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

In the matter of: Resolution No. 2017/192

**World Elder Abuse Awareness Month** 

WHEREAS, Elder and dependent adult abuse is a serious and growing crisis in California; and WHEREAS, Elder and dependent adult abuse may be physical, emotional, sexual, or fiduciary and consists of crimes that recognize no boundaries of economic, educational, or social status, gender, race, culture, religion, or geographic location; and

WHEREAS, In Contra Costa County, Adult Protective Services, operated by the Employment and Human Services Department, responds to confidential reports from anyone who suspects abuse of an elderly person or dependent adult, and receives between 240 and 600 reports of suspected abuse each month; and WHEREAS, The County has seen a significant upward trend in elder abuse reports, exemplified by a 30 percent increase in the number of calls to Adult Protective Services from 2014 to 2015; and WHEREAS, Recognizing signs that abuse may be occurring is the first step toward the prevention of elder and dependent adult abuse; an

WHEREAS, The growing rate of elder abuse and dependent adult abuse exacts a heavy toll on public resources as elder financial abuse victims often become nursing home residents who are dependent upon Medi-Cal; and

WHEREAS, Current estimates suggest that as few as one in 14 cases of elder and dependent adult abuse is reported, including fewer that one in 25 incidents of financial abuse, because the victims feel ashamed, hopeless, intimidated, or afraid of the perpetrator; and

WHEREAS, Elders and dependent adults have the right to live safely in the least restrictive environment, whether in their homes or health care facilities, and to enjoy an optimum quality of life while being protected from all forms of injustice; and

WHEREAS, Private citizens and public agencies must work to combat crime and violence against elders and dependent adults, particularly in the face of continued funding reductions in vital services; and WHEREAS, All Contra Costa residents are strongly encouraged to report suspected abuse of an elder or dependent adult by calling their local adult protective service agency, Long-Term Care, Ombudsman, law enforcement, or emergency services agencies.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors proclaims and acknowledges the month of June 2017 as Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month and reintegrates the importance of supporting these residents with services and programs to keep them safe.

FEDERAL D. GLOVER

## JOHN GIOIA District I Supervisor DIANE BURGIS District III Supervisor CANDACE ANDERSEN District II Supervisor KAREN MITCHOFF District IV 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: June 6, 2017

David J. Twa,

Ву: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Dери