

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Iris Domestic Violence Center Announces New Executive Director**

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                    President - Board of Directors  
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                    Executive Director  
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### **Iris Domestic Violence Center Appoints John J. Price New Executive Director**

The Capital Area Family Violence Intervention Center, Inc., more commonly known as the Iris Domestic Violence Center, serving a seven-parish area around the capital area, has announced the selection of John J. Price, as its new executive director. Price will be succeeding Lynn Medley-Long as director who will be taking early retirement. Price was selected by the Board of Director's Executive Search Committee to replace Medley-Long who served as the executive director for the past two years. The selection was made after a two-month search and evaluation process.

“We are very pleased to announce this appointment,” reported Melanie Fields, President of the Board of Directors. “John will bring leadership and creativity to the Center's programs and a personal commitment to our mission to empower survivors, prevent relationship violence, and promote justice for victims of domestic and dating violence. He is a licensed attorney who has served in executive leadership capacities in many arenas. We felt he brought a fresh perspective on how the Iris Center can go about better serving our community and we are confident he will be a leader and advocate for victims, survivors and all those impacted by domestic violence. The board and I look forward to working alongside John as we continue to strengthen and expand the important services being offered to families impacted by domestic violence.”

Price, a longtime resident of Baton Rouge, received his BS degree from Louisiana State University and his Juris Doctorate from the Paul M. Hebert School of Law, where he won the Robert Lee Tullis Moot Court Competition and was inducted into the LSU law school Hall of Fame. He has practiced law in Louisiana for over 30 years and most recently served as Assistant Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Baton Rouge under former Mayor President Melvin “Kip” Holden. He also served as the mayor’s appointment to the East Baton Rouge Parish Planning Commission. Mr. Price currently serves on the Board of Directors for University View Academy, a free public online charter school for kindergarten through 12th-grade.

“I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve this community, especially in an area where the work that we do literally saves lives - every day. Domestic abuse and family violence have reached frightening proportions in Louisiana and particularly in the capital area. That abuse is not just physical assaults, it can also involve emotional and financial abuse which an abuser can use to gain or maintain control over a victim. In addressing this epidemic, we will work to increase community awareness of domestic violence issues and to both expand and strengthen our collaborative partnerships within the community. We will protect the civil rights of victims of domestic abuse, particularly women and children, and provide them with the necessary resources, support and encouragement to empower them to break the cycle of domestic violence and abuse”, said Price.

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**For more than 30 years, Iris Domestic Violence Center (formerly operating as CAFVIC/Battered Women's Program) has provided professional, compassionate, and empowering support to survivors of family violence and their children. All services are free and confidential. Services are offered to residential (in-shelter) as well as non-residential survivors. Iris Center serves the parishes of East Baton Rouge, Ascension, Iberville, West Baton Rouge, Pointe Coupee, West Feliciana, and East Feliciana.**

**Iris Domestic Violence Center**

**24-Hour Crisis Hotline: (225) 389-3001 Toll Free 1 - (800) 541-9706**

**Main Office: (225) 389-3002**

**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 52809  
Baton Rouge, LA 70892**

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