

**THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR
WOMEN'S SAFETY AWARENESS**

in conjunction with

Hofstra Entertainment

is proud to present

"Voices For A Cause 2010"

"Voices" that soar in song...

Instrumental "Voices" that stir the soul...

"Voices" of support and compassion from the community...

"Voices" of victims and their powerful and inspiring stories...

"Voices For A Cause 2010" is a unique and artistic performance where "Lincoln Center meets Broadway" and "Voices" unite to raise awareness about violence against women and teens. 100% of donation proceeds go directly to NOWSA to support women's safety awareness education and advocacy through various initiatives.



November 2010

Dear Friends,

Welcome to “**Voices For A Cause 2010**” and thank you for supporting the National Organization for Women’s Safety Awareness (“NOWSA”) and its goal to provide communities with information and knowledge about women’s safety issues while advocating personal safety education, prevention, awareness and self-protection.

Almost everyday we pick up the morning paper and shudder when we read about the teenager who was physically assaulted in the local mall parking or at her school, or the 85 year old great grandmother who was attacked in the street right in front of her apartment. Sometimes we read the entire article but other times we just skip over the story because the facts are all too familiar and we’ve heard them before. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, in 2009 an estimated **4.3 million violent crimes** were committed against U.S. residents age 12 or older. Out of this figure, **15.8 females out of every 1000** were the victims of these violent crimes.

While the NOWSA does not advocate living in fear, it does encourage all individuals within our communities to educate themselves about personal safety awareness issues. This includes participating in events such as “**Voices For A Cause 2010**” and programs which address a more significant prevention agenda towards ending crimes against women. Such programs include those which help to promote a societal response to violence against women and in its prevention, and programs which address the non-violent majority of individuals including men and boys as critical partners in the equation to change behavior patterns in an effort to end violence against women in all its forms. On an individual level, the NOWSA encourages all people to learn a few basic safety principles and apply them to their lives in order to significantly decrease their own chances of being the victim of a crime.

Although achievements addressing violence and crime against women have been forthcoming, these efforts are not nearly enough. The NOWSA is making great strides to expand the availability of women’s safety awareness education to women of all ages, particularly women under the age of 18, and to develop strategies to engage all persons within our communities as active participants in this work.

100% of the donation proceeds from “Voices For A Cause 2010” will go directly to the NOWSA to support women’s safety awareness education and advocacy through various initiatives. These include “Covers For A Cause”, a safety awareness campaign aimed at middle and high school students which combines youthful contemporary art with relevant safety tips, reminders, information and messages on visually appealing book covers, the “I B Safe” teen personal safety awareness campaign, and “Voices For A Cause-The Book” and “Virtual Voices For A Cause”, written and internet based stories, chronicles and personal accounts from women who were victims of violence at some time in their lives.

Albert Einstein once said, **“the world is a dangerous place to live; not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who do nothing about it.”** Unfortunately, organizations such as the NOWSA can only do so much. I urge each and every one of you today to never “look on and do nothing.” Please don’t let your attendance here this evening be the end of your involvement with the NOWSA and other organizations that strive to keep women and teens safer and help victims rebuild their lives. I urge you to get involved for the sake of our mothers, daughters, sisters and all women everywhere. Remember that these organizations depend on people like you to help make a difference.

Thank you again for supporting this extraordinarily meaningful event and for helping the NOWSA achieve its goals.

Best Regards,

Lidia

Lidia Szczepanowski, Esq.
Founder and Executive Director, The NOWSA

NOWSA

National Organization For Women's Safety Awareness, Inc.

Board of Directors & Event Planning Committee

Executive Director and Board Member

Lidia Szczepanowski, Esq.

Event Co-Chairs

Fran Petito and Bob Spiotto

Board Members

JoAnn Feld, Esq.

Robert Fonti

Richard Gertler, Esq.

Jeff Getzel

Alyssa Nightingale

Event Planning Committee

Michael DelRosso

Soke Joe Droual

Charlene Gordon

Anthony Falconetti

Kim Hess

Thomas Kehoe

Lawrence Kushnick, Esq.

Richard Pansini

Eva Pappas

Ronni Pottetti

Jill Wendrow

Marc Zayas

*The NOWSA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and all donations support the educational programs and services of the NOWSA and are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

The NOWSA does not sell, share or lend its mailing lists to any organization or company.

Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all the others.

~ Cicero

There is a saying, "*a dog wags its tail with its heart*" - well, today I am like that dog. I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in the creation, development, promotion and presentation of "**Voices For A Cause 2010**". I have no doubt that this event would have never come to fruition without the presence and never ending dedication of each and every one of you. The extraordinary talent and commitment of our dedicated team has resulted in one extraordinary fundraising event!

To Planning Committee Co-Chairs, **Fran Petito** and **Bob Spiotto**,

Fran, how do you find the words to thank someone who has been there for you hour after hour and day after day and who has given so selflessly of herself without ever expressing any lack of enthusiasm. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your love, friendship and support and for getting up early and staying up so late or doing whatever was necessary to get things done. You really "get it" and the rationale behind what we are doing and why.

Bob, I cannot thank you enough for your friendship and for your enormous time commitment and devotion to creating an incredible performance. It was because of your remarkable artistic vision and creative prowess that "**Voices For A Cause 2010**" was born. This evening is truly a manifestation of your time and energy. On both a professional and personal level, I appreciate the time that we were able to spend together on this journey more than you will ever know.

To the other active "**Voices For A Cause 2010**" Planning Committee members, thank you for standing by me and the NOWSA and for dedicating your time and energies to this very special event.

And a special and warm thank you to **Jill Wendrow**, a woman who never uses the phrase "I can't" or "I won't". Your knowledge, wisdom, patience and your genuine kindness has been a driving force and inspiration to me and everyone who comes your way. I hope to one day understand how you "do it". Incredible!

To **Marc Zayas** of Zayas Designs, your talent is as remarkable as was your willingness to donate such a tremendous amount of your time to the NOWSA and the "Voices for a Cause 2010" event. You are an exceptional person.

To **Mike DelRosso** of Union Square Advertising, my sincerest thank you for being an avid supporter of the NOWSA for several years now and for doing such a wonderful job at keeping our website updated.

To **Kim Hess**, thank you for your creative flair, your intelligence and your unending assistance at any hour of the day or night. You go girlfriend!

To **Richard Pansini** of Asset Graphics, thank you for jumping in head first and never looking back. Your energy is contagious and your time and generosity is very much appreciated.

To **Shirley Ritenour**, and all the members of **MsDemeanor**, **Sue Terry**, **Kelley Suttentfield**, **Donna Kelly**, **Tracy Stark**, and **Lisa Brigantino**, I would like to express my appreciation for your outstanding talent and for helping the NOWSA make a difference in the lives of many individuals. Thank you for spreading awareness about women's safety issues through all of your beautiful musical "Voices".

To our very talented cast members, **Gail Merzer Behrens**, **Kira Christoforidis**, **Susan Murphy**, **Christina Myers**, **Charlene Sanders**, **Betty Tucker** and **Rachel Zampino**. We are honored that you have all enthusiastically agreed to be a part of this unique event. Thank you.

To **Steve Wilkos**, thank you for making the NOWSA's special event even more special. Your effervescent personality is a force to be reckoned with and we all appreciate your positive and constructive message.

