

National Stalking Awareness Month Proclamation
January 2017

Whereas, under the laws of all fifty states, the U.S. Territories, the District of Columbia, and federal government, stalking is a crime;

Whereas, 7.5 million people were stalked in one year in the United States, and the majority of victims are stalked by someone they know;

Whereas, 3 in 4 women killed by an intimate partner had been stalked by that intimate partner;

Whereas, many stalking victims lose time from work and experience serious psychological distress and lost productivity at a much higher rate than the general population;

Whereas, many stalking victims are forced to protect themselves by relocating, changing their identities, changing jobs, and obtaining protection orders;

Whereas, many stalkers use technology—such as cell phones, global positioning systems (GPS), cameras, and spyware—to monitor and track their victims;

Whereas, there is a need for great public awareness about the nature, criminality, and potential lethality of stalking;

Whereas, criminal justice systems can enhance their responses to stalking by regular training of law enforcement officers and aggressive investigation and prosecution of the crime;

Whereas, laws and public policies must be continually adapted to keep pace with new tactics used by stalkers;

Whereas, communities can better combat stalking by adopting multidisciplinary responses by teams of local agencies and organizations and by providing more and better victim services; and

Whereas, [Your organization] is joining forces with victim service providers, criminal justice officials, and concerned citizens throughout [Your City/County/Parish/State/Tribe] and the United States to observe National Stalking Awareness Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, _____, as [Governor/County Executive/Mayor, etc.] of _____, do hereby proclaim January 2017 as

STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

in _____ [Your City/County/Parish/State/Tribe] and applaud the efforts of the many victim service providers, police officers, prosecutors, national and community organizations, and private sector supporters for their efforts in promoting awareness about stalking.

_____ (signature)

_____ (date)