

City of Albany

Proclamation

IN RECOGNITION OF ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH AND WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY JUNE 2020

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 they know who may occupy a position of trust including family members, neighbors, friends and others with whom the elder interacts; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has impacted everyone, especially elders, by making fragile living situations more stressful, thereby putting elders more at risk for their physical safety and well-being, as well as giving those who commit scams an opportunity to morph existing scams, as well as create new scams, to prey upon the concerns and fears of vulnerable members of society in order to obtain their money and property; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Social Services Agency – Adult Protective Services and the Ombudsman Services of Alameda, Contra Costa & Solano Counties respond to reports from individuals, concerned citizens, social service and health providers, and law enforcement representatives about elders who may be physically or financially abused, neglected or exploited; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office, its Elder Protection Unit and its Victim Witness Division provide a network of services to elders who are in danger of becoming, or who have become, victims of abuse, neglect or financial exploitation, and which services include holding community workshops to promote crime prevention awareness, assisting with locating services for elders, working with the Albany Police Department as well as with other professionals, and prosecuting cases of elder abuse, neglect and financial exploitation; and

WHEREAS, the Albany Senior Center provides a comprehensive array of services, as well as social and recreational programs to meet the needs of the elder population, thereby enhancing their quality of life and helping them to remain active, healthy, safe and independent; and

WHEREAS, the City of Albany recognizes that both the awareness of elder abuse and neglect as well as reporting instances of suspected elder abuse, neglect and financial exploitation, particularly in this stressful time of a global pandemic, will help keep our elders and community safer.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Albany City Council hereby recognizes June 2020 as “ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH,” and June 15, 2020, as “WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY” in the City of Albany, in recognition of elders being valuable members of our city and having the right to live safely and securely in our community.

Dated: June 1, 2020

NICK PILCH, MAYOR