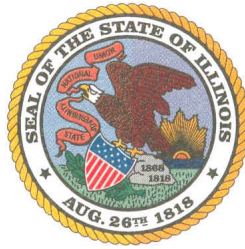


STATE OF ILLINOIS
CIRCUIT COURT
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

BRENDAN A. MAHER
Chief Judge



WINNEBAGO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
400 WEST STATE STREET, SUITE 215
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For Immediate Release

October 13, 2026

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MEDIA RELEASE

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Rockford, IL - Judge Jennifer Clifford, Chairperson of the 17th Judicial Circuit Family Violence Coordinating Council (FVCC) and Co-Chair of the Statewide Family Violence Coordinating Council, recognizes October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The FVCC serves as a forum for coordinating community and professional efforts to address family violence, including domestic violence, teen dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and child abuse. The FVCC serves Boone and Winnebago counties and is funded by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

Each October provides an opportunity for the community to raise awareness of domestic violence, support those impacted by violence, and reaffirm a shared commitment to prevention and creating safer communities.

As part of this year's Domestic Violence Awareness Month observances, Boone County held its annual Shining the Light on Domestic Violence ceremony on Tuesday, October 6. The ceremony brought together community partners and supporters to recognize those impacted by domestic violence and highlight the importance of continued awareness, prevention, and community response.

The annual **Shining the Light on Domestic Violence** ceremony for Winnebago County will be held:

Date: Thursday, October 15

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Crusader Community Health

Address: 1200 West State Street, Rockford, Illinois 61102

Judge Clifford commented, “We hope many take advantage of the opportunities throughout the month of October to learn about domestic violence and prevention efforts that exist here in our community, as well as show support to survivors and families impacted by violence. We are thankful for the many organizations that partner with us, not only in October but throughout the entire year, to address our community’s response to domestic violence.”

For more information about the work of the FVCC, contact **Nicole Ticknor** at nticknor@17thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov.

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