

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our communities and have widespread physical and psychological consequences, such as depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, re-occurring reproductive and sexual health problems; and  
**WHEREAS**, over half of women and almost 1 in 3 men have experienced sexual violence involving physical contact during their lifetime; and  
**WHEREAS**, individuals with disabilities are almost 4 times more likely to be violently victimized, and individuals 65 and older are 7 times more likely to be violently victimized; and  
**WHEREAS**, only 310 out of every 1,000 sexual assaults are reported to law enforcement. That means more than 2 out of 3 go unreported; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Arizona Department of Public Safety indicates 2,899 sexual assaults were reported to law enforcement in 2023; and  
**WHEREAS**, victim service providers, law enforcement agencies, medical providers, and court personnel across Arizona have made significant contributions to support victims and their family members in the healing process; and  
**WHEREAS**, expanding prevention education, increasing awareness, building a strong continuum of victim services, and holding perpetrators accountable contribute to safer communities for all Arizonans.  
**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Katie Hobbs, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as,

## **SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH**

and encourage citizens to join together and raise awareness about sexual assault, provide support for survivors, and strive to achieve a state where sexual assault victims have a clear path to justice and our communities are protected.

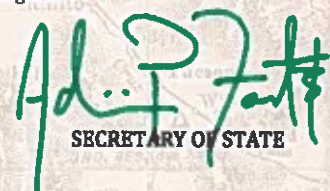
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona



GOVERNOR

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-sixth day of March in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Four and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Eighth.

**ATTEST:**



SECRETARY OF STATE

