



THE IOWA DOC'S VICTIM ADVISORY COUNCIL AND THE IOWA ORGANIZATION FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE PRESENT

**THE 2024 NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK COMMEMORATION**  
**Friday, April 19th, 2024 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

**NEW LOCATION:** Polk County River Place – 2309 Euclid Ave., Des Moines

**AGENDA**

Color Guard – Presentation of the U.S. and Iowa flags: **IDOC Color Guard**

National Anthem – Performed by: **Will Clemmons (5<sup>th</sup> District)**

Welcome: **Beth Skinner- IDOC Director and Cliff Cory- IOVA President**

Opening Remarks: **John Gish- Assistant Attorney General for Victim Assistance**

President's Proclamation: **Read by Scott Brown- Assistant Attorney General Prosecutor**

**Honoring of deceased victims of crime:** The names of all Iowans whose lives were lost due to violent crime over the past year will be read and a Moment of Silence will be offered in their memory.

**Readers & Presentation of Flowers**

**Guest Speaker: Will (Holmes) Keeps, a survivor of abuse and violence and President/Founder and CEO of Starts Right Here (SRH).** "In a world where violence and hate are commonplace, it takes individuals and organizations like SRH to lead the way to a better world. We owe it to our children to create a world where youth do not experience the challenges, barriers, and issues that I did. We need to build it, one step at a time and support those who are partnering to make it a reality."

★ **Presentation of the John & Kay Egan Award: presented by Karl Schilling (IOVA)**

**Retrieval of Colors: IDOC Color Guard**

**Sponsors:**

Iowa Department of Corrections Victim Advisory Council  
Iowa Organization for Victim Assistance  
Judicial Districts Department of Corrections  
Johnson County Attorney's Office  
Boesen Florist – Des Moines  
Eckers Flowers & Greenhouse - Waverly

Iowa Attorney General's Office  
Polk County Crisis and Advocacy Services  
Department of Corrections – Institutions  
Polk County Attorney's Office  
Soaring Hearts Foundation