

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, each year, millions of Americans suffer the indignity of crime and, as a result, may experience emotional, physical, psychological, and financial harm; and

WHEREAS, since the beginning of the crime victims' rights movement, partnerships have formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, allied professionals, victim services, and the private sector to ensure that crime victims are treated with the fairness, dignity, and respect they deserve; and

WHEREAS, victim assistance organizations and crime victim advocates throughout South Carolina and the nation are dedicated to providing assistance, support, and comfort to victims while ensuring that their rights are protected; and

WHEREAS, individuals, neighborhoods, and communities across our state and nation gain strength and power by uniting against crime and for victims' rights and services; and

WHEREAS, with the theme, *30 Years: Restoring the Balance of Justice*, South Carolina Victims' Rights Week serves as a reminder of the progress that has been made on behalf of crime victims since the passage of the Victims of Crime Act in 1984 as well as the vital importance of ensuring victims' rights on all levels and in every case.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 11 - 17, 2014, as

SOUTH CAROLINA VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to ensure that victims are afforded their legal rights and provided with assistance as they cope with the financial, physical, and psychological impact of crime while celebrating criminal justice reforms and envisioning a future free from violence.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA