Warren County Board of Superbisors Proclamation

WHEREAS, Americans are victims of more than 22 million crimes each year, and these crimes also affect family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers;

WHEREAS, crime can leave a lasting physical, emotional, or financial impact on people of all ages and abilities, and of all economic, racial, and social backgrounds;

WHEREAS, in addition to these challenges, crime victims face criminal, military, and juvenile justice systems that, at times, ignore their rights and treat them with disrespect;

WHEREAS, in 1984, the Crime Victims Fund was established by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) to provide a permanent source of support for crime victim services and compensation through fines and penalties paid by convicted federal offenders;

WHEREAS, the Crime Victims Fund today supports thousands of victim assistance programs who provide help and support to child victims of violence and sexual abuse; stalking victims; survivors of homicide victims; victims of drunk-driving crashes; and victims of domestic, dating, and sexual violence and other crimes;

WHEREAS, now is the time to embrace a new emphasis on learning what works in reaching underserved victims and meeting victims' needs;

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 6-12, 2014, provides an opportunity to celebrate the energy, creativity, and commitment that launched the victims' rights movement, inspired its progress, and continues to advance the cause of justice for crime victims;

WHEREAS, Warren County is joining forces with victim service providers, criminal justice agencies, and concerned citizens throughout Warren County and America to raise awareness of victims' rights and observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Warren County does hereby proclaim April 6-12, 2014 as

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

and reaffirms our commitment to respect and enforce victims' rights and address their needs throughout the year; and express our appreciation for those victims and crime survivors who have turned personal tragedy into a motivating force to improve our response to victims of crime and build a more just community.

DATED: <u>March 21, 2014</u>

Kevin B. Geraghty, Chairman

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