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Indiana Prosecutors Honor Allen County Domestic Violence Coordinator

(Indianapolis – December 4, 2017) Catherine Maggart, Domestic Violence Coordinator for the Allen County Prosecutor's Office recently received the Indiana Victim's Advocate Award from the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council. The awards event took place during the annual winter conference of Indiana prosecuting attorneys in Indianapolis.

In her nomination of Catherine Maggart, Allen County Prosecutor Karen Richards said "she has truly excelled in the area of community outreach." Noting Allen County's large immigrant/refugee population, Prosecutor Richards said communications deficiencies hindered prosecution of some cases, including those of domestic violence. "Cathy has enlisted the assistance of many in the community to provide interpretation in Spanish, Burmese and several West African languages. She has also conducted seminars and informational sessions...to bridge the cultural gap and inform new populations that the criminal justice system is accessible, will come to their assistance and is here for their protection."



From left: Allen County Domestic Violence Coordinator Catherine Maggart, Allen County Prosecutor Karen Richards.

Citing Maggart's innovation in outreach, Prosecutor Richards said the medical community, food and clothing banks – even local hairdressers – have been engaged to bring assistance to victims.

"Cathy is the perfect candidate for the Victim Advocate Award for her outstanding selfless and sustained service to crime victims and in truly being an innovator in helping to prevent domestic violence," said Richards. "Cathy's goal is to ensure that all members of our community have access to the criminal justice system in order to report their victimization and to provide information to the general public so that they can recognize domestic violence when they see it and assist victims."

Also honored during the awards program were elected prosecuting attorneys, law enforcement officers, legislators and prosecutor's office managers.

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