

# Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Proclamation

PROCLAIMING JUNE 2019 AS ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2017-18, more than 1466 reports of abuse against the elderly were received by County Adult Protective Services; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that as few as one in 24 elder abuse cases are actually reported; and

WHEREAS, our elderly population has greatly influenced and shaped today's world, yet are often vulnerable to abuse and neglect and may be unable to prevent, seek protection from or report criminal elder abuse; and

WHEREAS, today there is a system of collaboration among the Human Services Department – Adult and Long Term Care Services division, the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Department, local police departments, the District Attorney, the Seniors Council (Area Agency on Aging), the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, the Health Services Agency Public Guardian Program, and many community services partners to prevent abuse, protect victims, and prosecute offenders who abuse our elderly; and

WHEREAS, Santa Cruz County is a leader in the State of California in assisting our vulnerable elderly citizens through education, advocacy and collaboration on abuse issues; and

WHEREAS, we, as one community, come together each year to rededicate ourselves to providing a safety net to keep our elderly citizens safe from abuse, neglect and exploitation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ryan Coonerty, Chair of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, hereby recognize June 15, 2019 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and proclaim the month of June 2019 to be Elder Abuse Awareness Month, and encourage all citizens of Santa Cruz County to join in this observance.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan Coonerty", is written over a horizontal line.

*Chairperson, Board of Supervisors*

June 15, 2019

*Date*