


# PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

## Proclamation No. 17-1179 Recognizing Domestic Violence Awareness Month

**WHEREAS**, October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence has historically been a monumental social problem in the United States in general and the City and County of Denver specifically; and

**WHEREAS**, in the late 1970's and early 1980's community leaders responded by forming organizations including Safehouse, the Colorado Coalition for Justice for Abused Women (which became Project Safeguard), and joined with the Colorado Women's Bar Association, Legal Aid, and AMEND to address injustices perpetrated upon women and family members; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1983 advocates collaborated with government institutions including the Office of the Mayor, the Denver Police Department, the Denver District Attorney's Office, and the Denver City Attorney's Office to create new policies and procedures to improve response to victims and family members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Denver County Court formulated new procedures for handling criminal cases resulting from domestic violence; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1992 created a new civil division dedicated exclusively to the issuance of restraining orders to protect victims of domestic violence, the Denver County Restraining Order Court; and

**WHEREAS**, the Denver County Court Protective Orders Court partnered with the Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center to provide children impacted by domestic violence with a voice in their future; and

**WHEREAS**, the Denver Sheriff's Department provided security in the Protective Order Court; and

**WHEREAS**, Denver formed a Denver Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board to study the intricacies of domestic homicide and make recommendations to prevent future tragedies; and

**WHEREAS**, Denver's civil and criminal practices formed the basis for a new state statute, the Colorado Domestic Violence Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the result of these efforts has been the formation of a statewide Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board and a dramatic decline in domestic homicides in 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the early and long-term partnership between individuals, government agencies, service organizations, advocates, and the court has increased awareness and the efficacy of the community's response to domestic violence.

### **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER**

**Section 1.** The Council of the City and County of Denver recognizes the month of October as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month."

**Section 2.** Commends the individuals, organizations, agencies and courts for working together to develop a community response to domestic violence.

**Section 3.** The Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Brian Campbell and the organizers of Domestic Violence Awareness Month Commemoration which will be held on October 27.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL October 23, 2017



PRESIDENT