

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

Resolution No.:

Adopt Resolution Designating the Week of April 10 – April 16, 2016, ()
as *National Crime Victims' Rights Week* in Monterey County.....)

WHEREAS, Americans are the victims of more than twenty million crimes each year, and crime can touch the lives of anyone regardless of age, national origin, race, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, immigration, or economic status; and

WHEREAS, Many victims face challenges in finding appropriate services, including victims with disabilities, young victims of color, Deaf and hard of hearing victims, LGBTQ victims, tribal victims, elder victims, victims with mental illness, immigrant victims, teen victims, victims with limited English proficiency, and others; and

WHEREAS, Victims of repeat victimization who fail to receive supportive services are at greater risk for long-term consequences of crime; and

WHEREAS, The victim services community has worked for decades to create an environment for victims that is safe, supportive, and effective; and

WHEREAS, Intervening early with services that support and empower victims provides a pathway to recovery from crime and abuse; and

WHEREAS, Honoring the rights of victims, including the right to be heard and to be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect, and working to meet their needs rebuilds their trust in the criminal justice and social service systems; and

WHEREAS, Serving victims and rebuilding their trust restores hope to victims and survivors, as well as their communities; 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 **thirty-six** years; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Monterey County District Attorney's Victim of Crime Unit provided **20,215** mandated services to over **3,382** new crime victims in Monterey County; and

WHEREAS, *National Crime Victims' Rights Week*, April 10-16, 2016, is an opportune time to commit to ensuring that all victims of crime—even those who are challenging to reach or serve—are offered culturally and linguistically accessible and appropriate services in the aftermath of crime.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of Monterey County reaffirms a commitment to respect and enforce victims' rights and address their needs during

April 10 to April 16, 2016, Monterey County Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year; and express our appreciation of those victims and crime survivors who have turned personal tragedy into a motivating force to improve our response to victims of crime and build a more just community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this official resolution be presented to the Monterey County District Attorney's Victims of Crime Unit on **April 8, 2016**.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this XX day of March, 2016 upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, and carried by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Gail T. Borkowski, 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 at page -- of Minute Book , on March , 2016.

DATED:

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California
