NCADV MOURNS THE LOSS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACTIVIST AND NCADV SPOKESPERSON, JENNI RIVERA

NCADV joins the family, friends and fans in mourning the loss of domestic violence activist and NCADV Spokesperson, Jenni Rivera, who was killed Sunday, December 9, 2012 in a plane crash.

The Lear Jet 25 with U.S. registration, disappeared minutes after taking off from the northern city of Monterrey on its way to Toluca. The crash has been confirmed by Mexico's Director of Civil Aviation and the NTSB.

At least five people were traveling in the plane: the pilots, Miguel Pérez and Alejandro Torres, and three more passengers: the singer, her publicist and her makeup artist. Before her flight, Rivera had played a concert in Monterrey.

Rivera, an entertainment icon known for her music—with sales of over 15 million albums—as well as her television show, was a tireless champion for Latinas. She was an outspoken immigrants rights activist who actively opposed Arizona SB1070, as well as a supporter of LGBT equality. A teenaged mom, Rivera graduated high school and continued on to earn her degree in business administration. A victim of domestic abuse during her first marriage, Rivera, in 2010, was named a spokesperson for the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV.org). She spoke, giving her talk in both Spanish and English, at the NCADV / NOMAS conference in Anaheim, CA in 2010. “Rage against the dying of the light.” Rivera had also established the Jenni Rivera Love Foundation (http://www.jenniriveramusic.com/foundation), which offers support to single mothers and victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

“Jenni Rivera was a powerful role model for Latinas as a spokesperson for NCADV, using her strong voice and commitment to ending violence in families. Her personal experience of abuse, and her successful effort to get free of the violence, gave hope to thousands of victims that they can also find a life without abuse. The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence extends our condolences to her family, friends and fans as they begin to deal with this tragic loss,” said Rita Smith, executive director.

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) has worked for more than thirty-four years to end violence against women by raising awareness and educating the public about the effects of domestic abuse. Our work includes developing and sustaining ground-breaking public policy at the national level and assisting the 2,000+ urban and rural shelters and programs at the local, state, and regional levels of the nation in the programming they offer to victims seeking safety and assistance. Currently, our constituency encompasses more than 50,000 programs, survivors, advocates, and allied individuals and is growing daily.

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