

# NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray  
District Attorney

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## Prosecutors, CMPD host 3rd Annual "Steps for Change" Domestic Violence Walk/Run

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Working together to put an end to domestic violence, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department will host the Third Annual "Steps for Change" Domestic Violence Walk/Run on Oct. 12.

Last year, Charlotte-Mecklenburg police responded to approximately 36,000 domestic violence-related calls for service. Every day, Mecklenburg County prosecutors are in court, seeking justice for victims. Together, police and prosecutors confront the criminal consequences of abusers' actions – everything from harassing phone calls to murder.

Since 2011, prosecutors and police have worked together every October – Domestic Violence Awareness Month – to host "Steps for Change." The event is spearheaded by Assistant District Attorney Jamie Adams, leader of the DA's Domestic Violence Team, and Sgt. Angela Haywood, leader of CMPD's Domestic Violence Unit.

Registration is \$10 per person, and participants can form teams for their businesses or organizations. All proceeds will benefit Safe Alliance, a nonprofit that provides assistance to victims of domestic violence in Mecklenburg County and the surrounding area.

The "Steps for Change" Walk/Run's ultimate goal is to bring public awareness to domestic violence, which is all too often an unspoken problem. Domestic violence knows no boundaries. It affects people from all walks of life.

"Our community can't afford to turn a blind eye to violence at home," says District Attorney Andrew Murray, who created a team of trained prosecutors to exclusively handle domestic violence cases. "We need everyone's help to remove the stigma associated with domestic violence and stop the cycle of abuse."

"Domestic violence affects all ages, races, socioeconomic, educational, religious and occupational segments of our community," says CMPD Chief Rodney Monroe. "Through awareness, we can come together to support victims and hold perpetrators accountable."

Police and prosecutors invite the public to join them at the "Steps for Change" Walk/Run. The event will be held 8-10 a.m. at the Alexander Graham Middle School track, located at 1800 Runnymede Lane in Charlotte. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. The Walk/Run will also feature giveaways, music and refreshments. The largest team that registers to participate will win an award. [Click here](#) to register or for more information.

*Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit [www.charmeckda.com](http://www.charmeckda.com). For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/charmeckda](http://www.facebook.com/charmeckda) and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.*

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