



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2024-28

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, 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, "How would you help? Options, services and hope for crime survivors" calls upon communities for us all to create safe environments for crime victims to share what happened to them.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim April 21-27, 2024, 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

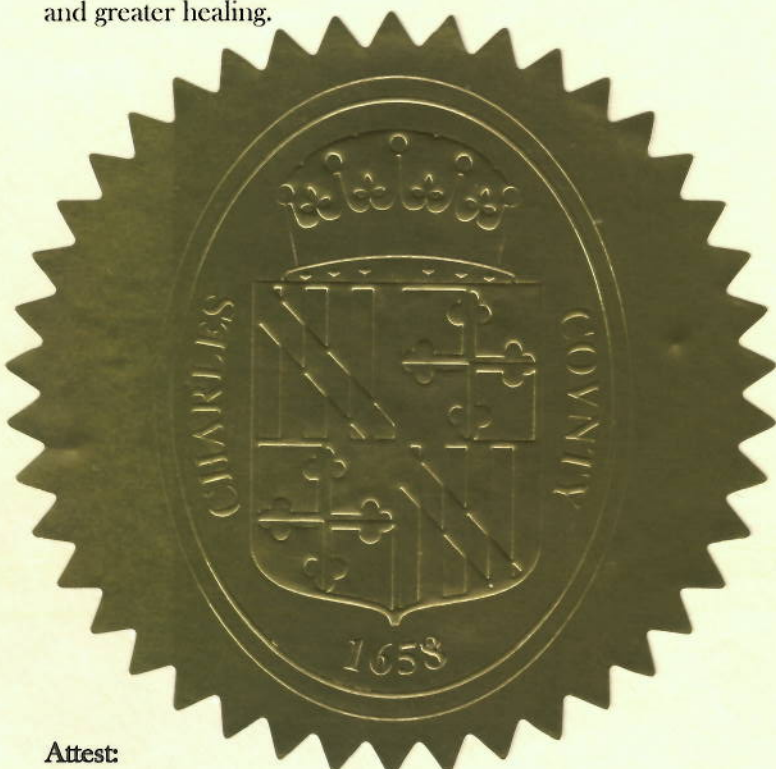
District 1

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.

District 2

Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.

District 3



Attest:

Christina Elkins, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners