

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

Resolution No.:

Adopt Resolution Designating the Week of April 19 – April 25, 2015, ()
as **National Crime Victims’ Rights Week** in Monterey County.....)

WHEREAS, Americans are the victims of more than twenty six million crimes each year, 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, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning victims, tribal victims, elder victims, victims with mental illness, immigrant victims, teen victims, victims with limited English proficiency, and others; and

WHEREAS, the entire community has a role to play; and

WHEREAS, involving survivors helps victim service providers and criminal justice professionals understand the culture, values, and expectations of under- and unserved victims who seek assistance and justice; and

WHEREAS, engaging victims’ communities and learning from leaders about their unique needs helps service providers foster a supportive and culturally relevant atmosphere in which victims seek help and healing; and

WHEREAS, incorporating communities’ existing experts and trusted sources of support into efforts to fully serve survivors will develop a criminal justice system response that is truly accessible and appropriate for all victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, victims know best how to direct and manage their own lives, and true recovery from crime will incorporate a victim’s cultural, religious, economic, social, and personal interests; and

WHEREAS, with the full weight of their community and victim service providers behind them, survivors will be empowered to face their grief, loss, fear, anger, and shame, without fear of judgment and will feel understood and worthy of support; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorney of Monterey County has established an active Victim Assistance Program which has been assisting the victims and witnesses of crime for over 35 years; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the Monterey County District Attorney’s Victim of Crime Unit provided 12,086 mandated services to over 2,436 new crime victims in Monterey County; and

WHEREAS, **National Crime Victims’ Rights Week**, April 19-25, 2015, 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; and

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 19 to April 25, 2015, 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.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this _____, 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 of Minute Book _____ for the meeting on _____.

Dated:

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

By _____