



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** THE CRIME OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VIOLATES AN INDIVIDUAL'S PRIVACY, DIGNITY, SECURITY, AND HUMANITY DUE TO SYSTEMATIC USE OF PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, SEXUAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND ECONOMIC CONTROL AND/OR ABUSE; AND,
- WHEREAS,** THE PROBLEMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ARE NOT CONFINED TO ANY GROUP OR GROUPS OF PEOPLE, BUT CROSS ALL RACIAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIETAL BARRIERS AND ARE SUPPORTED BY SOCIETAL INDIFFERENCE; AND,
- WHEREAS,** THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE STATISTICS REPORTS THAT IN THE UNITED STATES, A WOMAN IS BATTERED EVERY 15 SECONDS; AND, IN IOWA, WOMEN HAVE BEEN AND CONTINUE TO BE THE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THEIR OWN HOMES; AND,
- WHEREAS,** THE IMPACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS WIDE-RANGING, DIRECTLY AFFECTING WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND SOCIETY AS A WHOLE, AND DEMANDS A STRONG COMMUNITY COORDINATED RESPONSE; AND,
- WHEREAS,** IT IS BATTERED WOMEN THEMSELVES, WHO HAVE BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT OF EFFORTS TO MAKE THE NATION AWARE OF THE DEVASTATION OF DOMESTIC ABUSE TO THE LIVES OF THE VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, T. M. FRANKLIN COWNIE, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 2008, AS:

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

IN DES MOINES, AND URGE OUR CITIZENS TO ACTIVELY SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHEDULED EVENTS AND ON-GOING PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO REDUCE AND EVENTUALLY ELIMINATE PERSONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA TO BE AFFIXED THIS TWENTY-SECOND DAY OF SEPTEMBER, TWO THOUSAND EIGHT.

T. M. FRANKLIN COWNIE, MAYOR
CITY OF DES MOINES

