



**Media Contact:** 

Ania Czarnecka 713-869-0707 aczarnecka@wardcc.com AVDA Contact: Sherri Kendall 713-224-9911 SherriK@avda-tx.org

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Ward Donates Pro Bono PR Services to Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse in Honor of 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

(Houston, Jan. 29, 2015) – <u>Ward</u>, a top-ten Houston-based communications firm, launched its 25th year in business by donating pro bono public relations services in 2015 to Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse (<u>AVDA</u>).

"In honor of our firm's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the outstanding work AVDA is doing on behalf of families in our community, it is my privilege to announce AVDA as the recipient of our anniversary gift," said Deborah Buks, Ward's founder and owner. "In our team brainstorm about how to commemorate a quarter century in business, we all agreed we wanted to give back to our community in a meaningful way. AVDA's track record for rescuing people from abusive homes and breaking the cycle of abuse with its highly effective batterer intervention program should be better known in our community. We knew we could make the difference in that area, and with increased awareness and support, we can further AVDA's reach and impact, and help fulfill on the mission to help families End Abuse, Begin Again."

Since its inception 35 years ago, AVDA has provided advocacy, safety planning, education and legal representation to over 60,000 victims of domestic abuse while also offering intervention services to over 10,000 domestic violence perpetrators. AVDA also works with at-risk teens, offering much needed life skills and discussion pertaining to family violence, dating abuse and conflict resolution to the residents of the Harris County Juvenile Probation Youth Detention Center.

"We are extremely grateful to Deborah and her team at Ward for this donation," said Sherri Kendall, AVDA's chief executive officer. "Deborah, an AVDA board member, has been a long-time supporter, generously giving her time and expertise to further our mission to end abuse in families. Ward's gift will allow us reach and serve even more Houstonians in need of legal representation, education, batterer intervention and support services."

## **About Ward**

A Houston-based communications firm and partner of the international Worldcom Public Relations Group, Ward causes communication, both internal and external, that causes intended results through media relations, community relations, crisis communications, employee relations, social networking, marketing communications and more. The award-winning firm serves business-to-business and consumer clients. Founded in 1990, the firm has experienced steady growth and gained a reputation for producing award-winning results with a strong commitment to client service. Visit <a href="www.WardCc.com">www.WardCc.com</a> for more information.

Connect with Ward on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and Google +.

## **About AVDA**

AVDA is a non-profit organization that has served the Houston community for 35 years, with the mission "to end violence in families by advocating for the safety and self-sufficiency of battered individuals, promoting accountability for those who batter, and fostering a coordinated community response to domestic violence." This is accomplished through providing support services, education, and legal representation to individuals impacted by violence, battering intervention and services for individuals who commit violence and educational curriculum to prevent violence in the future.

Visit www.avda-tx.com for more information and connect with us on Facebook.

###