



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Memphis Child Advocacy Center raises Children's Memorial Flag again In memory of 12 year old Andrea Ruth**

(Memphis, TN) **On Tuesday, March 4 at 11:00 am, the Memphis Child Advocacy Center will raise the Children's Memorial Flag for the second time in 2014—this time for Andrea Ruth.** Andrea was just 12 years old when she died. News reports detail horrific medical neglect. Andrea's father, Errol Johnson; her mother Raven Ruth; and healthcare worker Chasara Jones have all been charged with first-degree murder in Andrea's death.

The Child Advocacy Center raises the flag whenever a child in Shelby County dies as a result of abuse or neglect and a parent or caregiver has been charged in the child's death. Andrea is the second child memorialized in 2014. On Friday, February 21, the center raised the flag for 7 week old Aniston Walker.

**The brief ceremony for Andrea will be held on the front lawn of the Memphis Child Advocacy Center, 1085 Poplar, rain or shine.** Speakers will include Virginia Stallworth, Executive Director of the Memphis Child Advocacy Center, and Rhynette H. Hurd, Vice Chair of the Memphis Child Advocacy Center Board of Directors. The ceremony will be attended by concerned citizens and professionals confronting child abuse on the front lines.

"We must not surrender to despair, but continue to work to make our community safer for all children. One way we do this is to remember these children lost to us," said Virginia Stallworth.

The flag will fly for one week to remember young Andrea.

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Every time a child dies in Shelby County as a result of child abuse or neglect, the Children's Memorial Flag is raised to memorialize the child and to issue a call to our community. The Children's Memorial Flag is the centerpiece of a national campaign initiated by the Child Welfare League of America to raise awareness. It was created in 1998 by a 16-year-old student in Alameda County, CA.



Memphis  
**Child Advocacy  
Center**

The Memphis Child Advocacy Center supports safety for children through informed prevention, community collaboration, and a team approach to healing and justice for victims of child sexual and severe physical abuse. At the CAC, a team of law enforcement officers, therapists, investigators, and prosecutors work together to ensure the best possible outcome for victimized children. The center also provides evidence-based child sexual abuse prevention training for parents and professionals who work with children.

Go to [MemphisCAC.org](http://MemphisCAC.org) to find out more.