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OVW
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OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ANNOUNCES NATIONAL INFORMATION CAMPAIGN ON WWW.ENDITNOW.GOV

WASHINGTON – The Justice Department’s Office on Violence against Women (OVW) has launched a powerful 30-second public service announcement (PSA) to continue raising awareness and increasing education about domestic abuse, Mary Beth Buchanan, Acting Director of OVW, announced today. The PSA, released in both English and Spanish, was launched in recognition of October’s designation as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and can be found at <http://www.enditnow.gov>.

The goals of the public service announcement and resources available on [enditnow.gov](http://www.enditnow.gov) are to facilitate a greater public dialogue about and encourage prevention of domestic violence. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Department’s National Institute of Justice both report that domestic abuse is not only physical or sexual; it also includes emotional, economic, or psychological intimidation or manipulation. Domestic violence can happen to anyone regardless of race, sexual orientation, or sex and continues to invade the public and private lives of women, men, and children regardless of education, income-level, or geography.

“Domestic violence is not only a personal tragedy, it is a serious crime that negatively affects women, men, children, neighborhoods and communities,” said Acting Director Mary Beth Buchanan. “By becoming aware of abusive behaviors, everyone can be an agent for change. The materials we are making available will assist the public and victims to share their voices in stopping the abuse.”

Enditnow.gov serves as a comprehensive online resource to assist victims of domestic abuse, or those who might know a victim. In addition to the PSA, resources on the www.enditnow.gov website include:

- Links to hotlines for victims of abuse;
- Information and locations of the President’s Family Justice Centers;
- Online and national resource organizations; and
- Tip sheets about abusive relationships and resource organizations.

Phase I of the project includes distribution of the PSA to markets within the locations of the President’s 15 Family Justice Centers. The President’s Family Justice Centers, in

coordination with public and private agencies help local communities provide comprehensive services under one roof to victims of domestic violence. The locations of the PSA markets are in Sitka, Alaska; Oakland, Calif.; Tampa, Fla.; Nampa, Idaho; South Bend, Ind.; Monroe, La.; Boston, Mass.; St. Louis, Mo.; Las Vegas, N.M.; Brooklyn and Buffalo, N.Y.; Defiance, Ohio; Tulsa, Okla.; Knoxville, Tenn.; San Antonio, Texas.

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), a component of the United States Department of Justice, provides national leadership in developing the nation's capacity to reduce violence against women through the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and subsequent legislation. Created in 1995, OVW administers financial and technical assistance to communities across the country that are developing programs, policies, and practices aimed at ending domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. In addition to overseeing 12 federal grant programs, OVW often undertakes a number of special initiatives in response to areas of special need, dedicating resources to develop enhancements in areas requiring particular attention or in communities facing particularly acute challenges. More information is available at www.usdoj.gov/ovw.

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