

CITY OF OAKLAND  
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CITY OF OAKLAND

**TO:** Honorable Council President Kaplan and  
Honorable Members of City Council

**FROM:** Sheng Thao  
Councilmember, District 4

**SUBJECT:** Resolution to Proclaim April 19-25 Victims' Rights Week

**DATE:** April 8, 2020

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Dear Councilmembers and Members of the Public,

More than 26 million people become victims of crime each year, victims are faced with many challenges because of crime; often, victims enter systems that fail to meet their needs, provide appropriate services and fail to treat them with the dignity and respect they deserve.

The Alameda County District Attorney's Office Victim/Witness Assistance Program was the first such program established in 1974 to address the needs of survivors. The Alameda County District Attorney's Office continues to join forces with the victim service providers, criminal justice agencies, and concerned citizens throughout Alameda County to raise awareness of victim's rights and observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

In 2019, the Alameda County District Attorney's Office Victim/Witness Assistance Division provided over 21,962 services to more than 4,372 crime victims in the city of Oakland, including child victims of violence and sexual abuse, stalking victims, survivors of homicide victims, human trafficking, crimes against elders and dependent adults, sexual assault, domestic violence, robbery and other crimes.

The Victim/Witness Assistance Claims Division assisted more than 16,289 victims of crime county-wide in receiving state compensation funds; successfully compensated \$4,119,570 which paid for services for victims of crime without independent means. The Alameda County District Attorney's Office successfully secured restitution orders in the amount of \$9,054,745 of that amount \$8,058,511 was ordered for victims of crime and their families county-wide and \$996,234 was ordered to the State of California Victim Compensation Program.

For those reason, I ask for your support of this resolution proclaiming April 19-25, 2020 to be Victims' Rights Week, reaffirming our commitment to respect and enforce victims' rights and addressing their needs during Victims' Rights Weeks and throughout the year.

Respectfully,



Sheng Thao,  
Councilmember, District 4