

- **WHEREAS:** The term "victim" is more than just a label and has legal standing and protections that go along with it; and
- **WHEREAS:** Crime victims' rights acts passed here in Florida and at the federal level guarantee victims the right to meaningfully participate and use their voice in the criminal justice process; and
- **WHEREAS:** Victim service providers, advocates, law enforcement officers, attorneys, and other allied professionals can help survivors find their justice by enforcing these rights, including the right to provide an impact statement in court and during sentencing; and
- **WHEREAS:** Including and elevating the voices of survivors makes certain they are heard and seen and is crucial to forging and sustaining community trust; and
- **WHEREAS:** Engaging survivors creates responses and services that are credible, meaningful, and centered on individual needs; and
- **WHEREAS:** Survivors' lived experience can serve as a catalyst for implementing innovative programs, shifting existing programs in new directions, and changing policies or practices that prevent survivors from accessing services or pursuing justice; and
- **WHEREAS:** National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to empowering crime survivors in every space where decisions are made that could impact them; and
- **WHEREAS:** The City of Jacksonville remains dedicated to amplifying the voices of survivors and creating an environment where survivors have the confidence that they will be heard, believed, and supported.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim April 23 – 29, 2023 as

CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to honor the community members, victim service providers, and criminal justice professionals who are committed to improving our response to all victims of crime so that they may find relevant assistance, support, justice, and peace.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 24th Day of April in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE. FLORIDA