BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

PROCLAMATION

National Missing and Exploited Children's Day, May 25, 2016

WHEREAS, Lewis County 911 Communications is committed to the safety of everyone in Lewis County and especially focused on the safety of children; and

WHEREAS, a new Pew Internet Project report reveals that 93 percent of teens ages 12 to 17 go online. "The unsupervised use of the internet by children poses significant risk. Parents, families and the community need to seek resources and provide children with information to support safe internet use"; and

WHEREAS, the Internet has become a primary tool for sexually exploiting children, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) received Congressional authorization to establish the CyberTipline which provides a centralized mechanism for the public and electronic service providers to report suspected child sexual exploitation which can often involve multiple jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, since launching the CyberTipline in 1998, more than 7.5 million reports of suspected child sexual exploitation have been received. One in 5 endangered runaways reported in 2015 to NCMEC were likely sex trafficking victims; and

WHEREAS, the AMBER alert program was created in 1996 and is operated by the U.S. Department of Justice; as of 2015, 822 children have been successfully recovered as a result of the program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, in partnership with NCMEC and its collaborative organizations, the Lewis County Board of Commissioners proclaims May 25, 2016 as **National Missing & Exploited Children's Day** in Lewis County.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Lewis County urges the participation of local governments, law enforcement and communities in the protection and education about child sexual exploitation and abduction, and in the ways to respond and seek help from law enforcement, social services, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION this 16th day of May, 2016.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

P.W. Schulte, Chair

Gary Stamper, Vice Chair

Edna J. Fund, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Karri Muir, CMC,
Clerk of the Board

SEAL OF LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SINCE 1845
WASHINGTON'S 1st COUNTY