

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: President Ronald Reagan first proclaimed “Victims’ Rights Week” in 1981, observing that “we need a renewed emphasis on, and an enhanced sensitivity to, the rights of victims” – a challenge that remains even today; and

WHEREAS: We join together during 2021 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week to “support victims, build trust, and engage communities”; and

WHEREAS: In 2018, there were 3.3 million violent victimizations, yet only 43 percent of these crimes were reported to police, and only 11 percent of violent crime victims accessed assistance from a victim service agency; and

WHEREAS: During National Crime Victims’ Rights Week and throughout the year, we commit to offering trauma-informed victim services that are accessible to all survivors, and the enforcement of victims’ rights in accordance with law; and

WHEREAS: National Crime Victims’ Rights Week is an important time for individuals, communities, and our nation as a whole to support victims, build trust, and engage communities; and

WHEREAS: By joining together in partnerships to offer support to individuals and communities who are impacted by crime and victimization, we can provide help, hope, and healing today and in the future; and

WHEREAS: We recognize as individuals, communities, and a nation that justice is not served until crime victims are;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim April 18<sup>th</sup> through April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as

**NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS WEEK IN ARKANSAS**

across the state, and I encourage all Arkansans to honor crime victims and those who serve them during this week and throughout the year.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year of our Lord 2021.



  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest

  
John Thurston, Secretary of State