

**Commissioners**  
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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON  
PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Columbia County has declared April as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" and has declared April 27, 2022 as "Denim Day" in Columbia County; and

**WHEREAS**, both events are intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence remains a serious issue in our society; and

**WHEREAS**, harmful attitudes about all forms of sexual violence allow these issues to persist and allow victims/survivors to be re-victimized; and

**WHEREAS**, sexual harassment is part of a continuum of violence whose damaging effects are felt throughout our culture; and

**WHEREAS**, "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" and "Denim Day" were also instituted to call attention to misconceptions and misinformation about sexual violence, and the problem that many in society remain disturbingly uninformed with respect to issues of sexual harassment, assault, abuse, and rape; and

**WHEREAS**, every two minutes, somewhere in America, someone is sexually assaulted, approximately 1-in-5 women are raped during their lifetime and youth under 18 accounts for about 44% of all reported, at least 25% of women experience sexual harassment in the workplace, about 75% of harassment victims experience retaliation when they report it; and

**WHEREAS**, with proper education on the matter and comprehensive prevention projects, sexual violence and its unfair and traumatizing effects are preventable; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Board of Commissioners of Columbia County Oregon strongly support the efforts of SAFE of Columbia County to educate persons in our community about the true impact of sexual harassment, abuse, assault, and rape in Oregon.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Columbia County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims the month of April 2022 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month," and designates April 27, 2022 as "Denim Day," and urges everyone to wear jeans on that day to help communicate the message that there is "no excuse and never an invitation to harass, abuse, assault or rape."

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Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: [Signature]  
Henry Heimuller Chair

By: [Signature]  
Casey Garrett, Commissioner

By: [Signature]  
Margaret Magruder, Commissioner