

# PROCLAMATION

## OF THE

### MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

#### **Recognizing Victims' Rights Week In Mendocino County, April 22-28, 2012**

WHEREAS, 18.7 million Americans are directly harmed by crime each year, and each crime affects many more family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers; and

WHEREAS, the physical, emotional, and financial impact of crime falls on people of all ages and abilities, and of all economic, racial, and social backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime envisioned a national commitment to a more equitable and supportive response to victims; and

WHEREAS, the nation heeded this call to action and promoted victims' rights initiatives, effective and compassionate victim services, and just compensation and financial support; and

WHEREAS, today, thousands of victim assistance programs provide help and support to child victims of violence; and sexual abuse; stalking victims; survivors of homicide victims; victims of drunk-driving crashes; and victims of domestic, dating, and sexual violence and other crimes; and

WHEREAS, now is the time to "Extend the Vision" through a comprehensive strategy for reaching and serving every victim of crime, especially traditionally underserved victims such as those with disabilities and victims from diverse cultures; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Justice has launched the *Vision 21* initiative to renew our nation's commitment to serving all victims of crime in the 21st Century; and

WHEREAS, Victims' Rights Week, April 22-28, 2012, provides an opportunity to extend that vision to every victim of crime in the United States—to help ensure their access to the help they deserve and the rights they are promised; and

WHEREAS, Mendocino County District Attorney Victim Witness Assistance is joining forces with victim service programs, criminal justice officials, and concerned citizens throughout Mendocino County and America to raise awareness of victims' rights and observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims April 22-28, 2012, as:

**"Victims' Rights Week"**

Dated: April 23, 2012

---

John McCowen, Chair