To **Karen E. O'Callaghan**, a woman who has truly broken the glass ceiling in her chosen profession of law enforcement. Thank you for dedicating your life to protecting others and for participating in the "Voices For A Cause 2010" event by sharing your incredible knowledge and experiences with all of us.

To Assemblyman **Andrew Raia**, a remarkable elected official who truly cares about people. Thank you for your continued support and for your perpetual willingness to assist the NOWSA with legislative, governmental or political issues. By establishing November 1-7 as "Teen Personal Safety Week" in the State of New York, you have single handedly made a difference in the lives of so many.

To **Sigma' Cappella**, thank you for sharing your time and your magnificent "Voices" for this extraordinary event.

To the Hofstra team, including **Nicole Lombino, Danny Rysanek, Debbi Honorof, Stacy Lane, Ginny Greenberg, Amy Reich, Sarah Einsidler** and everyone at **WRHU, 88.7 FM** especially "**Basia**", **Fran Spencer** and **Maria Betzios**, your media and press support was tremendous and it was very much appreciated.

To **Jamie Feld**, our original college "Voice". It is because of you that "Covers for a Cause" has come to be. Thank you for your input at our brain storming sessions and for creating the outstanding cartoons for the book covers.

To **Jimi Mason** of Glamour Photo Studio and **Kursad Yonet** of MyStudioNet.com, our accomplished photographer and videographer. Your generous gift of time and talent will preserve this wonderful evening and allow us to reminisce about the memories that were created, over and over again. Many thanks to the both of you.

To **Glenn Davis** of ESP New York, thank you for contributing the exquisite podium for our event.

To **Rachelle Giancola**, thank you for creating the pre-show CD with its wonderful selection of inspiring and entertaining music, just perfect for our event.

And a very fond thank you to **Robert Davi**, Nassau County Executive **Edward Mangano**, Suffolk County Executive **Steve Levy**, Nassau County Legislator **Joseph Belesi**, my dear friend **Lou Telano**, and author and humorist, **Loretta LaRoche**, for taking the time to be the NOWSA's "Virtual Voices" and for sharing your thoughts and stories about women's and teen safety awareness issues.

To the women who have volunteered to share their stories, you were once victims but now you are our heroes. Thank you for your candor and your willingness to raise awareness and help prevent these acts of violence from happening to other women.

To all of our sponsors and donors, we all know that it takes a tremendous amount of time and effort to make things happen. But let us not forget that it also takes money. Thank you for your generosity.

Finally, I would like to thank my wonderful husband, **Steven**, for your never ending support time and time again. Please know how much I appreciate your patience and understanding. Thank you also to my beautiful children, Jonathan, Daniel and Rachel. You are my inspiration.

Again, thank you so much for your enthusiastic participation in "Voices For A Cause 2010". The contributions you have all made to the NOWSA are invaluable and your time, energies, efforts, dedication, and hard work will always be remembered.

With my warmest regards,

Lidia

VOICES FOR A CAUSE 2010

Pre-show Entertainment: *Sigma'Cappella*, "Lean On Me" music and lyrics by **Bill Withers**, "Drive" music and lyrics by **Incubus**

ACT ONE

- *MsDemeanor*, featuring **Kelley Suttentfield**, "People Get Ready" music and lyrics by **The Impressions**
- Welcoming Remarks: **Bob Spiotto**
- Opening Remarks: **Lidia Szczepanowski, Esq.**
Special Video Commentary
- *MsDemeanor*, "Peace Train" music and lyrics by **Cat Stevens**
Monologue performed by **Kira Christoforidis**
- *MsDemeanor*, featuring **Shirley Ritenour**, "An American Hymn" music by **Lee Holdridge**, lyrics by **Molly Ann Leikin**
- Guest Speaker: **Steve Wilkos**, Host of "The Steve Wilkos Show"
Special Video Commentary
- Monologue performed by **Betty Tucker**
- Guest Speaker **Karen E. O'Callaghan**, Director of Public Safety, Hofstra University
- *MsDemeanor*, featuring **Tracy Stark**, "I Will Find My Strength" music and lyrics by **Tracy Stark**
- Special Video Commentary
- Monologue performed by **Rachel Zampino**
- *Sigma'Cappella*, "Hometown Glory" music and lyrics by **Adele**, "Apologize" music and lyrics by **Timbaland**

INTERMISSION – *MsDemeanor*, "A Change is Gonna Come" music and lyrics by **Sam Cooke**

ACT TWO

- *MsDemeanor*, featuring **Kelley Suttentfield**, "Feelin' Good" music and lyrics by **Anthony Newley** and **Leslie Bricusse**
- Special Video Commentary
- Monologue performed by **Charlene Sanders**
- *Sigma'Cappella*, "Breathe Me" music and lyrics by **Sia**, "Fix You" music and lyrics by **Coldplay**
- Special Presentation by Guest Speaker New York State Assemblyman **Andrew Raia**
- Monologues performed by **Gail Merzer Behrens** and **Christina Myers**
- *MsDemeanor*, featuring **Kelley Suttentfield**, "You'll Never Walk Alone" music by **Richard Rodgers**, lyrics by **Oscar Hammerstein**
- Monologue performed by **Susan Murphy**
- Special Video Commentary
- Closing Remarks: **Lidia Szczepanowski, Esq.**
- *MsDemeanor*, featuring **Shirley Ritenour**, "Over The Rainbow" music by **Harold Arlen**, lyrics by **E.Y. Harburg**

MsDemeanor

Shirley Ritenour – Vocalist **Tracy Stark** - Pianist /Vocalist **Donna Kelly** - Drums
Kelley Suttentfield – Vocalist **Sue Terry** – Reeds
Lisa Brigantino – Bass

Who's Who Speakers

Lidia Szczepanowski - Lidia was born and raised in Huntington, New York. After graduating high school, Lidia attended Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York majoring in International Business. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 1987, and was then accepted into St. John's University School of Law's 2-½ year program. During law school, Lidia interned with Judge Arthur D. Spatt in the Appellate Division for the State of New York and in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. Lidia received her Juris Doctor in 1990 and soon became a partner in a successful general practice law firm in Smithtown, New York. She provided legal counsel in the areas of corporate and commercial litigation, real estate, bankruptcy, matrimonial and other areas of law.

Today, Lidia, who is known as a "no-nonsense" and "approachable" lawyer, owns and manages The Szczepanowski Law Firm, P.C., a general practice firm with a concentration in civil litigation. As a litigation attorney for over 20 years, Lidia recognized the fact that many people simply "don't know where to start" when looking for an attorney. In response to this need, Lidia, through her interactive website www.AskLidiatheLawyer.com, now offers complimentary answers to legal related questions asked via email or a "Live Chat" function, in order to help these individuals understand their legal rights and the legal process.

In February 2004, Lidia earned her black belt in Karate and she is currently studying the reality based hand-to-hand combat Russian martial art of Systema.

In June 2006 Lidia was crowned Mrs. New York America 2006 and was also presented with the prestigious Mrs. Community Service Award. While representing New York State in the nationally televised Mrs. America Pageant, Lidia was selected as a Top 12 Finalist. During her reign as Mrs. New York America, Lidia traveled throughout the country promoting her platform, Women's Safety Awareness. Lidia selected this platform because as a young teenager, she herself was the victim of a sexual assault by a relative. Lidia felt compelled to share her substantial martial arts acumen and life

promoted safety awareness and educated women of all ages on how they can avoid being victims of crimes. Lidia is also the founder of Everything Lidia, Inc., a multi-platform lifestyle enterprise devoted to educating, training, challenging and inspiring women to live safer, more fulfilling and remarkable lives. One initiative offered by Everything Lidia is the dynamic and highly motivational "Stylish Safety" seminar designed to educate women with practical and effective defensive techniques that can be used in real life situations. Women are taught how to use their "natural" weapons such as voice, body parts, and confidence together with "material" weapons including, among others, shoes, keys, handbags, hair spray, ATM cards, sunglasses, tweezers, umbrellas or a whistle. Everything Lidia, Inc. is currently developing a line of "Diva's" safety products, all of which are ultra chic yet functional. See www.EverythingLidia.com. In May 2007, Everything Lidia, Inc. launched its nationwide campaign designed to benefit victims of crimes throughout the United States. The campaign, known as "Listen for the Whistle" consists of two parts - an innovative women's safety program and the promotion and sale of the "Diva's Crystal Whistle," a designer brass whistle beautifully embellished with genuine European crystals attached to a black leather cord. The campaign advocates the notion that the sound of a whistle means that somebody nearby may need help. Today, a portion of the proceeds from her "Stylish Safety" seminar and from the sale of every Diva's Crystal Whistle is donated directly to the National Organization for Women's Safety Awareness, Inc. Referred to by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger as "a fresh and unique approach to a very important issue," and supported by US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton the goal of the "Listen for the Whistle" campaign is to promote women's safety awareness, educate women on how to maintain their personal safety while raising money for various safety initiatives.

In November 2007, Lidia founded the National Organization for Women's Safety Awareness, Inc., (the NOWSA) a non-profit corporation (IRS 501(c)(3)). www.TheNOWSA.org. The organization was

established to fulfill a fundamental need in our country to provide more information, awareness, and knowledge about women's safety issues. The NOWSA supports the work of many advocacy groups including those, which educate the public about child abuse issues, domestic violence, and crimes against women in general. One objective of the NOWSA is to subsidize the cost of women's safety awareness programs throughout the country in an effort to decrease and ultimately prevent violence against women. Another goal of the NOWSA is to fund and sponsor other women's safety awareness related activities, such as distributing informational and resource materials, particularly to young women in middle and high school, while advocating education, prevention, self-protection and, of course, increased confidence and self esteem.

In April 2008, Lidia received the prestigious "Prevention Through Education Award" from Child Abuse Prevention Services, one of Long Island's leading organizations dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect, and in October 2008, she was an Honoree at "About Face 2008: Making Changes", an annual Long Island benefit for survivors of domestic violence, and Lidia received an award acknowledging her ongoing commitment to improving the lives of women. In 2009, Lidia was selected as Mrs. New York International and during her reign and continuing thereafter, she has used her growing celebrity status to make a positive difference in the lives of women by teaching safety awareness, and inspiring and challenging women to live remarkable lives. Her positive message, delivered with passion, humor, and intelligence is a rallying cry for women of all ages who want to be more fulfilled. She provides actionable insights that are useful, simple, and entertaining. A modern day Renaissance Woman, Lidia encourages women to try new things, broaden their horizons and never settle for the ordinary. As Lidia says, "Be your best at whatever you try and always bring your personal style into it. This isn't a dress rehearsal; make the most of every breath you take."

Lidia has also volunteered her time speaking to young women at the Coalition Against Child Abuse and Neglect in Gar-

den City, the Girl Scouts of Nassau County, and many other non-profit organizations and other women's groups such as the Long Island Women's Agenda, Long Island Women in Power, and the Women's Financial Network. She has also been active with Project Safe Neighborhood through the Nassau County District Attorney's Office, New York State's Operation Safe Child, and was invited to be a Conference Mentor at the Guardian Girls Going Places Entrepreneurship Conference in March 2009. Lidia was also selected as the recipient of the "Making a Difference for Women" Award by Soroptimist International of Nassau County; she was highlighted in the "Meet This Long Island Woman" feature of the Long Island Woman Magazine, and was selected as Hofstra's Alumna of the Month for November 2010.

Most recently, at a press conference held on October 19, 2010 by NYS Senator John Flanagan, Assemblyman Jim Conte and Assemblyman Andrew Raia, Lidia and the National Organization for Women Safety Awareness (NOWSA) were presented with a Legislative Resolution announcing the establishment of November 1-7 as "Teen Personal Safety Awareness Week" in the State of New York. The NOWSA also announced upcoming safety initiatives, including "Covers for a Cause" to encourage public schools throughout NYS to embrace and educate teens regarding the importance of personal safety.

Lidia is also delighted to announce that on Wednesday, December 1, 2010 at 6:30 p.m., she will begin to host the "Everything Lidia" weekly radio show which will debut on WGBB 1240 AM, Long Island's first radio station. The show will highlight a wide range of topics from "politics to pocket-books" and it will be dedicated to continuing to inspire and challenge women to live remarkable lives.

Lidia currently resides on Long Island in Dix Hills with her husband, Steven Goldsmith, Esq. and their three children, Jonathan, Daniel and Rachel. During her free time, Lidia enjoys dirt bike riding with her family, fitness training, playing tennis, skiing, windsurfing, and boating.

Bob Spicotte (Executive Producer/Director) holds a B.F.A. in theater from Hofstra University and an M.F.A. in directing from The Catholic University of America. He is celebrating his 20th anniversary at Hofstra University and is currently artistic director of community arts programs, producer of special events for the Hofstra Cultural Center, and executive producer for Hofstra Entertainment – displaying the depth and diversity of his talent. Bob has served on the faculty of Hofstra University Continuing Education. He also serves as entertainment coordinator for Hofstra’s International Festivals (Dutch, Italian, Irish) and has received awards from Hofstra for distinguished service and teaching. He has worked as a director, producer, actor, choreographer and teacher in the New York and Washington, D.C., metropolitan areas, as well as abroad for the USIA. Locally, his credits have taken him from Manhattan to Montauk. At Hofstra alone he has been involved in hundreds of events and/or productions/presentations since 1990. Hofstra directing credits include the world premiere of the musical review *I’m The Greatest Star*, the New York premiere of *Rachel and Julio* starring Lainie Kazan and Robert Davi, *Showtune*, *The Remembered* (world premiere), *Agnes of God* (starring Talia Shire and Susan Sullivan), Neil Simon’s *Rose’s Dilemma* (Long Island premiere), *Lo Bianco’s La Guardia* (world premiere starring Tony Lo Bianco), *Hello, Dolly!*, *I Do!*, *I Do!*, *The Melody Lingers On: The Songs of Irving Berlin*, *The Vagina Monologues* (2001, 2002, 2003), *The Sound of Music*, *Barrymore* (Long Island premiere), *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Sunshine Boys*, *Sarah in America* (starring To'vah Feldshuh) and the world premiere of *Davi Sings Sinatra* in 2010. Regional acting credits include imaginative and passionate performances as *M.C. (Cabaret)*, *John Adams (1776)*, *Guido (Nine, the musical)*, *Tateh (Ragtime)*, *The Cat in the Hat (Seussical)*, *Fagin (Oliver!)*, *Ganesha (A Perfect Ganesha)*, *Jim (Pump Boys and Dinettes)*, *Bill (Me and My Girl)* and *Clov (Endgame)*. For more than three years Bob also appeared as “The King of Pizza,” based on the delightful children’s book. Additionally, Bob has created and appeared in numerous one-man shows exploring the lives and works of Sho-

lom Aleichem, Giuseppe Garibaldi, Alexander Pushkin, Primo Levi, Michelangelo, P.T. Barnum, and composer Harry Warren. Bob has also appeared throughout Long Island in his one-man musical show *Courting the Jester: A Salute to Danny Kaye*, which had its premiere at Hofstra in 2001 and was reworked and presented at Lincoln Center in New York City in 2003 and continues to tour locally. He recently premiered his new one man show, *Shades of Grey: a musical tribute to Joel Grey*. Currently Bob is guest vocalist with Joe Battaglia and the New York Big Band at the famed Edison Ballroom in New York City. Bob was appointed by former New York Governor George Pataki to serve on the board of directors of the New York State Theater Institute, and locally he serves on the Long Island Arts Council Advisory Board. He is the recipient of the Dante Award from the American Association of Teachers of Italian for his contributions to Italian-American culture and was honored by the New York State Commission for Social Justice. Bob received the George M. Estabrook Distinguished Service Award from the Hofstra University Alumni Association and was recognized as a “winner” in *Newsday’s* community section. In addition, Bob currently serves on the board of the National Organization for Women’s Safety Awareness (NOWSA). Often sought out to be a part of new community endeavors and serve as master of ceremonies at various events, Bob was most recently selected by the Town of Oyster Bay’s Arts Council to serve as keynote speaker for its Celebration of the Arts Recognition Dinner, asked to be master of ceremonies for the LI Arts Council at Freeport’s 2010 Arty Party, and was recently honored by the Long Island Breakfast Club at their Evening in Tuscany event. The upcoming months will include a unique array of performance and directing projects, including Ayn Rand’s rarely produced courtroom drama *Night of January 16th*.

Karen O'Callaghan was appointed as Hofstra University's Director of Public Safety in July 2010. In addition to safeguarding Hofstra's 240-acre campus, the Department of Public Safety provides numerous services to more than 13,000 community members, of whom approximately 4,000 reside on campus.

Director O'Callaghan joined Hofstra after retiring from the Nassau County Police Department as Chief of Department where she was responsible for all operations reporting directly to the Commissioner of Police. She is the highest-ranking woman to serve in the 85-year history of the Department. During her twenty-eight year career, "Chief" O'Callaghan held a broad spectrum of positions and Commands. She spent many years on patrol as both a police officer and supervisor, was a detective in the Juvenile Aide Bureau and served as a negotiator with the Crisis Negotiation Team. Some of the major positions she held were Commanding Officer of the Police Academy, Commanding Officer of Patrol Precincts responsible for the eight precincts within Nassau County overseeing 2000 sworn and civilian members and Commanding Officer of the Homeland Security and Counter-Terrorism Bureau responsible for coordinating all Department matters related to homeland security, counter-terrorism and emergency preparedness. During this assignment she was also tasked with coordinating the Police Department's security detail for the Presidential Debate held at Hofstra University in October 2008. She also served for several years as the Commanding Officer of the Personnel and Accounting Bureau with direct responsibility for the Department's five hundred million dollar budget as well as all payroll, purchasing and human resources issues.

Chief O'Callaghan is a graduate of C.W. Post Long Island University with a Masters in Professional Studies and Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice. She is also a graduate of the Police Executive Research Forum Senior Management Institute for Police at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, the Executive Leaders program of the Center for Homeland Security and Defense, the FBI National Academy and is certified as a

NYS police instructor.

Professional affiliations include the International and Nassau County Associations of Chiefs of Police, the International and Nassau County Associations of Women Police, the FBI National Academy Associates, Police Executive Research Forum and the Long Island Chapter of the American Academy for Professional Law Enforcement. Karen is a Long Island native, born in Brooklyn, raised in Bellmore and currently residing in Amity Harbor.

Steve Wilkos is the host of NBC Universal Domestic Television Distribution's nationally syndicated series "The Steve Wilkos Show," now in its fourth season.

A native of Chicago, Wilkos served his country in the U.S. Marine Corps for almost seven years before joining the Chicago Police Department. For almost 12 years, he kept the streets of Chicago's volatile 14th District (Shakespeare) safe while moonlighting during his off hours on television. Wilkos retired from the police force in 2001 and now devotes himself full time to his family and his show. Prior to starting a show of his own, Wilkos filled in for Jerry Springer as host of the long-running "The Jerry Springer Show" on more than 50 episodes, using his law enforcement background and no-nonsense style to create his own identity as a talk show host.

Touted as a man of and for the people, Wilkos' popularity has skyrocketed and his sincerity and moral fiber have made for a very diverse fan base that includes people from all walks of life. When not watching cartoons with his two young children, Wilkos makes time to catch his favorite show of all time, "The Simpsons," for which he lent his voice for a cameo on a past episode (a milestone he proudly calls "the highlight of my career so far.") Wilkos has also appeared in several TV shows and films, including the hit motion picture "Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me."

A huge sports fan, Wilkos can be spotted at various professional sporting events in his free time, such as basketball and football games.

Wilkos and his wife, Rachelle, who is executive producer on "The Steve Wilkos Show"

and "The Jerry Springer Show," have two young children and live in Connecticut.

Who's Who Musicians

Shirley Ritenour ~ Singer Shirley Ritenour decided to give herself a fortieth birthday present: the reawakening of a dream that had been folded away for more than a decade.

A lifelong singer equally interested in and adept at classical and pop music, Shirley's taste was influenced by her mother, who filled their Air Force family homes with the pop sounds of Judy Garland and Doris Day as well as Puccini.

Shirley (winner of the American Opera Scholarship) pursued graduate work as an operatic soprano at Boston Conservatory. After spending a summer at AIMS in Graz, Austria, Shirley was offered a position at a German opera house. Opting for domestic bliss, Shirley abandoned the offer and the dream and successfully pursued a business career in the U.S. instead. For her fortieth birthday, away from the stage for more than a decade, Shirley created the first of several cabaret acts, reigniting her love for singing and performing. Colleagues encouraged Shirley to revisit the idea of a serious music career, and several classical music experts agreed that she could "make a go of it."

In 2008, Shirley produced *It's A Grand Night for Giving* at Don't Tell Mama in New York City, and began a tradition of donating proceeds to Gilda's Club NYC, a support organization for people with cancer and their loved ones named for the late comedian, Gilda Radner. By then a Vice President of a major New York real estate firm, she began recording her debut CD. When she was laid off in January 2009, she decided to complete her recording and named it *Both Sides Now*, a reference not only to the Joni Mitchell song that appears on her album, but to her own love of both classical and pop music.

