

DATE

SCOTT COUNTY AUDITOR

RESOLUTION

SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

January 11, 2018

Recognizing January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month

WHEREAS, the United States was founded upon the principle that all people are created with the unalienable right to freedom, and added the 13th Amendment to the Constitution making slavery illegal; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is modern-day slavery, claiming millions of victims worldwide, and found in the United States most often in the form of sexual exploitation, forced labor, involuntary servitude, and debt bondage; and

WHEREAS, this horrific crime, which denies human dignity and freedom, and fuels organized crime, exists within our state of Iowa; and

WHEREAS, even though awareness of this crime is growing, human trafficking continues to go unreported due to its isolating nature, the misunderstanding of its definition, and the lack of awareness about its indicators; and

WHEREAS, increased community education on how to identify victims of human trafficking along with increased knowledge of local resources and services for those affected by these criminal actions can help restore freedom and dignity to identified survivors, as well as help diminish the number of future victims; and

WHEREAS, fighting human trafficking is a shared responsibility, the efforts by our local community to promote the yearly observance of "Human Trafficking Awareness Month" in January enacts one of the examples of the continuous commitment in the United States and the state of Iowa to increase awareness of and to actively eradicate human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the Scott County Board of Supervisors encourages all Iowans to become more familiar with the problem, to be vigilant and report suspicious activity, and to work towards solutions to end trafficking in all its forms in Iowa.

BE IT RESOLVED BY the Scott County Board of Supervisors as follows:

- Section 1. That the Board of Supervisors does hereby declare January as Human Trafficking Awareness month;
- Section 2. That the Board of Supervisors encourages all citizens to join in the observance of Human Trafficking Awareness Month;
- Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.