

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK**

**2019**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, many victims and survivors of crime suffer emotional, physical, psychological, and financial harm as a result of the criminal acts committed against them; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Annual Summary Report of Uniform Crime Reporting Data, in 2017 there were 637 homicides, 79 of which were related to domestic violence; 2,035 cases of rape reported; and a total of 37,867 violent crimes committed in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina justice system and its civic and community partners have built a strong network of services and programs to help victims of crime as they rebuild their lives and allow their physical and emotional scars to heal; and

**WHEREAS**, victims and survivors of crime can gain strength from the wide range of supportive services offered by community- and justice system-based programs in North Carolina, including more than 75 sexual assault programs and 83 domestic violence programs; and

**WHEREAS**, National Crime Victims' Rights Week is an opportunity to recognize the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) as a pillar of support for victim services, and to reaffirm our state and nation's commitment to addressing the needs of victims of crimes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Crime Victims Fund, established through VOCA, represents a national commitment to provide services and financial support to crime victims throughout the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fund, comprised of fines and penalties paid by convicted offenders, has financed victim assistance and compensation programs in North Carolina and other states nationwide, including those in non-profit, law enforcement, and local and state government; and


**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Crime Commission serves as a conduit through which vital financial support is provided for victim assistance and compensation programs in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Victim Assistance Network, along with victim services programs, criminal justice officials, advocacy groups, and concerned individuals throughout North Carolina, joins the United States in observing the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VOCA during National Crime Victims' Rights Week; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina encourages people to help victims of crimes rebuild their lives through supportive services;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 7 – 13, 2019, as "**CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK**" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this first day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and nineteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.