



Denis Law Mayor

# Proclamation

*Whereas*, human trafficking occurs when someone uses force, fraud, or coercion to cause another person to engage in forced labor, involuntary servitude, or a commercial sex act; and

*Whereas*, human trafficking is second only to narcotics trafficking in international crime; and

*Whereas*, the International Labor Organization estimates that there are upwards of 20 million victims of modern day slavery worldwide, with children making up 27 percent of the victims; and

*Whereas*, victims of human trafficking may be young, old, male, female, US citizens, or foreign nationals; and

*Whereas*, aggressively identifying and prosecuting the buyers and sellers of trafficking victims is an effective strategy to end the commission of human trafficking; and

*Whereas*, assisting victims of human trafficking requires a coordinated community response among community groups, social services, schools, and law enforcement; and

*Whereas*, Washington State recognizes a National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness, which is designated annually as January 11th;

*Now, therefore*, I, Denis Law, Mayor of the City of Renton, do hereby proclaim January 2019 to be

## *Human Trafficking Awareness Month*

in the City of Renton, and I encourage all citizens to raise awareness about human trafficking and work collaboratively with law enforcement agencies and community organizations to combat this terrible crime.

*In witness whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Renton to be affixed this 7th day of January, 2019.

Denis Law, Mayor  
City of Renton, Washington