

Proclamation

Board of Commissioners for Washington County

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

APRIL 19 to APRIL 25, 2020

WHEREAS the victims' rights movement has resulted in the passage of laws at the local, state and federal levels that established essential rights for victims; and

WHEREAS crime victims' rights acts passed here in Oregon and at the federal level have provided victims with ways to participate meaningfully throughout the criminal justice process; and

WHEREAS the rights of crime victims are best protected when all participants in the criminal justice process – not only victims – are appropriately educated about victims' rights; and

WHEREAS we must help victims access the justice, assistance and support they need to rebuild their lives; and

WHEREAS advocacy by and for victims of crime is itself a form of seeking justice, no less than justice sought in the courts; and

WHEREAS the accomplishments of the victims' rights movement – achieved through compassion and collaboration, and built on the courageous advocacy of individual victims and their families across the country – inspire in us hope for future progress and greater healing; and

WHEREAS we are determined to respond to crime and violence by helping victims find not only support, recovery and justice but also a sense of hope for their future; and

WHEREAS National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to ensuring that accessible, appropriate and trauma-informed services are offered to all victims of crime; and

WHEREAS the Washington County District Attorney's Office is hereby dedicated to strengthening victims and survivors in the aftermath of crime, building resilience in our communities and our victim responders, and working for justice for all victims and survivors:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this 7th day of April, 2020, the Washington County Board of Commissioners proclaims the week of April 19 to April 25, 2020, to be Washington County Crime Victims' Rights Week, and that Washington County reaffirms a commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists all victims of crime during Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year; and expresses our gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim services providers and criminal justice professionals who are committed to improving our response to all victims of crime so that they may find relevant assistance, support, justice and peace.

Kathryn Harrington, Chair

Recording Secretary

Minute Order