

## National Crime Victims' Rights Week ~April 19-25, 2015 & 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 violent crimes on individuals, families, and communities by ensuring that rights, resources, and services are available to help rebuild lives; and

WHEREAS, although our Nation has steadily expanded rights, protections, and services for victims of crime, those with developmental problems, personal incapacities, disadvantaged social status, inadequacy of interpersonal networks and degraded neighborhoods, are still not able to realize the hope and promise of these gains; 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, WHEREAS, 2015 marks the 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the enactment of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984, the hallmark of the Federal Governments' recognition of its commitment to supporting rights and services for victims of all types of crime through the establishment of the Crime Victims Fund, that is paid for by criminal fines and penalties rather than by taxpayers' dollars; and

**Now, THEREFORE**, I, Don Jensen, Mayor of the City of Longview, recognize the important efforts achieved 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 19 ~ 25 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 23rd day of April, 2015.

