



POLICE DEPARTMENT

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******PRESS RELEASE****WALLA WALLA POLICE DEPT****
WWPD receives \$4,998 grant to promote awareness of crime victims' rights,
Violence Prevention Conference, March 27th, Whitman College**

March 25, 2014

The Walla Walla Police Department has received nearly \$5,000 from the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators (NAVAA) through a grant from the Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice, to promote community awareness of crime victims' rights and services during National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

WWPD Domestic Violence Services Officer Chalese Rabidue stated, "The funds are being used to purchase items promoting victims' rights and provide contact information for outreach programs available to victims and survivors. These items include beverage sleeves distributed to several local coffee shops, grocery tote bags, childrens' backpacks, and other trinkets listing local and national resources."

The week of April 6 – 12, 2014, is National Crime Victims' Rights Week. This annual observance, first designated by President Ronald Reagan in 1981, is meant to increase public awareness and knowledge of the wide range of rights and services available to people who have been victimized by crime.

Since 2004, the NCVRW Community Awareness Project has provided financial and technical assistance to more than 650 community projects that promote victim and public awareness activities, innovative approaches to victim outreach, and public education about victims' rights and services during National Crime Victims' Rights Week. The Walla Walla Police Department was one of 71 projects recommended by the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators and selected for funding by OVC for 2014 from 125 applications submitted nationwide. The money for this support comes from fines collected from offenders convicted of federal crimes and not from U.S. taxpayers.

For additional information about National Crime Victims' Rights Week activities or about victims' rights and services in the Walla Walla Valley, please contact Chalese Rabidue at the police department. For information about national efforts to promote 2014 National Crime Victims' Rights Week, please visit the Office for Victims of Crime website at <http://www.ovc.gov>.



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The National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators is a non-profit organization that represents the 56 state agencies that distribute funds from the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) to more than 4,000 direct victim assistance service providers.

As a part of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, the Walla Walla Valley Violence Prevention Conference will take place on Thursday, Mar. 27 in Maxey Auditorium on the Whitman College campus. Check-in and registration begin in Maxey Hall Auditorium Foyer at 7:45 a.m., and workshops and presentations run from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registrations are being accepted until the morning of the event. For the full schedule of events and to register online, visit: <http://www.violenceprevention.com> . Event updates will be posted online at the site, or on the event Facebook page www.facebook.com/WWViolencePrevention .

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