

**PROCLAMATION  
NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK  
APRIL 22-28, 2012**

*WHEREAS, 18.7 million Americans are directly harmed by crime each year, and each crime affects many more family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers; and*

*WHEREAS, the physical, emotional, and financial impact of crime falls on people of all ages and abilities, economic, racial, and social backgrounds; and*

*WHEREAS, in addition to these challenges, crime victims face a criminal justice system that, at times, ignores their rights and treats them with disrespect; and*

*WHEREAS, the nation heeded this call to action and promoted victim's rights initiatives, effective and compassionate victim services, and just compensation and financial support; and*

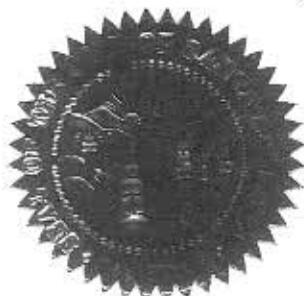
*WHEREAS, today, thousands of victim assistance programs provide help and support to child victims of violence and sexual abuse; stalking victims; survivors of homicide victims; victims of drunk-driving crashes; and victims of domestic, dating, and sexual violence and other crimes; and*

*WHEREAS, now is the time to "Extend the Vision" through a comprehensive strategy for reaching and serving every victim of crime; and*

*WHEREAS, the United States Department of Justice has launched the Vision 21 initiative to renew our nation's commitment to serving all victims of crime in the 21st Century; and*

*WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 22-28, 2012, provides an opportunity to extend that vision to every victim of crime in the United States-to help ensure their access to the help they deserve and the rights they are promised.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HELENE SCHNEIDER have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California, to be affixed this 24th day of April, 2012.*



  
**HELENE SCHNEIDER**  
Mayor