Shirley recently appeared in New York as Elsa in a concert version of "Lohengrin," and performed the roles of Tosca and Turandot (two of her Mom's favorites by Puccini) in the Spring of 2010. She often sings the National Anthem at Madison Square

Garden for WNBA NY Liberty.

Shirley finds inspiration in the career of American dramatic soprano Eileen Farrell, unique in her ability to move from classical to popular vocal music with complete ease, and total acceptance by the fans and stars of both fields and will be making her NYC Merkin Concert Hall Debut December 3, 2010 "Let My Song Fill Your Heart (Inspired by Eileen Farrell)".

Lisa Brigantino ~ Lisa Brigantino is an award-winning singer-songwriter/composer/multi-instrumentalist. She is an engaging performer whose original songs span a variety of styles including Rock, Folk, Blues, Americana, Old-Time and more. A trained composer with a Master of Music in composition and theory, Lisa also composes music for TV, film, theatre and dance. Lisa was a founding member of Lez Zep-pelin, the all-girl, all Led Zeppelin tribute band and played keys, bass and mandolin. She toured internationally with the band for a number of years playing A list venues and festivals around the world including Bonnaroo. The band's debut CD, recorded and produced by the legendary Eddie Kramer, was released in 2007, Lisa's latest solo CD "Wonder Wheel" was released in June to great reviews. Jon Sobel of Blog Critics says "'Lisa Brigantino is what you'd call a complete musician—a superb multi-instrumentalist, singer-songwriter, and not least, rocker. Brigantino brings to her songwriting that real sense of melody that so many putative writers lack.'" The Examiner has put Lisa on their list of "2010 Artists To Watch Out For" and says "Lisa's musicality on "Wonder Wheel" is unique; a music journey worth taking with this artist." Lisa also performs with her sister Lori in "The Vickie & Nickie Show!" a wacky musical-comedy sister act. Visit www.lisa-brig.com for more information.

Donna Kelly ~ In Theatre: Donna was the musical director, drummer and percussionist for the musical comedy Spit it Out, which debuted in 2005 at The Midtown International Theatre Festival and has been in production at various venues throughout the city.

She had the remarkable pleasure of playing for and touring with Cy Coleman, the famed composer, songwriter and jazz pianist, in two of his productions, Lawyers, Lovers and Lunatics and Exactly Like You. And most recently performed with Leslie Uggams and Lucy Arnaz. Along with playing drums for many theatre productions, Donna was an orchestrator, assistant musical director, drummer and percussionist for La Gioconda, composed by Donya Lane and performed on Broadway at The Clurman Theatre on Theatre Row.

In the News: Donna has performed on Good Morning America; the WB11; CNN; CBS News; and 20/20, as well as featured in Modern Drummer, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Post and many other newspapers and magazines throughout the country. On Stage: Donna has played in the world's most famous venues. These include CGBBs (NYC); Birdland (NYC); The Bottom Line (NYC); The Shubert Theatre (NYC); Giant Stadium (NJ); Levon Helm's Ramble Sessions as Levon Helm Studio (NY); The Michigan Woman's Festival (MI.); The Open Center (NYC); BB Kings (NYC), etc. With Bandmates: Donna is currently working with a wide range of musicians and genres, including Gretchen Reinhagan (Caberet); Tracy Stark (various) The New City Trio (classic jazz); Nedra Johnson (R&B); Tim Tuttle (classic rock); Matou (global indigenous), among many other respected artists.

For Charity: Donna had the honor of performing with Cy Coleman and Chita Rivera for the late Paul Newman and his annual fundraiser for the Hole in the Wall Camp.

Tracy Stark ~ Pianist/Arranger/Conductor/Singer/Songwriter, Tracy Stark is a 4-time MAC Award winner, a Bistro Award winner for Outstanding Musical Direction, and winner of the Dottie Burman Songwriter of the Year Award. Tracy has worked

with Lesley Gore, Phoebe Snow, Karen Black, Randy Jones (Village People), Jimmy Osmond, Tovah Feldshuh, Eric Millegan, Tonya Pinkins, Ann Crumb, Marni Nixon, and hundreds of other rock, jazz, and Broadway vocalists. She has conducted, played, and sung at all the finest and the sleaziest venues all over the world. She has played/conducted on numerous television shows, including The Today Show. Her songs are included on at least 20 different compilations, and have been winning accolades in songwriting competitions for the past 20 years.

Her most recent CD, 'Feast for the Heart' is exquisitely produced by Richard Barone, and includes a duet with the inimitable Phoebe Snow. A new CD is in the planning stages with her new label, Miranda Music.

Kelley Suttentfield ~ Kelley Suttentfield is a vocalist in the neo-classic jazz tradition, delivering soulful interpretations of lyrics over a smooth, swinging beat. With a diverse repertoire ranging from Brazilian standards to the Beatles and beyond, Kelley's music is known for creating an evocative mood that clearly resonates with her audience. Kelley performs regularly in New York City and, on occasion, her former stomping grounds in Virginia, as well as overseas in Copenhagen, Denmark. She received a mention in Volume IV of the World Who's Who in (2007), was a finalist in the NYC Jazzmobile Jazz Vocalist competition (2008), and has a new full-length CD released November 3, 2009. For more information, visit: www.kelleysuttentfield.com.

Sue Terry ~ International performer and recording artist "Sweet" Sue Terry plays alto & soprano saxophones, clarinet, flute, and wood/clay flutes. She graduated from The Hartt School at the University of Hartford, which elected her Alumna of the Year in 2001 in recognition of her many achievements in the music field. She has been a jazz soloist with the National Symphony, the Brooklyn Philharmonic, the New York Pops, and many other ensembles and big bands. As an educator, she is the author of Practice Like The Pros, Step One--Play Clar-

net, and the Step One saxophone books. Her discography contains over forty recordings, including three as leader and three as co-leader. She is a columnist for Jazz Inside Magazine as well as a contributor to many other publications. In her Artist Statement she remarks: "I believe in the power of concentration, dedication, and silence. And sense of humor--don't leave home without it." Her other passion is for the martial arts, in which she is a 5x tournament gold medalist. More about "Sweet" Sue Terry can be found in the books *Reed All About It* by Bob Bernotas, and *Madame Jazz* by Leslie Gourse, where her photo is on the book jacket. She lives in Pennsylvania with her husband and four little ones, each of whom has four legs. Her website is <http://sueterry.net>, where you can find music, video, articles, reviews, photos and much more. Sue Terry is a Yamaha Artist.

Who's Who Actors

Gail Merzer Behrens ~ Gail Merzer Behrens is honored to be a part of Hofstra Entertainment's Voices for a Cause 2010 and is grateful to be entrusted with such important and sensitive material, with the guidance of Bob Spiotto's direction. Past Hofstra performances include *Rose's Dilemma* - also directed by Bob, and *The Cat's Meow* - directed by Ed Dennehy. Currently studying with Austin Pendleton and Ilse Pfeifer at HB Studio in NYC, Gail is a member of HB Studio Ensemble. Off Broadway credits include Christopher Robert's *Reflections of a Heart* (Clurman Theatre, Theatre Row) and a reading of Marshall Tarley's *The Prophet of Borough Park* (Diana Amsterdam, director/Irish Repertory Theatre). Regionally, Gail has shared the stage with Ed Dennehy (Brian's younger brother), in *The Guys, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* (Honey to Mr. Dennehy's George) and *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Mrs. Van Dann). Other regional credits include leading roles in *Boeing-Boeing*, *Match*, *The Mercy Seat*, *Nuts* and many more. Gail has worked on independent films including *Frank Stallone's The Duplicate* (trailer). On television, Gail has been seen on *All My Children*, *One Life to Live*, *As the World Turns*, *Sex and the City*,

regional commercials and infomercials. Gail would like to thank and acknowledge the bravery of the victims who have shared their stories with us.

Kira Christoforidis ~ Kira Christoforidis is a junior at Hofstra in the B.F.A. program for theater arts. Recent Hofstra credits include *Kit Kat Girl* in "Cabaret," the Singing Ensemble in "On the Town," and *Marta* in "Company." Many thanks to Bob, Mom, Dad, Marc, and all of the strong women in her life.

Susan Murphy ~ Susan Murphy is delighted to again work with Bob Spiotto and Hofstra Entertainment for such an important cause. Two years ago she was honored to appear in "The Remembered", a staged reading created from a montage of letters left at the Vietnam War Memorial. Her dramatic credits include roles in "Footloose" and "La Cage Aux Folles" in Long Island regional theater. By day, Susan is an assistant dean in Hofstra's School of Communication. Her professional background is in news and public television. So nice to work with Rachel Zampino again!

Christina Myers ~ Christina Myers is a senior Broadcast Journalism and Sociology double major, and she is so excited to be a part of this very important event! For three years, Christina wrote and performed for Project Ujima in Rhode Island, an acting troupe dedicated to teaching young adults about issues like domestic violence. Her favorite past roles include JoAnn in *A Few Good Men*, Kate in *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, and Bianca in *Kiss Me Kate*. At Hofstra, Christina has appeared in the *Spectrum Players' Dog Sees God as Tricia*. For her major, Christina has switched most of her performance time from the stage to the screen and airwaves, where she has hosted *For Your Island*, *This Week* at Hofstra, and Hofstra's *Morning Wake-Up Call* and *Newsline* for WRHU.

Charlene Sanders ~ Motto: Follow your dreams, and when your dreams change, keep following them! *Mission in Life*: To give voice to the voiceless, and empower the disenfranchised.

Thus far the mission has been accomplished by walking the streets of NYC, day and night as a NYPD police officer; advocating on behalf of the poor and voiceless as an attorney; and shaping the future leaders of tomorrow as an adjunct professor at Hofstra and St. John's University. Charlene holds a B.A. degree in psychology from Columbia University, a law degree from St. John's University School of Law and a M.A. degree in Communication from Hofstra University. She is currently involved in using radio and performance to increase social awareness and address those social issues, which are all too often ignored. Charlene's favorite pastime is listening to the giggles and laughter of her 8-year-old daughter, Arielle.

Betty Tucker ~ Betty is pleased to be performing with such a talented group of women for this worthwhile cause. She was recently seen as the Queen in "Cinderella, the Musical", Ouiser in "Steel Magnolias", Millie Micheal's "La La Land", at the Brokerage Comedy Club, and John Blenn's, "Say Something Important", at Dix Hills Performing Arts Center. In her spare time, Betty volunteers at the AHRC, the MPowering kids program in Westbury, the MHA of Nassau "Players", and the Long Island Sr. Games. She was a contestant in the Ms. New York Senior America Pageant, and was a judge for the 2009 Pageant, and The NY Senior Idol Contest.

Rachel Zampino ~ As a performer, Rachel last appeared at Hofstra in 42nd Street (Dorothy Brock), and in several other productions across Long Island, including Guys & Dolls (Adelaide and Sarah), Annie Get Your Gun (Annie Oakley) and Oliver (Nancy), to name a few. Rachel takes special satisfaction in programs such as this one. Last month, she and Bob Spiotto created and performed "The Other Side of the Wall," a spoken collage of stories and poems written by Vietnam veterans about their experience at the Wall. Rachel also appeared in "The Remembered," written by Hofstra alumnus Elliot Levine and directed by Bob Spiotto, which portrayed loved ones' remembrances of soldiers lost in Vietnam. As a lawyer, Rachel currently

works as a law clerk in NY State Supreme Court, but her first job was securing orders of protection and legal separation for victims of spousal abuse at a clinic in Boston. As the mother of two teenage daughters, Rachel sends her applause to the founders of this organization and to all who have made this event possible.

Who's Who Singers

Sigma cappella has made numerous performances around Hofstra's campus since its birth over a decade ago. Aside from bi-annual concerts, Sigma cappella also performs carols around the Long Island community during the holidays, makes feature performances on the Mike and Mike show on ESPN, and has made a few trips around the North East to perform with other a cappella groups. Their mission is to promote the growth, development, and awareness of a cappella music in the community through performances, outreach, and entertainment. Sigma offers co-educational singing to all members of Hofstra University, Long Island, and Regional New York communities.

Performers include ~ Diana Curcuruto, Kate Davis, Sinead Conlon, Christina Pecce, Maggie Doherty, Elena Trovat, Chelsea Laggan, Erin Willett, Derek Bado, Ryan Zatcoff, Paul Jordan Talbot, Matthew Georgetti, Pete Teleha, Andrew Fallu, Sam Grubb, Melanie Rubin, Colgan McNeil

Administrative Staff for Hofstra Entertainment

Executive Producer.....Bob Spiotto
Associate Producer.....Stacy Lane
Voices For A Cause Stage Manager.....James Monahan

Theater Facilities Staff

Director of Theater Facilities.....Alan Pittman
Supervisors.....Peter J. Hague, Brian Canese,
Charles Grieco

Theater Facilities Box Office Staff

Manager of Theater Facilities.....Stacy Lane
Box Office Staff.....Diane Wilson, Judy Bertrand,
Shirley Ackerman, Angela Laterza

Please visit hofstra.edu/hofstraentertainment for additional information
and please visit hofstra.edu/newsletters
to subscribe to the Hofstra Entertainment Newsletter

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Please enjoy refreshments in the lobby
during that time.

Photos and recording devices are not permitted.

Please turn off all cellular phones, beepers, etc.

Thank you!

ARE YOU PREPARED?

The key to women's safety can be summarized in one word: **Education.**

Safety awareness is about using your common sense, being well informed, thinking in advance, and planning ahead.

The National Organization for Women's Safety Awareness developed five basic **"TIPS"** that, if followed, will significantly decrease anyone's chances of being the victim of an assault.

Think. Anticipate your response/reaction **before** an incident occurs. Ask yourself, "What would I do if...?"

- **Distraction.** Pay attention to your surroundings and stay focused.
- **Intuition.** Always trust your instincts. If something doesn't feel right, it probably isn't;
- **Vulnerability.** Don't affirmatively put yourself in a vulnerable situation.
- **Assessment.** Carefully analyze and assess the situation at all times and be ready to react.
- **Skills.** Know your weapons, both the natural ones [i.e. hands, fingers, elbows, knees, feet] and the material ones [i.e. whistle, handbag, ATM card, umbrella, book, keys, etc.] and how and when to use them. For example, the high heel of a Manolo Blahnik can be an extremely effective weapon to fight off an attacker!

