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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Rachel Bryson, Communications Director
717.706.0001

Commissioners Commemorate National Crime Victims' Rights Week

Carlisle, Pa. – The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners proclaimed April 8-14, 2018, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week during their meeting today. According to the most recent Bureau of Justice Statistics survey, victims experience more than five million violent crimes and nearly 15 million property victimizations a year.

Cumberland County will commemorate the advancement of victims' rights and highlight issues surrounding victimization by holding its 17th Annual Crime Victims' Rights Rally and One Mile Walk on Monday, April 9 at 6 p.m. The rally and walk will begin at the Historic Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Square, Carlisle, PA.

"This rally is for crime victims, survivors, family members, law enforcement, service providers and really anyone who supports victims' rights to gather and show their support," said Adrienne C. Vaughn, victim advocate and STOP grant coordinator for the County's Victim Services office, a division of the District Attorney's Office.

This year's National Crime Victims' Rights Week theme, "Expand the Circle: Reach All Victims," highlights how the investment of communities in crime victims expands the opportunity for victims to disclose their victimization, connect with services and receive the support they need. The bipartisan Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), passed by Congress in 1984, created a national fund to ease victims' suffering. Financed by fines and penalties paid by offenders, the Crime Victims Fund supports services for victims of all types of crime, including assistance for homicide survivors, survivors of child sexual abuse and human trafficking, as well as rape crisis centers and domestic violence programs. VOCA also funds victim compensation programs that pay victims' out-of-pocket expenses such as counseling, funeral expenses, and lost wages.

For more information on the Annual Crime Victims' Rights Rally and One Mile Walk, please contact the Cumberland County Victims' Services Division at (717) 240-6220 or victims@ccpa.net. More details on National Crime Victims' Rights Week can be found at <https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw>.

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Cumberland County is the fastest growing county in the Commonwealth and offers the perfect mix of small town, suburban and rural living. Established in 1750, Cumberland County consistently maintains one of the lowest tax and unemployment rates in the State, while providing exceptional services for its nearly 250,000 residents. More information on Cumberland County can be found at www.ccpa.net.