



National Crime Victims' Rights Week

WHEREAS, Americans are the victims of more than 26 million crimes each year, and crime can touch the lives of anyone regardless of demographic category;

WHEREAS, many victims face challenges in finding appropriate services;

WHEREAS, the entire community has a role to play: involving survivors helps victim service providers and criminal justice professionals understand the culture, values, and expectations of under- and un-served victims who seek assistance and justice; engaging victims' communities and learning from leaders about their unique needs helps service providers foster a supportive and culturally relevant atmosphere in which victims seek help and healing; incorporating communities' existing experts and trusted sources of support into efforts to fully serve survivors will develop a criminal justice system response that is truly accessible and appropriate for all victims of crime;

WHEREAS, victims know best how to direct and manage their own lives, and true recovery from crime will incorporate a victim's cultural, religious, economic, social, and personal interests;

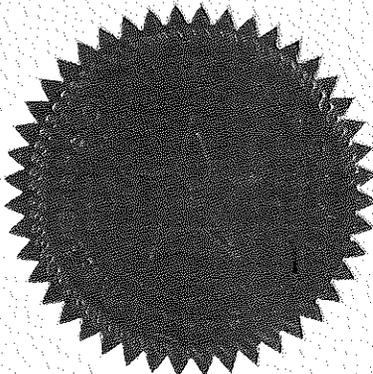
WHEREAS, with the full weight of their community and victim service providers behind them, survivors will feel empowered to face their grief, loss, fear, anger, and shame, without fear of judgment and will feel understood and worthy of support;

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 19-25, 2015, is an opportune time to commit to ensuring that all victims of crime are offered accessible and appropriate services in the aftermath of crime;

WHEREAS, the Collin County District Attorney and Collin County Commissioners Court are hereby dedicated to building partnerships with trusted sources of support, including community leaders, religious groups, schools, and other agencies to better reach and serve all victims of crime, no matter their community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Willis, Collin County District Attorney, and we, the Collin County Commissioners Court, do jointly proclaim the week of April 19 - 25, 2015, as NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK, and reaffirm Collin County's commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists all victims of crime during Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year; and to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim service providers, and criminal justice professionals who are committed to improving our response to all victims of crime so that they may find relevant assistance, support justice, and peace.

Greg Willis, District Attorney



Keith Self, County Judge

Susan Fletcher, Commissioner, Pct. 1

Cheryl Williams, Commissioner, Pct. 2

Chris Hill, Commissioner, Pct. 3

Duncan Webb, Commissioner, Pct. 4