

**1. Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Denim Day**

Recommendation:

Proclaim April 2025 as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” and April 30, 2025 as “Denim Day” in the City of Vernon in support of the Peace Over Violence sexual violence education campaign.

## **City Council Agenda Report**

Meeting Date: April 1, 2025  
From: Lisette Grizzelle, Interim Director of Human Resources  
Department: Human Resources  
Submitted by: Veronica Avendano, Human Resources Specialist

### **Subject**

Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Denim Day

### **Recommendation**

Proclaim April 2025 as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” and April 30, 2025 as “Denim Day” in the City of Vernon in support of the Peace Over Violence sexual violence education campaign.

### **Background**

The United States Government has declared April as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month”, and local nonprofit organization Peace Over Violence has declared April 30, 2025 “Denim Day” in Los Angeles. The Denim Day campaign protests an Italian Supreme Court decision to overturn a rape conviction because the victim wore jeans. The campaign draws attention to the fact that rape and sexual assault remains a serious issue in our society.

The Denim Day campaign encourages community members, elected officials, businesses, and students to make a social statement with their fashion by wearing jeans on April 30th as a visible means of protest against misconceptions surrounding sexual assault. As in recent years, Peace Over Violence encourages local cities to adopt resolutions in support of this campaign.

### **Fiscal Impact**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

### **Attachments**

1. Proclamation-Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Denim Day



**A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VERNON DECLARING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2025 AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH AND APRIL 30, 2025, AS DENIM DAY**

WHEREAS, April 2025, commemorates 26 years of Denim Day, the longest-running sexual violence prevention education campaign; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Vernon recognizes April 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and April 30, 2025, as Denim Day; and

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Denim Day are intended to draw attention to the fact that rape and sexual assault continue to be serious issues in our society, and both events were instituted to call attention to misconceptions and misinformation about rape and sexual assault, and the problem that many in society remain uninformed with respect to issues of assault and forcible rape; and

WHEREAS, Denim Day originated in 1999 after women in the Italian Parliament protested the Italian Supreme Court's overturning of a rape conviction; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Vernon encourages employees, residents and members of the business community to participate in Sexual Assault Awareness Month in support of this awareness campaign to educate all people in our community about the true impact of rape and sexual assault, and to wear jeans on April 30, 2025, as a visible means of awareness against misconceptions that surround sexual assault.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VERNON, ON BEHALF OF ITS EMPLOYEES, RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES HEREBY DECLARE THE MONTH OF APRIL 2025 AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH, AND APRIL 30, 2025, AS DENIM DAY. THIS PROCLAMATION HAS BEEN CREATED TO BRING AWARENESS TO THIS CAMPAIGN BY THE HONORABLE MAYOR JUDITH MERLO FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VERNON THIS 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF APRIL TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FIVE.



CITY OF VERNON

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
JUDITH MERLO, Mayor