

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Craig Lowe
PROCLAMATION

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 1982, the President's Task Force on Victims of Crime envisioned a national commitment to a more equitable and supportive response to victims and individuals and governments responded by promoting victims' 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, the victim assistance community faces new challenges to reach and serve all victims, including victims of new crimes like cybercrime and terrorism and victims who have not always trusted the criminal justice system, including immigrant victims, urban youth and victims who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning; and

WHEREAS, the Alachua County Victim Service organizations call for a renewed commitment to serving all victims of crime in our community and embrace new solutions that involve new partnerships with underserved communities and a greater emphasis on learning what works in meeting victims' needs; and

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 21-27, 2013, provides an opportunity to celebrate the energy, creativity and commitment that launched the victims' rights movement, inspired its progress and continues to advance the cause of justice for crime victims; and

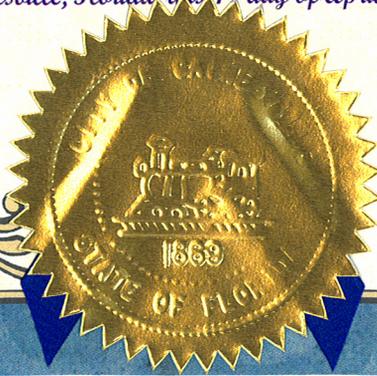
WHEREAS, victim service providers, criminal justice agencies and concerned citizens throughout Gainesville, Florida raise awareness of victims' rights and observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Lowe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim April 21-27, 2013 as

National Crime Victims' Rights Week

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me and reaffirm this City's commitment to respect and enforce victims' rights and address their needs during National Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year; and express our appreciation for those victims and crime survivors who have turned personal tragedy into a motivating force to improve our response to victims of crime and build a more just community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida this 4th day of April, C.E., 2013.



Craig Lowe
Mayor