

# *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 addition to these challenges, crime victims face a criminal justice system that, at times, ignores their rights and treats them with disrespect; 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

**WHEREAS**, the nation heeded this call to action and promoted 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 violence, sexual violence and other crimes; and

**WHEREAS**, now is the time to 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 6 – 12, 2014, 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

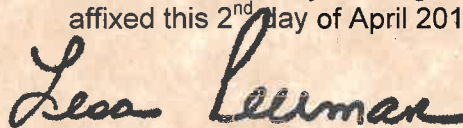
**WHEREAS**, the Broward Victim's Rights Coalition is joining forces with victim service programs, criminal justice officials, and concerned citizens throughout the City of Margate/Broward County, Florida and America to raise awareness of victims' rights and observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Lesa Peerman, Mayor of the City of Margate, do hereby proclaim the week of April 6 - 12, 2014, as

## ***National Crime Victims' Rights Week***

and reaffirm the commitment of the City of Margate to respect and enforce victims' rights and address their needs during 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 the official seal of the City of Margate to be  
affixed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2014.



---

**LESA PEERMAN, MAYOR**

Vice Mayor Joanne Simone, Commissioner Brian Donahue, Commissioner Tommy Ruzzano, Commissioner Frank B. Talerico