

Monterey County Board of Supervisors

Resolution

Resolution No.: 23-176

Adopt Resolution Proclaiming the Month, June 2023 as Elder Justice and Vulnerable)
Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month in Monterey County, Recognizing the)
International Theme of "Seniors Deserve Our Respect and Attention.")

WHEREAS, The Social Security Act of 1935 reduced the elderly and vulnerable adult populations dependence on their families both financially and residentially. By the 1950's the longevity of our older population living alone increased, which led to the formulation of governmental protective programs as elder abuse was declared a national crisis by the 1970's; and

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization brought international attention to the issue of elder abuse in 2002. In 2006, the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, assisted in designating June 15th, Elder Abuse Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, The Elder Justice Act of 2010, was enacted to address Abuse, Neglect and the Exploitation of the aged, its reauthorization in 2020, included the Safety and Security of Vulnerable Dependent Adults, raising additional awareness of cultural, demographic factors and socioeconomic barriers, which included ageism, ableism, systematic and systemic racism, as elder abuse is a public health and social justice issue, recognizing most elder abuse cases involve trusted individuals using their positions of power to encumber older adults through coercion and/or fraud; and

WHEREAS, Governor Newsom's Master Plan for Aging, revises this blueprint biennially, expanded the plan to 2030, currently focusing on five bold goals, Ensuring Housing for All-Ages and Stages, Health Reimagined, Equity Inclusion, Not Isolation, Caregiving That Works and Affording Aging; and

WHEREAS, The victimization of our aged and vulnerable populations cannot be resolved by one agency, as the Monterey County Adult Protective Services collaborates with advocacy organizations, health and law professionals to detect, evaluate and prosecute abusers as they work with fewer resources and are underfunded far below levels necessary for effective implementation of best practices; and

WHEREAS, Our "Seniors Deserve Our Respect and Attention," as they are infinitely valuable, worthy of regard, protection and attentive respect which builds relationships of trust, safety and well-being.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all residents thereof, hereby joins the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council in recognizing the month of June, 2023 as Elder Justice and Vulnerable Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 13th day of June 2023



[Signature]
Chair Supervisor Luis A. Alejo

[Signature]
Vice Chair Supervisor Glenn Church

[Signature]
Supervisor Chris Lopez

[Signature]
Supervisor Wendy Root Askew

[Signature]
Supervisor Mary L. Adams