



## YORK COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Press Release**

## **Victims' Rights March and Candlelight Vigil**

**York, PA** – The York County District Attorney's Office and York County Victims' Rights Coalition celebrate National Crime Victims' Rights Week April 21-27, 2024, by commemorating this important week of awareness by hosting the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Crime Victims' Rights March and Candlelight Vigil to encourage members of the community to learn how to better support survivors.

Since 1981, National Crime Victims' Rights Week has challenged the Nation to confront and remove barriers to achieving justice for all victims of crime. Each year since the York County Victims' Rights Coalition was founded, the Coalition has sponsored this wonderful event to remember and honor crime victims', witnesses, and their families.

In 2022, there were nearly 20 million crime victimizations in the United States. More than 6.6 million were the result of violent crimes, including rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Of that 6.6 million, only about 42% were reported to police. This year's National Crime Victims' Rights Week theme is "How would you help? Options, services, and hope for crime survivors."

We must create an environment in which victims and survivors feel safe talking about what happened to them. The theme aims to ensure that everyone in our community knows where and how crime victims and survivors can find help – including friends, family members, colleagues, neighbors, service providers, or other trusted members in the community.

The Office of the District Attorney and the Victims' Rights Coalition is proud to join the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) and communities throughout the United States during National Crime Victims' Rights Week in raising awareness of victims' rights and honoring crime victims and their advocates.

The Victims' Rights March and Candlelight Vigil will be held Thursday, April 25, 2024, beginning at 7:00 pm outside of the Colonial Courthouse which is located at 205 W. Market St. This will be followed by a march to Trinity United Church of Christ where community services and crime survivors will speak. Anyone in attendance may light a candle in remembrance and honor of a loved one.