

NEWS RELEASE

Spencer B. Merriweather III
District Attorney

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DA Merriweather's PSA shines light on domestic violence during pandemic

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Partnering with Beasley Media Group, Mecklenburg County District Attorney Spencer B. Merriweather III is taking to the airwaves to encourage the community to play an active role in ending domestic violence, especially as the stress of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to heighten risks for victims.

This week, a public service announcement featuring DA Merriweather began airing on Beasley Media Group's six local radio stations: Power 98 FM, Kiss 95.1, Country 103.7, K 104.7, Fox Sports Charlotte 94.7 and V 101.9 FM.

"Home should be a place of safety for adults and children," DA Merriweather says in the message. "But during the pandemic, home has too often become a place of violence within families."

Local law enforcement have reported an increase in the number of domestic violence reports since the pandemic struck our community, and [Safe Alliance](#) has experienced a significant increase in the number of domestic violence-related calls placed to its Greater Charlotte Hope Line.

"As we grapple with COVID-19, it's more important than ever to stay in touch with loved ones, to reach out and offer support to stressed families, and to let people know that they are not alone," says DA Merriweather. "Be a friend, be a neighbor, be a support. You can play a powerful role in ending the cycle of violence."

The message reminds the public to call 911 immediately if they witness abuse. DA Merriweather also shares information about the [Greater Charlotte Hope Line](#) (980-771-HOPE), a 24/7 hotline for Mecklenburg County residents seeking help for domestic violence, sexual assault and parenting support.

[Click here](#) to listen to the public service announcement.

The District Attorney's Office and Beasley Media Group have worked together since 2014 to educate the community about domestic violence and child abuse and share resources for those in need of assistance. They last partnered for a public service announcement campaign for Child Abuse Prevention Month in April 2018.

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

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