



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**SURVIVORS OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS AWARENESS MONTH**

**2017**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, homicide includes all deaths caused by willful murder and non-negligent manslaughter; most singularly, homicide devastates and unhinges the lives of family members, friends, neighbors, coworkers, and acquaintances of the murdered victim; and

**WHEREAS**, family members and loved ones of murdered victims experience a complex and complicated range of reactions to the deplorable act of homicide; while the term survivor describes the circumstances that family members and friends enter following a homicidal death of a loved one, the term co-victims is generally used to describe the level and intensity of their reactions; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2010, an estimated 14,748 people were murdered nationwide, leaving behind countless co-victims to grieve and cope; and

**WHEREAS**, survivors are at risk of developing posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other problems in which extreme anxiety, fear, sadness, nightmares, and/or intrusive thoughts remain constant; additional support and counseling are often very helpful in managing these overwhelming emotions; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the United States Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime, resources are available in most communities to help survivors of homicide cope after the death of a loved one; it can be particularly helpful to contact a victim assistance professional, victim advocate, or support group; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina recognizes the life-changing impact of the trauma, hardship, and loss that result from homicide, and encourages citizens to advocate, raise awareness, and support those in our communities who are survivors of homicide victims;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 20 – December 20, 2017, as “**SURVIVORS OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS AWARENESS MONTH**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh thirteenth day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.