

## PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,



## COUNTY OF INYO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA DECLARING JUNE 2019 AS ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH IN INYO COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, Inyo County's elders deserve to be treated with respect and dignity, to enable them to continue to serve as leaders, mentors, and volunteers who contribute to the vitality of the community; and

WHEREAS, the elder population is the largest growing segment in the country, and elder abuse is one of the most under-reported crimes in the United States, where it is estimated that only one in 14 cases of elder abuse comes to the attention of Adult Protective Services and/or law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, victims of elder abuse include both men and women of diverse educational, socio-economic or ethnic backgrounds who have been victimized by strangers and/or by persons known to the elder who may occupy a position of trust, including family members, neighbors, friends, and others with whom the elder interacts; and

**WHEREAS**, combating abuse of elders will help improve the quality of life for all seniors and will allow seniors to continue to live as independently as possible; and

**WHEREAS**, the Inyo County Sheriff's Department will serve to safeguard the lives of elders from all forms of abuse, and will work to promote individual and public safety and justice; and

WHEREAS, the Inyo County District Attorney's Office is dedicated to protecting elders from abuse in all forms, and will provide assistance to victims of crimes and will work to raise awareness; and

WHEREAS, the Inyo County Health and Human Services Adult Protective Services investigates approximately 130 allegations a year involving elder neglect, abuse, and financial exploitation and has responded by providing supportive case management and by creating a Multi-Disciplinary Team to work with other community partners to reduce the likelihood of elder abuse cases; and

WHEREAS, the Inyo County Health and Human Services Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is committed to working with community partners to raise awareness, increase reporting of elder abuse, and provide advocacy services countywide to residents of long-term care facilities who are victims of elder abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation; and

WHEREAS, everyone can help in the campaign to eliminate elder abuse by watching for and reporting signs, such as physical trauma, withdrawal, depression, anxiety, and fear of family members, friends, or caregivers; and

WHEREAS, community members are encouraged to learn the signs of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation, and join in raising awareness about preventing abuse.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** in recognition of elders as valuable members of society who have a right to live safely and securely in the community, the Inyo County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims June 2019 as Elder Abuse Awareness Month in Inyo County, and encourages everyone to recognize and celebrate elders and their ongoing contributions to the success and vitality of our community, state, and country.

PASSED AND PROCLAIMED this 4th day of June 2019.

Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

Attest: CLINT G. QUILTER Clerk of the Board

by

Assistant Clerk of the Board