

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

RE: MISLEADING ROBO CALL UPSETS CHEROKEE CITIZENS

On Friday, February 19, 2016, Cherokee County citizens began contacting Cherokee County District Attorney Shannon Wallace stating that they had received disturbing messages on their answering machines alleging that county officials do not support victims' rights and that citizens supporting victims should immediately support a bill entitled Marcy's Law, or Georgia House Resolution 1199. District Attorney Wallace offers the following comments in response:

"The information given in these calls, as related to me by citizens, is patently false. This proposed resolution to amend to our Georgia Constitution is currently in committee in the Georgia Legislature. Any recorded call or individual indicating that victims do not have protected rights in Georgia or in Cherokee County is simply not stating the truth. In Cherokee County, we strictly observe the Georgia Victim's Bill of Rights, as codified in O.C.G.A. §17-17-1 through §17-17-16. My office has a staff of six highly trained victim advocates to ensure we provide services to victims at the earliest stages of our cases, that we seek their input and that we communicate with our victims throughout the process. In so many cases, we are the sole voice for victims, and that is a profound privilege. This false and misleading attack on our County is disheartening. I became a prosecutor to help protect the public and speak for victims. The allegations of this call, as relayed to me by citizens, could not be further from the truth. While I have sympathy for victims in other parts of the country that may not have the broad protections for victims that we enjoy and uphold in Georgia, I cannot let this false information stand. It simply isn't right."

For more information about the rights of crime victims in Georgia, please contact Victim Witness Coordinator Lisa Williams at (770) 479-1488 or lwilliams@cherokeega.com

Georgia Victim's Bill of Rights

[O.C.G.A §17-17-1](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-2](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-3](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-4](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-5](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-5.1](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-6](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-7](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-8](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-8.1](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-9](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-9.1](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-10](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-11](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-12](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-12.1](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-13](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-14](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-15](#)

[O.C.G.A §17-17-16](#)