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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

30th Annual Homicide Victim Memorial Service to be Virtual

DAYTON, OH – Montgomery County Prosecutor Mat Heck, Jr.'s Victim/Witness Division has been planning the 30th Annual Homicide Victim Memorial Service since the 29th annual service was held last December. Then, the Coronavirus changed nearly every one's lives.

The Service has been held at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in downtown Dayton for many years. Last year, over 500 people were in attendance. Knowing that there was no possible way to keep 500 people socially distanced, and with the Governor's orders to limit indoor gatherings, a decision had to be made on how we could still honor the 69 citizens who lost their lives to violence in Montgomery County over the past year.

The Decision was made to hold a virtual memorial service. A local video marketing company, Indigo Life Media, was hired to produce a video that could be shared with not only the friends and loved ones of the victims, but also the entire community.

Filming took place in November in order to have the video ready in time for Homicide Victim Memorial Day, which is always the second Monday in December.

The video will be made public on **Monday, December 14, 2020 at 7:00 pm**. If you are interested in viewing the video, visit our website, www.mcpc.com, where there will be a link on our home page to the video, which will be hosted on YouTube.

Sandy Hunt, Victim/Witness Division Director, said, "For most of us, the holidays are a time for joyful celebration. However, for those who have lost someone to violence, the holidays can be a time when the sense of loss is overwhelming. While it may look different this year, we are honored we can provide this years' service."

Prosecutor Heck added, "We want the families and friends who have lost someone to violence to know the pandemic does not diminish the loss they have suffered, and that we stand with them during this trying time."

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For more information, contact Sandra M. Hunt, Director, Victim/Witness Division at (937) 225-5623.