

Proclamation

WHEREAS, on average, 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner in the United States which totals 12 million women and men over the course of a year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year; and

WHEREAS, when a family member is abused, it can have long-term damaging effects on the victim that also leave a mark on family, friends, and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, the problem of domestic violence is not confined to any group or groups of people, but crosses all economic, racial, gender, educational, religious, and societal barriers, and are sustained by societal indifference; and

WHEREAS, the crimes of domestic violence violate an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control and/or abuse; and

WHEREAS, victims should have help to find the compassion, comfort, and healing they need, and abusers should be punished to the full extent of the law; and

WHEREAS, we encourage domestic violence victims and their families to seek assistance from appropriate victims' services organizations such as Child Inc.'s Domestic Violence programs, Delaware Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence, YWCA Sexual Assault Response Center, and state and local victim services advocates; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the compassion and dedication of the individuals who provide services to victims of domestic violence and work to increase public understanding of this significant problem; and

WHEREAS, local programs, state coalitions, national organizations, and other agencies nationwide are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic violence and its prevalence, as well as services available to victims.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Ralph Hellmich, Mayor of the City of Foley, Alabama, do hereby proclaim the month of October as **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH** in the City of Foley and urge everyone in the City to take time to acknowledge the lasting impacts and the staggering numbers of families affected by domestic violence.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Foley, Alabama, this 18th day of October, 2021.

ATTEST: _____