

Proclamation

Issued By The Mayor

Elder Abuse Awareness Month

WHEREAS, although the elder population is the largest growing segment in the country, elder abuse is one of the most under-reported crimes in the United States where it is estimated that only one in fourteen cases of elder abuse comes to the attention of Social Services or law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, victims of elder abuse include both men and women of diverse educational, socio-economic or ethnic backgrounds who have been victimized by strangers or by persons they know and who may occupy a position of trust; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a particular impact on elders by making fragile living situations more stressful. It has increased elders' risk regarding physical safety and well-being by making the reporting of suspected elder abuse, neglect and financial exploitation more difficult. It also gives more leeway for those who commit scams to prey upon the fears of vulnerable members of society in order to obtain their money and property; 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 and/or financial exploitation; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Social Services Agency – Adult Protective Services & the Ombudsman Services of Alameda, Contra Costa & Solano Counties respond to reports about elders who may be physically or financially abused, neglected or exploited. The Senior Services program of the City of San Leandro has programs to assist seniors in accessing information and resources to keep them safer in the community; and

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Mayor Paulene Russo Cutter do hereby proclaim June 2021 as "Elder Abuse Awareness Month" in San Leandro in recognition of elders being valuable members of our city and having the right to live safely and securely in our community.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of San Leandro to be affixed this seventeenth day of May 2021.
