



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 24-30, 2022

Crime Victims' Rights Week

Each year, California joins the nation in observing Crime Victims' Rights Week to show support for victims of crime, survivors, and their families. All too often, victims of violent crime face severe physical, emotional and financial trauma, and the state is committed to supporting their recovery. This week, we celebrate the energy, perseverance and commitment that launched the victims' rights movement and continue to advance the cause of fairness and justice.

California has been a leader in victim services since 1965, when our state established the first victim compensation program in the nation. Following our visionary lead, every state now has a similar program to assist victims of violent crime in recovering from their physical, emotional and financial losses. Our state was the first to establish a hospital-based rape treatment center, the first victim assistance program and the first domestic violence shelter to ensure California's victims are served with dignity and compassion.

We recognize that this important work is never done. The theme of this year's observance, "Rights, access, equity, for all victims," highlights our continuing efforts to prioritize the interests of victims and ensure equitable access to services in the aftermath of crime.

During Crime Victims' Rights Week, let us thank all of those who work to preserve and promote crime victims' rights, and recommit to ensuring that all victims of crime have the support they need in their journey toward recovery and justice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gavin Newsom", written over a horizontal line.

Gavin Newsom