



Family Safety
Center

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News Release

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Shelby County Government Observes Domestic Violence Awareness Month Mayor Luttrell Will Host Educational Session About Crime Victim Services

Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., will host an educational session and tour of the Family Safety Center this week to stress the center's importance in the fight against domestic violence. **"October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. I wanted to personally highlight the valuable, free services for crime victims that are housed at the Family Safety Center,"** said Mayor Luttrell.

Mayor Luttrell, Family Safety Center Board of Directors and representatives of various agencies housed at the center in midtown Memphis will attend the educational briefing this Friday, September 26th, 9:30 a.m., 1750 Madison Avenue. More than 20 agencies coordinate criminal, civil, social, and victim assistance services at the Family Safety Center.

"This is a one-stop location for crime victims and their families," said Executive Director Olliette Murry-Drobot. **"The Family Safety Center provides domestic violence victims easy access to needed resources and helps ensure there's a coordinated response by all agencies,"** added Ms. Drobot.

"During this Friday's session, reporters and visitors will see through the eyes of a crime victim. They'll hear how Orders of Protection are processed and meet representatives of several services located within the Family Safety Center," said Anna Whalley, Administrator of the Shelby County Crime Victims Center/Shelby County Rape Crisis Center, both part of the Family Safety Center.

The center opened two years ago and was the result of a coordinated response to domestic violence through **Operation: Safe Community**, an organization that monitors crime trends throughout Shelby County. Monthly meetings are held by representatives from various government agencies, businesses, churches, schools and community groups to devise ways to prevent and better respond to crime.

During October, staff from the Family Safety Center will be visiting churches, community groups and other venues to talk about ways to prevent and respond to domestic violence. To schedule a presentation, call Ms. Drobot at **(901) 222-4400**.

A complete list of Family Safety Center services, including the warning signs of domestic violence, can be seen at www.familysafetycenter.org

(End of Release)