



ERIK NASARENKO

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

NEWS RELEASE



Follow us @VenturaCountyDA
DA.VenturaCounty.gov

Contact: Joey Buttitta
Title: Communications Manager/PIO
Phone: (805) 767-3400
Email: Joey.Buttitta@ventura.org

Approved: SW
Date: April 8, 2025
Release No.: 25-044

National Crime Victims' Rights Week April 6-12, 2025 Annual Event to Focus on Campus Sexual Assault Awareness



VENTURA, Calif. – The Ventura County Board of Supervisors has officially proclaimed April 6-12, 2025, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW), recognizing the importance of supporting victims and honoring those who advocate for their rights. April is also Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a time dedicated to educating communities on the prevalence of sexual violence and the importance of prevention.

The 2025 NCVRW theme is KINSHIP. This year's theme of KINSHIP is a call-to-action to recognize that shared humanity should be at the center of supporting all survivors and victims of crime. KINSHIP is a state of being with survivors that drives vital connections and increases access to services, rights, and healing. KINSHIP is where victim advocacy begins.



As part of this observance, the Ventura County District Attorney's Office will host a Crime Victims' Rights Ceremony on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at California Lutheran University's Kingsmen Park. The event, taking place from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., is free and open to the public. Community members are encouraged to attend to support victims, raise awareness, and honor those dedicated to seeking justice.

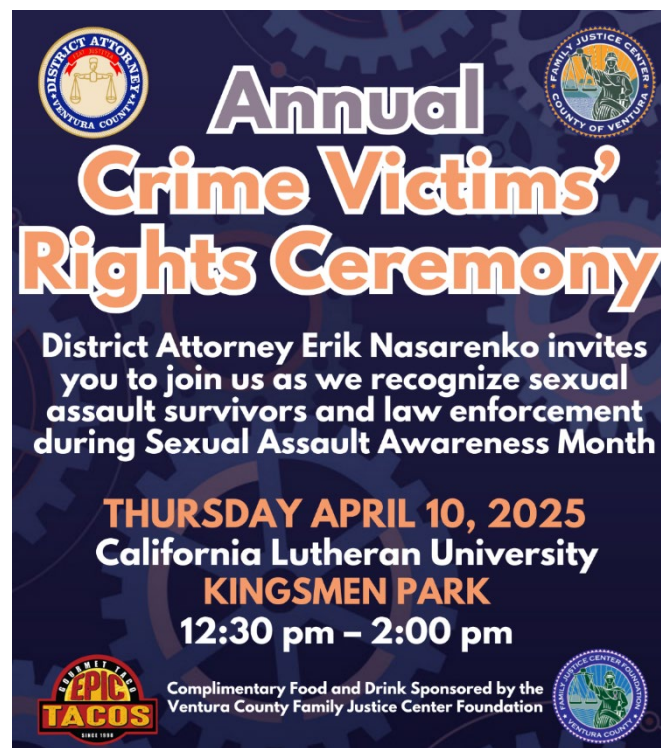
The theme for this year's event is "Campus Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention." Across the country, sexual assault remains a significant issue on college campuses, with 43% of campus crime involving sexual violence. National statistics show that 1 in 5 women and 1 in 16 men are sexually assaulted while in college, yet over 90% of victims do not report it.

"The focus of this year's event is to raise awareness and encourage action to prevent sexual assault," District Attorney Erik Nasarenko said. "We stand with survivors, support prevention efforts, and honor those who work tirelessly to seek justice."

This year's ceremony will recognize individuals and organizations making a meaningful impact in the fight against sexual violence. The Sexual Assault Response Team from the Coalition for Family Harmony will be honored for their dedicated support of survivors. Thousand Oaks High School Resource Officer Nicholas Palomino and the Ventura County Sexual Assault Kit Initiative team will be recognized for their outstanding work in bringing justice to victims. Additionally, Lily Fields, a survivor of sexual assault, will courageously share her story to inspire and empower others.

In addition to the ceremony, attendees can enjoy complimentary food and drink from Epic Tacos, a gourmet food truck, made possible by sponsorship from the Ventura County Family Justice Center Foundation.

The Ventura County District Attorney's Crime Victims' Assistance Unit and Family Justice Center's dedicated staff and victim advocates play a crucial role in supporting victims year-round, and we extend our deepest gratitude for their ongoing efforts.



The poster features a dark blue background with a gear pattern. At the top left is the Ventura County District Attorney's Office logo, and at the top right is the Ventura County Family Justice Center logo. The main title, "Annual Crime Victims' Rights Ceremony", is written in large, bold, orange and white letters. Below the title, white text reads: "District Attorney Erik Nasarenko invites you to join us as we recognize sexual assault survivors and law enforcement during Sexual Assault Awareness Month". The date and location are listed in orange and white: "THURSDAY APRIL 10, 2025", "California Lutheran University", and "KINGSMEN PARK". The time "12:30 pm - 2:00 pm" is in white. At the bottom left is the Epic Tacos logo, and at the bottom right is the Ventura County Family Justice Center logo. Text at the bottom center states: "Complimentary Food and Drink Sponsored by the Ventura County Family Justice Center Foundation".