

# PROCLAMATION



- Whereas,** In 2023, there were 3,851 domestic and elderly crimes, 2,444 violent crimes – to include murder, sexual assault, and robbery – and 10,828 property crimes in Washoe County; and
- Whereas,** The term “victim” is more than just a label and has legal standing and protections that go along with it. Crime victims’ rights affords victims the right to meaningfully participate and use their voice in the criminal justice process; and
- Whereas,** The right to provide an impact statement ensures that victims’ voices are considered in court during the sentencing and, when applicable, the restitution process. Engaging survivors creates responses and services that are credible, meaningful, and centered on individual needs. 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,** The Washoe County District Attorney’s Office, the Washoe County Sheriff’s Office, victim service providers, advocates, and other allied professionals can help survivors find their justice by enforcing these rights; and
- Whereas,** National Crime Victims’ Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to listening to crime survivors; and
- Whereas,** We are publicly showing our commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists all victims of crime during Crime Victims’ Rights Week (April 21-24, 2024) and throughout the year; and are expressing our sincere gratitude and appreciation to those who are committed to improving our response to all victims of crime so that they may find relevant assistance, support, justice, and peace:

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim the week of April 21-27, 2024, as

## Crime Victims’ Rights Week

Dated this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2024.

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Alexis Hill, Chair  
Washoe County Commission