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## "National Crime Victims' Rights Week"

## April 2-8, 2017

WHEREAS, Americans are the victims of more than 26 million crimes each year, and crime can touch the lives of anyone regardless of age, national origin, race, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, immigration, or economic status; and

**WHEREAS,** is it essential that we acknowledge that crime victims, despite inherent challenges and difficulties created by the crimes they have suffered, work to become survivors as they rebuild their lives and navigate the impact of the trauma through their strength, their bravery, their courage, and their resilience; and

WHEREAS, victim advocates help victims rebuild their lives, cope with the impact of crime, advocate for legal rights and options, access victim compensation, develop safety plans, and navigate the criminal justice and social services systems alongside victims; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the County Commission of the County of Sarasota, Florida, and on behalf of the citizens of our community, takes great pride in recognizing April  $2^{nd} - 8^{th}$ , 2017 as

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and we reaffirm The city of North Port's commitment to stand with strength, resilience, and justice by supporting victims of crime in our community and endorsing a community that stands with crime victims and stands against acts of violence; and to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for those 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. This week is worthy of the recognition of the citizens of Sarasota County.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, We have hereunto set our hands and Seal of the City of North Port, Florida, to be affixed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2017.

ATTEST:

## CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

Patsy C. Adkins, MMC City Clerk

Linda M. Yates, Mayor

Vanessa Carusone, Vice-Mayor

Christopher B. Hanks, Commissioner

Debbie McDowell, Commissioner