



# County Commissioners of Charles County

## PROCLAMATION 2023-29

### National Crime Victims' Rights Week

**WHEREAS**, every year millions of Americans are affected by crime, and many will need ongoing care and resources; and

**WHEREAS**, many victims face challenges in finding appropriate services, including victims with disabilities, young victims of color, deaf and hearing-impaired victims, LGBTQ victims, tribal victims, elder victims, victims with mental illness, immigrant victims, teen victims, and others; and

**WHEREAS**, involving survivors of crime helps victim service providers and criminal justice professionals understand the culture, values, and expectations of victims who seek assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, with the full support of their community and victim service providers, survivors will feel empowered to face their grief, loss, fear, anger, and shame, without fear of judgment and will feel understood and worthy of support; and

**WHEREAS**, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 23-29, 2023 presents an opportunity to commit to ensuring that all victims of crime, even those who are challenging to reach or serve, are offered culturally and linguistically accessible and appropriate services in the aftermath of crime; and

**WHEREAS**, the Charles County Center for Abused Persons (CAP) is dedicated to building partnerships with trusted sources of support, including community leaders, religious groups, schools, and other agencies to better reach and serve all victims of crime, no matter their community; and

**WHEREAS**, this year's theme, "Survivor Voices: Elevate, Engage, Effect, Change" calls upon communities to amplify the voices of survivors and create environments where survivors have the confidence that they will be heard, believed and supported.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**, do hereby proclaim April 23-29, 2023 as National **Crime Victims' Rights Week** in Charles County, and express our sincere gratitude to those partners who through compassion and collaboration, inspire us to hope for future progress and greater healing.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

**Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President**

**Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., Vice President**

District 4

**Gilbert O. Bowling, III**

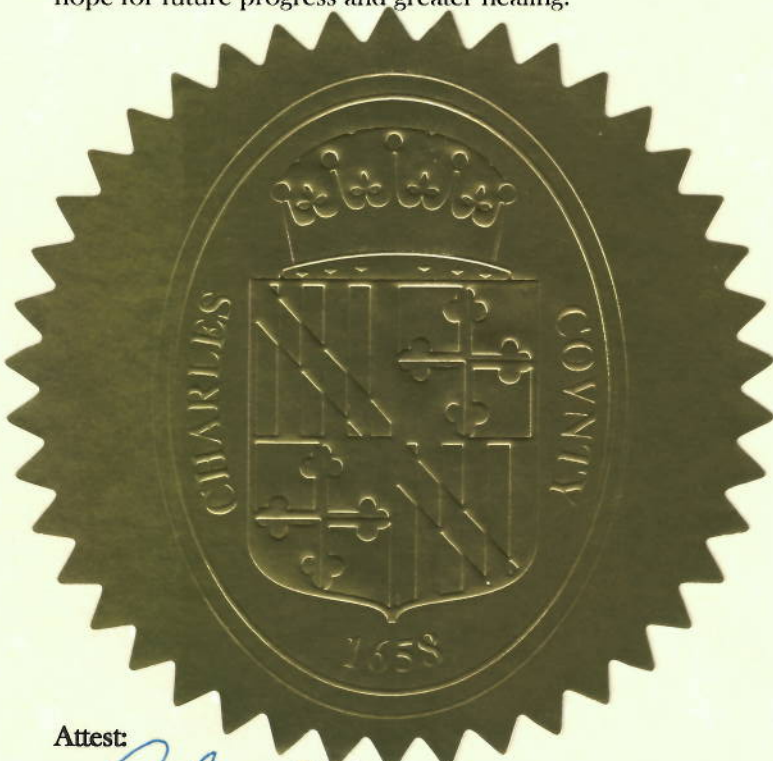
District 1

**Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.**

District 2

**Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.**

District 3



Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners