

PROCLAMATION

OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RECOGNIZING CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK:

APRIL 2 - 8, 2017

"SERVING VICTIMS, BUILDING TRUST AND RESTORING HOPE"

WHEREAS, Americans are the victims of more than 20 million crimes each year, affecting individuals, and communities; and

WHEREAS, Providing victims with knowledge of their rights and available services further strengthens their ability to recover by restoring a sense of self-empowerment; and

WHEREAS, A trauma-informed response to victims promotes healing and fosters strength in survivors; and

WHEREAS, Victims who feel understood and supported are more likely to disclose their victimization, seek services, and participate in the justice process; and

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WHEREAS, A multidisciplinary response, involving collaboration among victim service professionals, criminal justice officials, legal professionals, medical and mental health providers, and community leaders is essential to reach and serve all victims - especially those who are marginalized, have disabilities, or live in remote locations; and

WHEREAS, Strengthening the multidisciplinary response - bringing diverse skills, perspectives, and understandings together in the service of victims - also serves to build the resilience of those responders, by strengthening the confidence in their roles, abilities, and sense of contribution;

WHEREAS, The Mendocino County District Attorney's Victim Witness Assistance 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 the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims April 2 -8, 2017, as:

"Crime Victims' Rights Week"

Dated: April 4, 2017

John McCowen, Chair