

COUNTY OF BERRIEN  
OFFICE *of the* PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
**MICHAEL J. SEPIC**  
*Prosecuting Attorney*

**JENNIFER L. SMITH**  
*Chief Assistant Prosecutor*



**STEVEN P. PIERANGELI**  
*Chief Trial Attorney*

Press Release

April 1, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Crime Victims' Rights Week Event

The Berrien County Prosecutor's Office announced today that the Berrien County community is invited to attend a free National Crime Victims' Rights Week event on Thursday, April 6, from 5:30-6:15 p.m., on the front lawn of the Berrien County Courthouse (on the west side courthouse), located at 811 Port Street in St. Joseph. Hosted by the Berrien County Prosecutor's Office, in coordination with Safe Shelter, South West Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force, The Children's Assessment Center of Berrien County, and the Berrien County Sheriff's Department-Victim Services Unit, the event will promote awareness of crime victims' rights and the community services offered to assist victims as they seek justice and healing while walking through the justice system's process.

Prosecuting Attorney, Michael Sepic, will dedicate a plaque in recognition of crime victims in Berrien County. The plaque will be placed in a newly planted flower garden surrounding an existing tree on the courthouse front lawn, designated especially for this event. Participants in attendance will hear experiences shared by crime victims as well as positive stories of victims told by speakers from the coordinating agencies of this event.

For more information or questions regarding the event, please contact Carolyn Groen, Program Coordinator of Victim/Witness Services at the Berrien County Prosecutor's Office at 269-983-7111, ext. 8311 or email [atcgroen@berriencounty.org](mailto:atcgroen@berriencounty.org).