

Washoe County, Nevada

~PROCLAMATION~

WHEREAS, The victims' rights movement has resulted in the passage of laws at the local, state, and federal levels that have established essential rights for crime victims;

WHEREAS, Since the passage of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984, and through the dedicated work of prosecutors, law enforcement, lawmakers, victim advocates and service providers, there is a growing array of services and resources available to victims and their loved ones;

WHEREAS, In 2018, the voters in Nevada enacted the Victims' Bill of Rights in our State Constitution which further the ways in which a victim may participate meaningfully throughout the criminal justice process;

WHEREAS, Crime victims are best served when all are appropriately educated about victims' rights;

WHEREAS, Supporting victims of crime is crucial to the U.S. justice system because our support honors the experiences of victims and allows them to find autonomy and empowerment through achieving self-defined goals;

WHEREAS, Being a victim of crime and navigating the criminal justice system can be a frightening and confusing experience, we must help victims access the justice, assistance, and support they need to rebuild their lives;

WHEREAS, Advocacy by and for victims of crime is itself a form of seeking justice, no less than the justice sought by prosecutors in the courts on behalf of victims;

WHEREAS, Our community is determined to respond to crime and violence by helping victims find not only support, recovery, and justice, but also a sense of hope for their future;

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week presents an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to honoring the rights of all crime victims from every demographic– including the rights to be heard and to be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect while we work to meet their needs and rebuild their trust in the criminal justice and social service systems;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim, April 18-24, 2021, as

~ National Crime Victims' Rights Week ~

and reaffirms its commitment to raise awareness and collaboration in serving crime victims in our community.

Dated this 20th day of April, 2021.

Bob Lucey, Chair
Washoe County Commission