Resolution

ORDER NO: 2016-0394

DATE: April 5, 2016

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §



BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 5th day of April, 2016, on a motion made by <u>Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1</u>, and seconded by Mike Cantrell, Commissioner of District 2 , the following Resolution was adopted:

- WHEREAS, Americans are the victims of more than 20 million crimes each year, and crime can touch the lives of anyone regardless of age, national origin, race, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, immigration, or economic status; and
- 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; and
- WHEREAS, The victim services community has worked for decades to create an environment for victims that is safe, supportive, and effective and has proven that intervening early with services that support and empower victims provides a pathway to recovery from crime and abuse; and
- WHEREAS, Honoring the rights of victims, including the right to be heard and to be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect, and working to meet their needs rebuilds their trust in the criminal justice and social service systems; and
- WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 10-16, 2016, 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; and
- WHEREAS, Dallas County supports the Crime Victims Council of Dallas County in its dedication to serving victims, building trust, and restoring hope for justice and healing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim the week of April 10 through April 16, 2016 as Dallas County Crime Victims' Rights Week. The Court expresses its sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim service providers, and criminal justice professionals who are committed to improving the response to all victims of crime so that they may find relevant assistance, support, justice, and peace.

DONE IN OPEN COURT, this the 5th day of April, 2016.

Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge

Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1

Mike Cantrell, District 2

John Wiley Price, District 3

Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4