current or former partner, only about 25 percent of physical assaults committed upon women are reported to law enforcement, every minute 20 people are victims of intimate partner violence.

Help for victims of domestic violence and important resources about domestic violence are available on the local, state, and national levels. Here are just a few:

Riverside County Family Justice Centers are located in Riverside, Indio, and Murrieta. Information and locations can be found at <http://www.rivcofjc.org/contact-and-locations/>

Palm Desert-based Shelter From The Storm: <http://shelterfromthestorm.com/> with a 24-hour toll-free hotline available at (800) 775-6055

Riverside-based Alternatives to Domestic Violence: <http://www.alternativestodv.org/home.html> with a toll-free hotline of (800) 339-SAFE

Temecula-based Safe Alternatives For Everyone: <http://www.safefamiliesca.org/> with a helpline at (951) 587-3900

The California Victim Compensation Program: <http://vcgcb.ca.gov/victims/issues/domesticviolence/>

The National Domestic Violence Hotline: <http://www.thehotline.org/is-this-abuse/>

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