

**Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California**

Resolution No.:

Adopt Resolution Proclaiming the Week of April 23- April 29, 2023 as **National Crime Victim's Rights Week** in Monterey County.

WHEREAS, In 1982, the United States President's Task Force on Victims of Crime envisioned a national commitment to a more equal and supportive response to victims; and

WHEREAS, The term "victim" is more than just a label and connotes legal standing and protections that go along with it; and

WHEREAS, The crime victims' Bill of Rights passed here in California and at the federal level guarantee victims the right to meaningfully participate and use their voices in the criminal justice process; and

WHEREAS, Victim service providers, advocates, law enforcement officers, attorneys, and other allied professionals can help survivors obtain their justice by enforcing these rights; and

WHEREAS, The right to provide an impact statement ensures that victims' voices are considered in court during the sentencing and, when applicable, restitution processes; and

WHEREAS, Including and elevating the voices of survivors ensures they are heard and seen and creates a path to forging and sustaining community trust; and

WHEREAS, Engaging with survivors creates outcome and services that are credible, meaningful, and centered on their individual needs; and

WHEREAS, Survivors' lived experiences can serve as a catalyst for implementing innovative victim-centered programs and eliminating practices that exclude survivors from accessing services or pursuing justice; and

WHEREAS, The District Attorney of Monterey County has established an active Victim Assistance Program which has been assisting victims and witnesses of crime for over **forty-five** years; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, the Monterey County District Attorney's Victim of Crime Unit provided **15,395** mandated services to over **3,173** new crime victims in Monterey County; and

WHEREAS, **National Crime Victims' Rights Week** provides an opportunity to recommit to listening to crime survivors in every space where decisions are made that could impact them; and

WHEREAS, Monterey County is hereby dedicated to amplifying the voices of survivors and creating an environment where survivors have the confidence that they will be heard, believed, and supported.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all residents thereof, hereby reaffirms commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists all victims of crime during **National Crime Victims' Rights Week** and throughout the year; and to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim service 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.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2023, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book _____ for the meeting on _____, 2023.

Dated:

Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California.

By _____
Deputy