

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, preserving peace in our communities is a priority for our state government; and

WHEREAS, crime can touch the lives of anyone, regardless of age, gender, race, creed, sexual orientation, national origin, immigration, or economic status; and

WHEREAS, every Washingtonian has a stake in safeguarding a victim's right to be treated with empathy, dignity and respect; and

WHEREAS, providing victims with knowledge of their rights and available services strengthens their ability to recover by restoring a sense of self-empowerment; and

WHEREAS, a trauma-informed response to victims promotes healing and fosters strength; and

WHEREAS, a multidisciplinary response involving collaboration among victim service professionals, criminal justice officials, legal professionals, medical and mental health providers, and community leaders is essential to reaching and serving all victims — especially those who are marginalized, have disabilities, or live in remote locations; and

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to ensuring that all victims of crime are afforded their rights and receive a trauma-informed response; and

WHEREAS, the state of Washington is dedicated to strengthening victims and survivors in the aftermath of crime, building resilience in our communities, and working for justice for all victims and survivors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April 2-8, 2017, as

Crime Victims' Rights Week

and I encourage all people in our state to join me in reaffirming our commitment to ensure that all people who are victims of crime know they are respected and to create a victim-service and criminal justice response that assists all victims of crime.



Signed this 3rd day of April, 2017

Governor Jay Inslee