

*Proclamation declaring  
National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 18-24, 2021*

- Whereas* Americans are the victims of 20 million crimes each year, affecting individuals, and communities; and
- Whereas* years of investment in crime victims' rights and services have developed a system of victim response that can help victims recover from crime; and
- Whereas* reaching and serving all victims of crime, and rebuilding their trust, is essential to supporting thriving communities, because those who receive holistic services and support are more likely to remain invested in their communities; and
- Whereas* engaging a broader array of healthcare providers, community leaders, faith organizations, educators, and businesses can provide new links between victims and services that improve their safety; and
- Whereas* many victims face barriers—such as isolation, distrust of authorities, language limitations, lack of transportation, cultural barriers—that keep them from accessing the services and criminal justice systems that can help them recover from crime; and
- Whereas* honoring the rights of victims, including the rights 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 provides an opportunity to recommit to ensuring that all victims of crime—especially those who are challenging to reach or serve—are afforded their rights and receive a trauma-informed response; and
- Whereas* the Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office is hereby dedicated to strengthening victims and survivors in the aftermath of crime, building resilience in our communities and our victim responders, and working for justice for all victims and survivors.

*Now therefore, be it proclaimed* that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court does hereby declare the week of April 18 to April 24, 2021 as Crime Victims' Rights Week in Hidalgo County.

**Approved this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.**

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**RICHARD F. CORTEZ**  
County Judge

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**DAVID L. FUENTES**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

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**EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

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**EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

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**ELLIE TORRES**  
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

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**Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.**  
County Clerk