



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
RICHMOND COUNTY

MICHAEL E. McMAHON
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

130 STUYVESANT PLACE
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10301
TELEPHONE (718) 876-6300

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release on Tuesday October 30, 2018

Contact: Ryan Lavis (718) 556-7150
Ryan.Lavis@rcda.nyc.gov

DA McMahon Announces Partnership with One Love Foundation and Launch of “The Escalation Workshop” to Combat Dating Violence

Workshop will be offered to high schools and colleges throughout Staten Island to raise awareness about dating violence

STATEN ISLAND, NY – As part of Domestic Violence Awareness month, Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon today announced a new partnership with the One Love Foundation and the launch of *The Escalation Workshop*, a film-based discussion now offered to high schools and colleges on Staten Island that raises awareness to the warning signs of relationship abuse. The 40-minute workshop consists of a film, *Escalation*, followed by a guided discussion led by a trained facilitator from RCDA’s Community Partnership Unit. DA McMahon made the announcement today at Curtis High School along with DV Bureau Chief Tuesday Muller-Mondi, Executive Director NYC Family Justice Center Alison Frances-Lord, and Curtis High School Principal Gregory Jaenicke.

“As part of our ongoing efforts to end domestic violence throughout Staten Island, we are directing more resources into our schools and colleges to address the very serious issue of dating violence – a threat that many of our students face each day. We have already presented this workshop to several groups of high schoolers and the response has been overwhelmingly positive and the subject matter has resonated deeply with the students,” **said District Attorney Michael E. McMahon.** “This behavior should not be tolerated, and we are proud to partner with the One Love Foundation to present this informative workshop to ensure all of our students understand the severity and warning signs that someone may be in an unhealthy relationship.”

Lela Agnew, Managing Director of Partnerships and Policy at the One Love Foundation, said, “Since 2014 the One Love Foundation has educated more than 340,000 students with film-based workshops. Now, with the support of the Richmond County District Attorney’s Office we have the opportunity to reach many more young people with this potentially life-saving information. We are pleased to support District Attorney Michael E. McMahon and Cecile Noel of the Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence in their ongoing efforts to eradicate dating violence.”

Commissioner Cecile Noel of the Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence, said, “As a City, we know how fundamental prevention efforts are in our work to end domestic and gender-based violence. We are proud of the work we are doing to provide young people with the skills to identify unhealthy relationship behaviors and, instead, build healthy, trusting, and respectful relationships. We applaud the Richmond County District Attorney and the One Love Foundation for partnering to provide high

school and college students with a critical educational opportunity.”

The One Love Foundation was founded in 2010 to honor the memory of Yeadley Love, a University of Virginia student who was killed by her ex-boyfriend. One Love exists for one reason – Yeadley’s death was 100% avoidable if anyone around her knew the signs of an abusive relationship. As a national leader in educating young people about the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships, the One Love Foundation works to ensure everyone has access to the life-saving information that Yeadley did not.

The Escalation Workshop, a central part of One Love’s core-curriculum, opens people’s eyes to how a loving relationship can become violent and unsafe. The film-based workshop consists of a film, Escalation, followed by a guided discussion led by a trained facilitator from RCDA’s Community Partnership Unit. Learn more about the One Love Foundation here: <https://www.joinonelove.org/>

Check out “One Love Escalation Impact Piece” from One Love on Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/138235461>

To schedule training, please contact Morgan at Morgan.Mazzarella@rcda.nyc.gov

###