

Proclamation

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING APRIL 23 THROUGH APRIL 29, 2023 AS

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Right Week provides an opportunity to recommit and listen to survivors in every space where decisions are made that could impact them; and

WHEREAS, the term "victim" is more than just a label and has legal standing and protections that go along with it, and the crime victims' rights act passed in California guarantees victims the right to meaningfully participate and use their voice in the criminal and juvenile justice process, and victim advocates, law enforcement officers, judges, attorneys, and allied professionals can help survivors find their justice by enforcing these rights; and

WHEREAS, the right to provide an impact statement ensures that victims' voices are considered in court during sentencing and when considering restitution, and including and elevating the voices of survivors makes certain that they are heard and seen, and creates responses and services that are credible, meaningful, and centered on individual needs; and

WHEREAS, survivors' lived experience can serve as a catalyst for implementing and shifting programs in new directions, and help change policies and practices that prevent survivors from retraumatization and encourages survivors to access services and pursue justice; and

WHEREAS, the Victim Services Division of the District Attorney's Office is dedicated to amplifying the voices of survivors having aided approximately 19,000 victims of crime in 2022, providing support more than 2,000 times to aid victims in creating and delivering victim impact statements and requesting more than 1.9 million dollars in restitution; and

WHEREAS, the Victim Services Division is committed to creating an environment where survivors have the confidence to be seen, heard, believed, and supported.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, does hereby designate the week of April 23 – 29, 2023 as NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK and encourages everyone to recommit efforts to ensuring that victims of crime receive all appropriate services in the aftermath of crime, and expresses our sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim service providers and criminal justice professionals who are committed to improving our response to victims of crime so that they may find assistance, support, justice and peace.

Dated: April 25, 2023

SUPERVISORS:

DAVE PINE, President

NOELIA CORZO

RAY MUELLER

WARREN SLOCUM

DAVID J. CANEPA

Attest: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors