

*The Board of Supervisors of  
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2015/127

**PROCLAIMING APRIL 19-25, 2015 AS NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, Americans are the victims of more than 26 million crimes each year and these crimes can touch the lives of anyone regardless of age, national origin, race, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, immigration, or economic status;

**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;

**WHEREAS**, The entire community has a role to play;

**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;

**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;

**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;

**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;

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

**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;

**WHEREAS**, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors is joining forces with the victim service providers, criminal justice agencies, and concerned citizens throughout Contra Costa County and America to raise awareness of victims' rights and observe National Crime Victims' Right Week:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Supervisors does hereby reaffirm their commitment to respect and enforce victims' rights and address their needs during national Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year, and express our appreciation for 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. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Supervisors announces the 5th Annual Crime Victims' Rights Week Recognition Ceremony to be hosted by the District Attorney on Friday, April 24, 2015 from 10:30 a.m. to Noon at the District Attorney's Office Community Room, 900 Ward Street, Martinez.

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**JOHN GIOIA**

Chair,  
District I Supervisor

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**CANDACE ANDERSEN**

District II Supervisor

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**MARY N. PIEPHO**

District III Supervisor

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**KAREN MITCHOFF**

District IV Supervisor

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**FEDERAL D. GLOVER**

District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: April 14, 2015

David J. Twa,

By: \_\_\_\_\_, Deputy