

WHEREAS, the victims' rights movement has resulted in the passage of laws at the local, state, and federal levels that established essential rights for victims; and

WHEREAS, crime victims' rights acts passed in California and at the federal level have provided victims with ways to participate meaningfully throughout the criminal justice process; and

WHEREAS, the rights of crime victims are best protected when all participants in the criminal justice process – not only victims - are appropriately educated about victims' rights; and

WHEREAS, honoring the rights of victims, including the right to be heard and to be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect, rebuilds their trust in the criminal justice and social services systems; and

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to ensure that accessible, appropriate, and trauma-informed services are offered to all victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, the Riverside County District Attorney's Office, Division of Victim Services, is dedicated to supporting victims through the criminal justice system and strengthening victims and survivors in the aftermath of crime building trust and engaging in our communities and our victim service providers and bringing hope and healing to all victim survivors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, **Jan C. Harnik, Mayor of the City of Palm Desert**, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim the week of April 6-12, 2025, as

Crime Victims' Rights Week

and 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.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Palm Desert, California, to be affixed this 27th day of March 2025.