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DA Lykos Provides Life-Saving Emergency Care Kits to Investigators and Criminal Justice Center

Investigators with the District Attorney's Office as well as anyone entering the Harris County Criminal Justice Center are now safer after life-saving emergency care kits were distributed this week at the direction of District Attorney Pat Lykos.

Designed to provide immediate critical care before an ambulance can arrive, the kits contain life-saving tourniquets, blood-clotting bandages, scissors and other items that will be utilized in situations of extreme trauma, such as the aftermath of an active shooter situation.

80 such units were distributed to DA Office investigators and will be stored in their vehicles, while an addition 15 larger kits will be stationed throughout the Harris County Criminal Justice Center. The initiative was developed in coordination with the Harris County Sheriff's Office, and funded by DA Lykos using monies from a federal grant.

Particular credit is due to the efforts of HCSO Deputy Cathy Helstrom, who has spent years teaching basic tactical trauma care to law enforcement officers. She notes that rendering immediate aid when an officer or civilian has been shot or stabbed is essential to preventing them from losing a potentially fatal amount of blood. Earlier this week, Helstrom and DA Investigator Dennis Field assembled the kits and trained investigators and other staff on their use.

Said District Attorney Pat Lykos:

"Just this week a shooting outside the Jefferson County Courthouse claimed the life of an innocent bystander and injured three others. No one can know if this victim could have been saved, but I am certain that the day will come when having these emergency kits close at hand will make the difference between life and death for someone in law enforcement or among the citizens we serve. I want to thank everyone involved for their guidance, assistance and support of this important initiative."

