

RESOLUTION

Proclaiming the week of April 23-29, 2006 as Crime Victims' Rights Week in Cuyahoga County, in recognition of the 26th Anniversary of National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners recognizes that the year 2006 marks the 26th anniversary of the commemoration of National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners acknowledges the Witness/Victim Service Center for thirty-two years of dedication, commitment and service to victims of crime.

WHEREAS, the residents of Cuyahoga County, as well as all Americans, may be subjected to or witness crime. Cuyahoga County residents and visitors who have experienced victimization have the right to be afforded specific rights under the Crime Victims' Rights Act of Ohio Revised Code Section 2930. Crime victims have the right to receive advocacy, support, compensation assistance and help with the physical, emotional and financial impact of crime.

WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County of Commissioners acknowledges the pain and suffering and the courage of crime victims and witnesses as they journey along the path of healing.

WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners supports collaborative governmental and community efforts with the Cuyahoga County Children Who Witness Violence Program, the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, the Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services, the Cuyahoga County Department of Senior and Adult Services, the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office and other municipal and county governmental, law enforcement and social service organizations to counter the damage inflicted by crime.

WHEREAS, the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners acknowledges the Cuyahoga County Witness/Victim Service Center for the services provided to crime victims, which include justice system advocacy, crisis intervention, counseling, education and legal and social service referrals.

WHEREAS, Victims' Rights: Strength in Unity' – pays tribute to crime victims and survivors who, for many decades, have joined together in mutual support and advocacy to promote victims' rights and services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners hereby proclaims the week of April 23-29, 2006 as Crime Victims' Rights Week in Cuyahoga County, in recognition of the 26th Anniversary of National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that our individual and collective efforts reflect the ideal that every crime victim be afforded rights, services and fair treatment by the justice system and society and be treated with dignity, respect and compassion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board be, and she is, hereby instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to Steven Terry, Director, Department of Justice Affairs and M. Judith Sheehan, Manager, Department of Justice Affairs/Witness/Victim Service Center.

On Motion of Commissioner Hagan, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Ayes: Hagan, Jones, Dimora.

Nays: None.

Resolution Adopted.

**Penelope M. Hughes,
Clerk of the Board**

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