

City of Manhattan Beach, California

Proclamation


DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH OCTOBER 2006

- WHEREAS,** October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and domestic violence causes more injuries to women between the ages of 15 and 44 in the United States than car accidents, muggings and rapes combined. Assault by a family member is more than twice as likely to cause injury as an assault by a stranger; and
- WHEREAS,** approximately 7% of American women who are married or living with a domestic partner were physically abused, and 37% were verbally, financially or emotionally abused by their spouse or partner; and
- WHEREAS,** intimate partner violence predominantly affects women. Violence by an intimate partner accounts for about 21% of the violent crimes experienced by women in the United States, and only 2% of the violence sustained by men; and
- WHEREAS,** domestic violence is the cause of more visits to the emergency room by women than any other cause of injury. It is estimated that as much as 30% of women treated in emergency rooms are there because of physical abuse by a current or former partner; and
- WHEREAS,** in a national survey of over 6,000 American families, 50% of the men who frequently assaulted their wives, also frequently abused their children; and
- WHEREAS,** pregnancy is a risk factor for physical abuse. One of four pregnant women reported a history of partnership violence. Abused women have a high rate of miscarriage, still birth, premature labor, low birth weight babies and fetal injury; and
- WHEREAS,** although divorced and separated women comprise of only 7% of the population in the United States, they account for 75% of all battered women and report being assaulted 14 times more often than women still living with a partner; and
- WHEREAS,** since many women do not report that they have been abused, numbers are only estimates. The Bureau of Justice Statistics reports that only about half of the intimate violence incidents experienced by women are reported to the police. The most common reasons for not reporting were that the victim considered the incident a personal matter, feared retaliation, or thought the authorities would be unable to do anything about the incident.

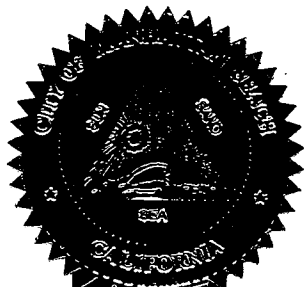
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Mitch Ward, Mayor of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, on behalf of the City Council and the residents, do hereby proclaim the month of October, 2006 as

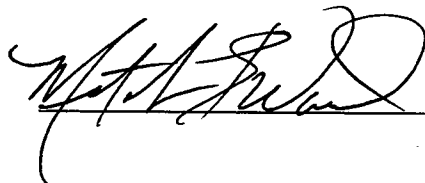
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

DATED: this 3rd day of October, 2006.



City Clerk (Acting)





Mayor