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Summer youth camps encouraged to offer free crime prevention programs

Marion County Prosecutor's Office offers education on gun violence, dating violence, and online dangers

(Indianapolis, Ind.) The Marion County Prosecutor's Office is encouraging community centers and other organizations that host summer youth camps to include crime prevention information in their programming. The Prosecutor's Office provides presentations and information designed for young audiences at no cost to any organization in Marion County.

"Summer camps should be a time for fun, but it can also be a critical opportunity for responsible adults to model behaviors, mentor, and talk with young people about their personal safety and responsibilities," Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry emphasized. "Our crime prevention programs provide young participants with an opportunity to discuss the challenges they face in daily life and resources for addressing those concerns."

The following presentations and programs are available at no cost to any organization in Marion County:

PROJECT CYBERSAFE – The dangers of online behavior and protecting personal information on social media are some of many topics covered in this popular presentation. *Target Audiences: Children 9 to 12-years-old and Teens 13 to 18-years-old*

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS – A one-hour presentation which teaches teens how to recognize the signs of dating violence and what to do if a teen believes he or she is in or witness to an abusive relationship. Topics such as consent, sexual assault, and sexting are also covered in this presentation. *Target Audience: 10 to 18-year-olds*

EDUCATING KIDS ABOUT GUN VIOLENCE (EKG) – A presentation on the legal, medical and emotional consequences of gun possession and related gun violence. Presented in partnership with Eskenazi Health. *Target Audience: 10 to 16-year-olds*

CHOICES NOT CHANCES – A decision tree developed by the Marion County Prosecutor's Office to help young people understand the possible legal, educational, and medical consequences of their decisions. Scenarios involve bullying, teen dating violence, gangs, and gun violence. The downloadable file and script for use by teachers, camp counselors, parents, and other adults can be accessed at www.indy.gov/ChoicesNotChances. *Target Audience: 10 to 18-year-olds*

For more information or to schedule a presentation, please contact the Marion County Prosecutor's Office at MCPO@indy.gov or (317) 327-3522.