



## HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH JANUARY 2020

WHEREAS, human trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of forced labor or sexual servitude; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a 32-billion dollar a year global criminal enterprise and is a crime as well as a civil and human rights violation; and

WHEREAS, the United States government estimates that 600,000 to 800,000 individuals are trafficked across international borders each year and exploited through forced labor and forced commercial sexual activity; and

WHEREAS, the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 criminalized human trafficking at the federal level; and

WHEREAS, West Virginia amended anti-trafficking legislation in 2017, creating a task force against human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, more awareness and education is crucial to eradicating human trafficking in our communities, state and nation; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed on January 10 in municipalities across the country in order to educate the public and raise awareness about human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a crime that impacts West Virginia and Barbour County specifically; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Barbour County Commission does hereby proclaim the month of January 2020 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Barbour County and urges the residents of Barbour County to learn and recognize the signs of Human Trafficking to support efforts and take action to end this form of modern day slavery.

Susie Ovecniko (signature) Jan 6, 2020 (date)