



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. Attorney conducts training at Family Violence Prevention Program

WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA — In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, United States Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld, II, recently visited the YWCA in Wheeling to provide training to the staff of the Family Violence Prevention Program on federal domestic violence and sexual assault laws.

The training focused upon the resources that are available within the federal court system to victims of domestic and sexual violence, including statutes that carry severe penalties when offenders are convicted. Some of the laws covered in the training included “Interstate Domestic Violence”, “Interstate Violation of a Protective Order”, “Interstate Stalking”, and “Cyberstalking.” Federal firearms statutes were also discussed and the audience learned how these laws can be useful when trying to help a victim of abuse.

“I enjoy meeting the advocates that provide assistance to victims of domestic violence on a daily basis,” said Ihlenfeld. “It’s important for them to know how much they are appreciated, and express to them how important prosecuting these cases is to my office.”

Ihlenfeld has already visited many of the domestic violence shelters in the Northern District of West Virginia and will continue his training tour in November and December.



(Left to Right):

William J. Ihlenfeld, II, United States Attorney; Patricia Flanagan, Director, YWCA Family Violence Prevention Program; Sara Fincham, Victim Advocate; John Nardone, Marshall Co. BIPP Facilitator; & Aimee Bowman, Victim Advocate