

STATE OF DELAWARE



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PROCLAMATION IN OBSERVANCE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Whereas, sexual assault is broadly defined as using force, threats, intimidation, manipulation, and/or coercion to obtain any form of unwanted sexual contact with another person; and

Whereas, sexual violence affects people of all genders, sexual orientations, and ages; and can occur in person, online, and through technology; and

Whereas, more than one in three women and one in four men have experienced sexual violence involving physical contact in their lifetime, according to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center; and

Whereas, there were a total of 551 forcible and 163 non-forcible serious sexual offenses reported to Delaware law enforcement in 2020; and

Whereas, the impact of sexual assault is long term with both emotional and physical consequences that often develop into chronic health conditions; and

Whereas, Delawareans in crisis can contact contactlifeline.org or call 302-761-9100 in New Castle County and 1-800-262-9800 in Kent and Sussex counties; and

Whereas, 3,078 victims received services such as counseling and case management from the two sexual assault hotline programs in the state in the last year; and

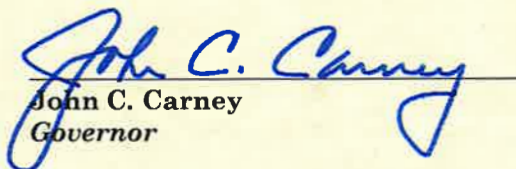
Whereas, we can work together to better address sexual violence and create safer communities for all Delawareans.

**Now, Therefore, We, John Carney, Governor,
and Bethany Hall-Long, Lieutenant Governor,**
do hereby declare April 2022, as

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Delaware and join survivors and advocates by acknowledging the importance of working together to educate our communities about sexual violence prevention, support survivors, and speak out against harmful attitudes and actions.




John C. Carney
Governor


Bethany A. Hall-Long
Lieutenant Governor

17-4103
Number