

# *City of Albany*

## *Proclamation*

### **IN RECOGNITION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY & MONTH January 11, 2022 & January 2022**

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of forced labor or sexual servitude; and

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is an abhorrent abuse of power and a profoundly immoral crime that strikes at the safety, health, and dignity of millions of people worldwide; and

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is a multi-billion dollar per year global criminal enterprise and is a crime as well as a civil and human rights violation; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States government estimates that hundreds of thousands of individuals are trafficked across international borders each year and exploited through forced labor and forced commercial sexual activity; and

**WHEREAS**, the US is a major destination country for international trafficking victims; and

**WHEREAS**, whether through violence, deceit, or the promises of a better life, some of the most vulnerable populations among us -- including migrants and refugees fleeing conflict or disaster, homeless LGBTQIA youth, Alaska Native and American Indian women and girls, and children in poverty -- are preyed upon by human traffickers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 criminalized human trafficking at the federal level; and

**WHEREAS**, more awareness and education is crucial to eradicating human trafficking in our communities, state and nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed on January 11 in municipalities across the country in order to educate the public and raise awareness about human trafficking; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Albany has a strong commitment to social justice; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to rid the world of modern slavery we must do everything in our power to combat these violations of human decency.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Albany City Council does hereby proclaim January 11, 2022, as Human Trafficking Awareness Day and January 2022 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in the City of Albany. We urge the residents of Albany to support efforts and take action to end human trafficking.

Date: January 18, 2022

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PRESTON JORDAN, MAYOR

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