

**Yolo County
Board of Supervisors**

Resolution No. 24-40

Proclaiming National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 21-27, 2024

WHEREAS, being a victim of crime is navigating the criminal justice system with resiliency in hope for justice; and

WHEREAS, this week is an opportunity to reengage our community in honoring victims of crime by showcasing the challenges faced by survivors and their tenacity in the pursuit of justice for themselves, their families, and their community; and

WHEREAS, honoring and elevating the voices of survivors makes certain that they are being heard, seen, and treated with dignity, fairness, and respect; and

WHEREAS, ensuring accessible, appropriate, and trauma informed services to victims of crime is essential, especially for those who are challenging to reach and serve; and

WHEREAS, during a 12-month period, 3.4 million individuals over the age of 18 are stalked in the United States and almost half of stalking victims (46 percent) experience at least one unwanted contact per week; and

WHEREAS, from 2019 to 2022, Nicole Romero was being consistently harassed by her next-door neighbor. He would scream obscenities at her and her two little boys, flash a light into their house at night to disturb their sleep, and other countless horrors that eventually led her to relocate; and

WHEREAS, her days were spent calculating when she could strategically enter or exit her home, to avoid her stalker and keep her children safe. Nicole made countless trips to the police department to file reports on her stalker, resulting in upwards of 20 reports; and

WHEREAS, Nicole not only endured three years of harassment from her neighbor, but she also testified in court, which can be a frightening and confusing experience for a victim of crime. She navigated through the court case with assistance from a Yolo County Victim Services advocate who accompanied her to court; and

WHEREAS, Nicole had the courage to come to court at the time of sentencing to face her stalker. She gave a Victim Impact Statement to the court and explained how her stalker affected her life. Nicole is a survivor who has shown strength and courage and deserves to be recognized; and

WHEREAS, during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 21-27, 2024, Yolo County District Attorney's Victim Services Program and Yolo County District Attorney's Office continues to join forces with victim service providers, criminal justice agencies, and concerned citizens throughout Yolo County to educate on victims' rights and observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, does hereby proclaim the week of April 21-27, 2024, as: NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK and reaffirms the County of Yolo's commitment to respect and enforce victims' rights and give victim's a voice during National Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year and express our appreciation for those victims and crime survivors.

Options. Services. Hope for Crime Survivors

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of April, 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Vixie Sandy, Provenza, Barajas, Villegas, Frerichs.

Lucas Frerichs, Chair
Yolo County Board of Supervisors