Practice. Physically rehearse how you will react and what you will do if someone grabs or attacks you. Do this as if you were a child practicing a fire drill.

Speed and Strength. React with purpose and force. You may have a small window of opportunity to act and even a smaller amount of time to escape.

KNOW SOME BASIC PERSONAL DEFENSIVE TACTICS!

It takes many years of training to become proficient in any martial art, but you don't have to be a Black Belt to be able to defend yourself. Every woman should know at least a few basic yet highly effective defensive tactics, "just in case".

- One of the most forceful defensive moves is a SWIFT strike to the throat area just below the Adam's Apple, with your fingers or a stiff hand. Always think "stun and run."

- Another powerful response is to push both your hands up into the attacker's chin, forcing his head to whip back.

- Yet another effective move is to push the side/edge of your hand directly underneath the middle of someone's nose.

- Jabbing your fingers into a facial orifice can be quite successful as well.

- Finally, if you are brought to the ground, try to get up immediately. If you cannot, stay on your back keeping your body rounded with your feet up. Keep the perpetrator away with your legs, feet and kicks. If a person gets on top of you while you are on your back, keep your elbows and hands up in front of your face. Then try to get the person off by bumping your pelvis up forcefully with your hips to get him to get off balance. Once he falls forward, try to roll onto your side and get up.

Although the information above may seem daunting, it is important that women not live in fear because confidence and a positive attitude are two of their strongest weapons. Women should continue to live positive and remarkable lives, but while doing so they should remember to keep their eyes open and walk with their heads up high and their shoulders back.

Please share this information with your daughters, mothers, sisters and all the women in your lives. It may save theirs.

Websites offering a variety of materials on Violence against Women and related topics

National Organization for Women's Safety Awareness (NOWSA):

<http://www.thenowsa.org/>

The National Organization for Women's Safety Awareness, Inc. (The NOWSA) was established to fulfill a fundamental need in our country to provide more information, awareness, and knowledge about women's safety issues while advocating personal safety education, prevention, and self-protection. The NOWSA is working towards establishing a network of organizations including various civic and corporate partners, public schools, colleges, universities, public safety departments and government agencies, that will promote women's safety awareness in many different ways, such as through speaking engagements and seminars, campaigns, internet programs and other events.

Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS): <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is United States' primary source for criminal justice statistics. Its mission is to collect, analyze, publish, and disseminate information on crime, criminal offenders, victims of crime, and the operation of justice systems at all levels of government. The website houses hundreds of statistical reports and raw data collected by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs.

The National Women's Health Information Center, US Dept. of Health and Human Services: <http://www.womenshealth.gov/violence/>

This specialty page will provide you with information on all types of violence against women, including specific resources and information on how to get help.

The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN):

<http://www.rainn.org/>

The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network is the nation's largest anti-sexual assault organization. RAINN operates the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1.800.656.HOPE and the National Sexual Assault Online Hotline at rainn.org, and publicizes the hotline's free, confidential services; educates the public about sexual assault; and leads national efforts to prevent sexual assault, improve services to victims and ensure that rapists are brought to justice.

The Center for Sex Offender Management (CSOM): <http://www.csom.org/>

The Center for Sex Offender Management's (CSOM) goal is to enhance public safety by preventing further victimization through improving the management of adult and juvenile sex offenders who are in the community. The Center for Sex Offender Management is sponsored by the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, in collaboration with the National Institute of Corrections, State Justice Institute, and the American Probation and Parole Association.

The National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence (NCDSV):

<http://www.ncdsv.org/>

End Violence Against Women International (EVAW): <http://www.evawintl.org/>

EVAW inspires and educates those who respond to gender-based violence, equipping them with the knowledge and tools they need to support victims and hold perpetrators accountable. The organization promotes victim-centered, multi-disciplinary collaboration, which strengthens the response of the criminal justice system, other professionals, allies, and the general public -- making communities safer.

National Center for Victims of Crime (NCVC): <http://www.ncvc.org/>

The National Center for Victims of Crime is the nation's leading resource and advocacy organization for crime victims. Their Resource Library contains the material needed to address crime and victimization information needs. Included in the library are no cost full-text reports and studies, current statistics with references, and a list of recommended reading. Their Stalking Resource Center (<http://www.ncvc.org/src/>) offers laws, cases, resources, statistics, publications, and newsletters on stalking and related issues.

The National Online Resource Center on Violence Against Women, VAWnet: <http://www.vawnet.org/>

VAWnet is an easily accessible and comprehensive collection of full-text, searchable electronic resources developed to assist those working to end domestic and sexual violence by increasing access to information and materials that are timely, reliable, and relevant. VAWnet is a project of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRC DV), enhanced through a collaborative partnership with the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC). VAWnet is supported by a grant from the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC): <http://www.nsvrc.org>

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center serves as the nation's principle information and resource center regarding all aspects of sexual violence. It provides national leadership, consultation and technical assistance by generating and facilitating the development and flow of information on sexual violence intervention and prevention strategies. The NSVRC works to address the causes and impact of sexual violence through collaboration, prevention efforts and the distribution of resources. NSVRC is supported by a grant from the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center (NYVPRC): <http://www.safeyouth.org/>

The NYVPRC is a federal resource for communities working to prevent violence committed by and against young people. This website offers access to hundreds of brochures, fact sheets, reports, and posters, and other print publications on a variety of topics related to youth violence including alcohol abuse, bullying, dating violence, depression, school violence, and more.

Prevention Connection Wiki Project: <http://www.preventconnect.org/wiki>

Prevention Connection is a project dedicated to advancing the prevention of violence against women. As a wiki dedicated to the same goal, the Prevention Connection Wiki Project is a place to collect experiences and knowledge gained in the practice, theory, research and evaluation of violence against women prevention efforts. Although it can be read by anyone, the intended audience for this wiki is professionals and others dedicated to prevention efforts.

SafetyLit: Injury Prevention Literature Update: <http://www.safetylit.org>

Funded by the World Health Organization, SafetyLit provides information about the occurrence and prevention of injuries is available from many sources and professional disciplines. SafetyLit staff and volunteers regularly examine 2,600 scholarly journals from 35 professional disciplines and scores of reports from government agencies and organizations. A weekly update is posted every Monday morning, and can be subscribed to by e-mail or RSS feed. Abstracts relevant to interpersonal violence on SafetyLit are indexed under "Violence and Weapons Issues."

Communities Against Violence Network (CAVNet): <http://www.cavnet2.org>

CAVNet has developed an international network of professionals addressing domestic violence, sexual assault, rape, incest, stalking, juvenile justice, human rights, same sex violence, and crime victims with disabilities. CAVNet offers a collection of resources to the public that includes an issues directory and search function for documents and organizations.

