

Proclamation

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH JANUARY 2022

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a form of abuse in which force, fraud or coercision is used to control victims for the purpose of commercial sexual or labor exploitation; that occurs in every industry and affects individuals of all genders, ages and of all backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a lucrative industry and the fastest growing criminal industry in the world; and

WHEREAS, the crime of human trafficking violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security and humanity due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic exploitation, control and/or abuse; and

WHEREAS, the impact of human trafficking is wide-ranging, directly affecting foreign nationals as well as US citizens, and society as a whole; victims experience trauma, violence, manipulation, fraud and coercion at the hands of their traffickers. It is often the most vulnerable members of our communites who are affected by human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, our area is not immune to human trafficking. While underreported, over the last five years the Contra Costa Human Trafficking Coalition and several partner agencies identified and served over 500 victims of human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the County's Alliance to End Abuse acknowledges that fighting exploitation and human trafficking is a shared community responsibility and it is necessary to build collaboration by linking with local, regional and federal agencies; and

WHEEREAS, the City of Pittsburg desires to raise awareness so residents will become more aware, informed and will take action to end human trafficking.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Holland Barrett White, Mayor, on behalf of the entire City Council of the City of Pittsburg, do hereby proclaim January 2022 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

Holland Barrett White, Mayor

ATTEST:

Alice E. Evenson, City Clerk

January 11, 2022