



DenverDA

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NEWS ADVISORY

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DENIM DAY AT THE DA'S OFFICE

As a professional law office, the DA's Office does not observe "casual Friday," so an opportunity for staff to wear denim is unique.

The Denver DA's Office joined the Auraria Campus in observing "Denim Day" today (Tuesday, April 7th) by wearing jeans as a symbol of commitment to seeking justice for sexual assault victims.

Denim Day was inspired by a 1998 Italian Supreme Court ruling which overturned a conviction of a driving instructor who was serving time for sexually assaulting his 18-year-old driving student. The court ruled that because the victim was wearing tight blue jeans, she must have helped the perpetrator remove them and therefore could not have been raped. To protest the ruling, female members of Italy's parliament wore jeans to work. Denim Day was launched in Los Angeles in 1999 and has been growing across the country ever since.

Nearly 60 Denver DA employees dressed in denim today, each making a \$5 donation to an emergency fund for food, clothing and other needs for sexual assault victims. Staff members who were unable to wear denim because of court commitments also contributed to the fund, helping to raise more than \$300 for victims.