

PROCLAMATION

OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RECOGNIZING MAY 5, 2023, AS MENDOCINO COUNTY DAY OF AWARENESS FOR MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND PEOPLE

WHEREAS, according to the National Criminal Justice Training Center Missing and Murdered Native Women are two and a half times more likely to experience violent crimes and two times more likely to experience rape or sexual assault crimes in their lifetime, and make up 40% of victims of sex trafficking; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Criminal Justice Training Center 1.5 million American Indian/Alaskan Native Women, more than four fifths of them, have already experienced violence in their lifetime and, Homicide is the 3rd leading cause of death among 10–24-year-olds and the 5th leading cause of death among 25–34-year-olds; and

WHEREAS, the National Crime Information Center Missing and Unidentified Persons statistics from 2022 accounted for 5,487 Indigenous Missing Person incidents; 4,251 of those under the age of 20; 1,236 over the age of 21, and at the end of 2022, 1,593 of the cases were still open; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Savanna's Act and the Not Invisible Act were signed into Federal law to address a lack of data and to improve law enforcement coordination to address the number of missing and murdered indigenous women and people; and

WHEREAS, the area known as Mendocino County has been developed upon the ancestral homelands of Indigenous Peoples who have continuously inhabited, utilized and cared for the land since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the County of Mendocino is committed to commemorating the lives of missing and murdered indigenous people whose cases are documented and undocumented in public records and the media and demonstrate solidarity with the families of victims in light of those tragedies; and recognizes there is more work to be done to address this nationwide crisis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims May 5th, 2023, as: Mendocino County Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and People.

Dated: April 11, 2023

Glenn McGourty, Chair