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NEWS RELEASE

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WELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIM APRIL 10 – 16 AS NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

WELD COUNTY, CO – During their Wednesday meeting, the Weld County Board of Commissioners proclaimed April 10-16, 2016, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week. This week is dedicated to serving victims, building trust and restoring hope for justice and healing.



The Weld County Board of Commissioners presented the National Crime Victims' Rights Week proclamation to Weld County District Attorney Michael Rourke on Wednesday, April 13. The commissioners also recognized agency representatives from the Weld County Coordinating Committee for Victims of Crime (CCVC). Representatives have a joint commitment to work with CCVC, each other's agencies and other groups that are seeking to achieve the most effective method of victim services through communication, collaboration and coordination.

Americans are the victims of more than 20 million crimes each year, and in 2015, the Weld County District Attorney's Office (DA Office) filed nearly 16,000 criminal cases. To assist victims with information, support and education regarding the criminal justice system the Weld County Victim's Assistance Unit was formed in 1980. Although Weld County supports victims, many other local organizations including A Woman's Place, A Kid's Place, Catholic Charities and Sexual Assault Victims Advocate Center (SAVA) provide victim assistance programs.

"Being the victim of a crime not only has a profound impact on the victim but also their family, friends and community," said Commissioner Chair Mike Freeman. "The support provided by the various victims'

services organizations in Weld County is incredibly important to allow for the healing process to begin."

National Crime Victims' Rights Week reaffirms Weld County's commitment to respect and enforce victim's rights throughout the year. This week also expresses appreciation for the victim and crime survivors who have turned personal tragedy into a motivating force to rebuild their trust in the criminal justice and social service systems.

To learn more about victims' services in Weld County, visit the victim services tab on the District Attorney web page at www.weldgov.com.

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