

**PROCLAMATION
NATIONAL CRIME VICTIM'S RIGHTS WEEK
April 21-27, 2013**

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, 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; 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, in 1982, the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime envisioned a national commitment to a more equitable and supportive response to victims; 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; and

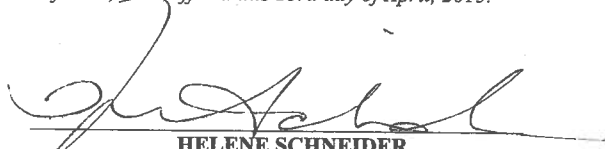
WHEREAS, now is the time to embrace new solutions that involve new partnerships with underserved communities and a greater emphasis on learning what works in meeting victims' needs; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice, through the Vision 21 initiative, calls for a renewed commitment to serving all victims of crime in the 21st century; and

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, HELENE SCHNEIDER, by virtue of the authority invested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, California, do hereby proclaim the week of April 21-27, 2013, as **National Crime Victims' Rights Week** in recognition of victims and crime survivors who have turned personal tragedy into a motivating force.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California, to be affixed this 23rd day of April, 2013.




HELENE SCHNEIDER
Mayor