



NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“Illuminate Irving: a Night of Remembrance and Hope”

A ceremony to honor domestic violence victims and survivors

(IRVING, TEXAS) — The statistics are staggering. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), nearly 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime. This silent crime does not discriminate: It cuts across all demographics.

The Irving Police Department (IPD) and Irving Family Advocacy Center (FAC) are working together to open the conversation of domestic abuse by informing the community about this dangerous crime and raising awareness of its progression. The CDC says abuse begins with verbal put-downs and, at its worst, escalates over time into violent physical outbursts.

This is the second year IPD and FAC will hold “Illuminate Irving: a Night of Remembrance and Hope,” an evening dedicated to remembering and honoring domestic violence victims and survivors during Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October.

The remembrance is open to the public and will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 10 along Irving’s Mandalay Canal in Las Colinas Urban Center, 200 E. Las Colinas Blvd.

The FAC provides free counseling to Irving families. Counselors provide domestic abuse victims with resources and safety strategies as well as referrals to other organizations, when needed.

At the start of the event, visitors are encouraged to write the names of victims and survivors on lanterns that will float down the Mandalay Canal. The lanterns honoring survivors will have white lights, and lanterns for those who were killed will be lighted with purple.

While the event will begin at 5:30 p.m., the ceremony will start at 6:45 p.m. with speakers, followed by the lantern release. Food and family activities also will be available. Counselors and service organizations will be on hand to provide information to victims, friends and family throughout the evening.

Parking is free at the Mandalay Tower Parking Garage, 220 E. Las Colinas Blvd. For more information, visit cityofirving.org/illuminate. Additional information can be found on the City of Irving's social media sites as well by searching #IlluminateIrving and #enddv.

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The [City of Irving](#) is an economic powerhouse in North Texas and is home to the region's largest office park, where more than 10 percent of Fortune 500 companies are headquartered or have a significant presence. Irving is the 13th largest city in the state with 237,000 residents and the most diverse ZIP code in the country.