CRIME STATISTICS

- In 2007, there were 248,300 victims of rape, attempted rape, or sexual assault
- Every two minutes someone in the U.S. is sexually assaulted
- 1 out of every 6 American women has been the victim of an attempted or completed rape in her lifetime
- 44% of sexual assault and rape victims are under age 18
- Girls ages 16-19 are 4 times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape, attempted rape, or sexual assault
- Approximately one in five female high school students reports being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner
- In a study of eighth and ninth graders, 25% indicated that they had been victims of dating violence, including 8% who disclosed being sexually abused
- Among female students between the ages of 15-20 who reported at least one violent act during a dating relationship, 24% reported experiencing extremely violent incidents such as rape or the use of weapons against them
- College age women are 4 times more likely to be sexually assaulted
- Sexual assault is one of the most under reported crimes, with 60% still being left unreported

Victims of sexual assault are:

3 times more likely to suffer from depression

6 times more likely to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder

13 times more likely to abuse alcohol

26 times more likely to abuse drugs

4 times more likely to contemplate suicide

- In 2009, 3.4 million people age 18 or older in the United States were stalked; of these, 2,531,770 were women
- In 2007, crimes by intimate partners accounted for 23% of all violent crimes against females
- Human trafficking is the third most profitable criminal activity, following only drug and arms trafficking. An estimated \$9.5 billion is generated in annual revenue from all trafficking activities
- Each year, an estimated 14,500 to 17,500 foreign nationals are trafficked into the United States
- In a 2007 survey of middle and high school students, 43% of youth reported experiencing cyber bullying in the past year. The incidence of cyber bullying is higher among females than males and is most prevalent among 15- and 16-year-olds, with more than half of this age group reporting at least one cyber bullying incident in the past year
- A 2009 survey of youth ages 13 to 18 revealed that 19% had been harassed, embarrassed, or threatened online or by text message
- In a 2005 study, approximately 1 in 7 youth (13%) received unwanted sexual solicitations online, and 4% received aggressive online sexual solicitations in which the solicitor asked to meet the youth in person, called the youth on the telephone, or sent the youth mail, money, or gifts.
In the same study, 9% of youth Internet users had been exposed to distressing sexual material while online, and 9% also reported being harassed online
- Girls who reported that they had been sexually or physically abused were more than twice as likely as non abused girls to report smoking (26% versus 10%), drinking (22% versus 12%), and using illegal drugs (30% versus 13%). In addition, 32% of girls who had been abused reported bingeing and purging, compared to 12% of girls who had not been abused
- Physical aggression occurs in 1 in 3 teen dating relationships
- 50 to 80% of teens report knowing someone involved in a violent relationship
- In 2007, 91,590 persons over the age of 65 were victims of violent crime

State of New York
Legislative Resolution



Senate No. 6071

Assembly No. 1510

BY: Senator Flanagan

BY: Committee on Rules at the request of M. of A. Raia, Conte, Abbate, Barclay, Burling, Christensen, Corwin, Crouch, DenDekker, Destito, Finch, Gabryszak, Gunther, John, Jordan, Lupardo, Maisel, McDonough, Montesano, Oaks, Perry, Pheffer, Sayward, Schimel, Spano, Stirpe, Thiele, Titone and Weisenberg

MEMORIALIZING Governor David A. Paterson to proclaim November 1-7, 2010, as Teen Personal Safety Awareness Week in the State of New York

WHEREAS, The citizens of this great Empire State place the highest priority on the well-being of our children, truly our most precious resource and greatest symbol of hope for the future; and

WHEREAS, Tending to the health and safety of our teenagers is the concern of all New Yorkers, who share responsibility for providing them with the fundamentals needed to enjoy a safe and happy adolescence; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor David A. Paterson to proclaim November 1-7, 2010, as Teen Personal Safety Awareness Week in the State of New York, sponsored by The National Organization for Women's Safety Awareness, Inc. (NOWSA); and

WHEREAS, NOWSA was established to fulfill a fundamental need in the United States to provide more information, awareness, and knowledge about women's safety issues; and

WHEREAS, A public non-profit corporation, NOWSA is a community service organization supporting the work of many advocacy groups including those educating the public about child abuse issues, domestic violence, and crimes against women in general; and

WHEREAS, NOWSA is under the luminous direction of President Lidia Szczepanowski-Goldsmith, Esq.; during her reign as Mrs. New York America 2006, and continuing as Mrs. New York International 2009, Lidia Szczepanowski-Goldsmith has spoken to thousands of women regarding her chosen pageant platform, "Women's Safety Awareness"; and

WHEREAS, Having over a decade of martial arts training and holding a black belt in karate, Lidia Szczepanowski-Goldsmith educates women on how to avoid being the victim of a crime while also teaching them how to physically defend themselves if necessary; and

WHEREAS, In addition to Women's Safety Awareness, NOWSA is involved with teen safety; the Teen Personal Safety Awareness Week campaign will raise awareness about the crimes committed against teens which can tragically lead to injury or even death and educate teens on how to prevent them; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body, representing the people of the State of New York, takes great pride in participating in weeks of awareness of important safety issues which affect the youth of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor David A. Paterson to proclaim November 1-7, 2010, as Teen Personal Safety Awareness Week in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable David A. Paterson, Governor of the State of New York and Lidia Szczepanowski-Goldsmith, Esq., President, NOWSA.

ADOPTED IN SENATE ON
June 22, 2010

By order of the Senate,



Angelo J. Aponte, *Secretary*

ADOPTED IN ASSEMBLY ON
June 15, 2010

By order of the Assembly,



Laurene R. Kretzler, *Clerk*



Getzel Schiff & Ross, LLP
Certified Public Accountants
3 Crossways Park West
Woodbury, NY 11797
Telephone 516-692-8500
Fax 516-692-8511
www.GSRCPA.com

Leaders in the fields of management consulting and accounting—using powerful strategic tools to take your business to the next level—in both profitability and a precise vision for the future. Where accounting, auditing, tax services and investigation meet, you will find Getzel Schiff & Ross, LLP one of the region's leading firms specializing in forensic accounting.

Jeffrey A. Getzel CPA, CFF- Managing Partner
Jack R. Schiff, CPA - Field Partner
Stephen A. Ross, CPA - Field Partner
Christopher Pesce, CPA - Tax Partner
Dennis J. Lenz, CPA - Field Partner



THE SZCZEPANOWSKI LAW FIRM, P.C.



Lidia Szczepanowski, Esq., the founder of The Szczepanowski Law Firm, P.C., is known as the “no-nonsense” and “approachable” lawyer. She graduated from St. John’s University School of Law and her legal experience includes an internship with Judge Arthur D. Spatt in the Appellate Division, Second Department and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. Over the years, Lidia has represented corporate executives, professionals, businesses and individuals in a wide range of cases from inception up through trial. Her firm’s areas of practice include corporate and commercial litigation, real estate, construction law, bankruptcy, negligence, criminal and appellate law, just to name a few.

As a general practice litigation attorney for over 20 years, Lidia recognized the fact that many people simply “don’t know where to start” when looking for an attorney and they just want to know their legal rights. In response to this need, Lidia created **AskLidiaTheLawyer.com**, an interactive website where general legal questions can be asked via email or at designated times through a “Live Chat” function. The objective of this complimentary service is to provide information about the law, give answers to legal inquiries and help individuals understand the legal process.

The Szczepanowski Law Firm, P.C. finds creative solutions to complex challenges while holding its counsel to the highest standards of integrity, competence and excellence.

Have a Legal Question? AskLidiaTheLawyer.com

445 Broad Hollow Rd., Ste. 124
Melville, New York 11747
P: (631) 270-7771 • F: (631) 777-7732

Ask

Lidia the Lawyer.com

Info@AskLidiaTheLawyer.com