



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TULARE

Tim Ward, *District Attorney*

PRESS RELEASE

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**DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE TO OBSERVE NATIONAL CRIME
VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK WITH MEMORIAL QUILT DISPLAY**

The public is invited to an open house and memorial quilt viewing on Friday, April 7 from 10 am to 6 pm at the Visalia Convention Center Charter Oak Ballroom "A" as part of the District Attorney's observance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week 2017.

Since 1981, National Crime Victims' Rights Week has brought attention to the millions of Americans impacted by crime and the people who advocate on their behalf. In Tulare County, the District Attorney has observed the week with an annual unveiling of a memorial quilt depicting local residents lost to violent crime. The 17th quilt will be unveiled on April 6 to an invitation only audience. The handmade quilt will represent 17 people on 16 squares. All quilts will be on display at the open house the following day.

"When this event started several years ago, we never anticipated that this humble observance would mean so much to the families and friends of those lost to crime in our county," said District Attorney Tim Ward. "This event has become a place of healing and fellowship for those who share a common bond."

The theme for this year's National Crime Victims' Rights Week is "Strength – Resilience – Justice," a theme that resonates within the survivor and advocate community.

"The lifelong impact of being a victim of crime is difficult for many," said District Attorney Victim Services Director Jennifer Lightfoot. "But there is hope, and people who are eager to help. This event has brought survivors and advocates together."

For more information on National Crime Victims' Rights Week, visit the Office for Victims of Crime at <https://www.ovc.gov/>.

*Media inquiries can be directed to the Office of the District Attorney, County of Tulare
Victim Services Director Jennifer Lightfoot (559) 636-5471*