

# *Proclamation*

## *City of Longview, Washington*

### *National Crime Victims' Rights Week ~April 6-12, 2014 & Sexual Assault Awareness Month*

*WHEREAS, 25 million individuals in the United States are victims of crime each year, including over 6 million victims of violent crime and 207,754 from sexual assault; and*

*WHEREAS, a just society acknowledges the impact of these crimes on individuals, families, and communities and helps to ensure that tools, information and services are available for underserved segments of the affected population, including victims with disabilities and mental illnesses, victims who are children, teenagers, elderly, or from urban and rural areas or communities of color; and*

*WHEREAS, although our Nation has steadily expanded rights, protections, and services for victims of crime, too many are still not able to realize the hope and promise of these gains; and*

*WHEREAS, observing victims' rights and treating victims with dignity and respect serves the public interest; and*

*WHEREAS, the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs (WCSAP) is committed to uniting agencies engaged in eliminating all forms of sexual violence through education, advocacy, victim services and community action across the state; and*

*WHEREAS, since 1981, National Crime Victim's Rights Week has challenged the nation to extend its vision of crime victims' rights and services to reach every victim of crime.*

*Now, THEREFORE, I, Don Jensen, Mayor of the City of Longview, recognize the important work done by individuals and organizations that demonstrate outstanding works that support public awareness of rights, needs and concerns of victims and victim services and do hereby proclaim the month of April as **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** and **April 6 through April 12, 2014 as National Crime Victims' Rights Week.***

*In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Longview to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014.*

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*Don Jensen, Mayor*