

RESOLUTION NO. 21-385
A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2021 AS "NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH" IN ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA


WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of St. Lucie County, Florida, has made the following determinations:

- 1 Domestic violence transcends all ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic boundaries. Its perpetrators abuse their victims physically, mentally, emotionally, and economically and the effects of their attacks are far reaching, weakening the very core of our County.
- 2 Domestic violence is particularly devastating because it so often occurs in the privacy of the home, a place meant to represent shelter and security.
- 3 During the month of October, Americans should contemplate the scars that domestic violence leaves on our society and what each of us can do to prevent it.
- 4 Because domestic violence usually takes place in private, many Americans may not realize how widespread it is right here in our own County. The cost of domestic violence to St. Lucie County has been estimated at over \$30 million per year. More than 50% of the survivors served annually by SafeSpace are St. Lucie County residents.
- 5 Each year in the United States, more than 10 million women and men experience physical abuse by their intimate partners. Many of these victims experience repeated abuse over the course of a year. As unsettling as these statistics are, it is also disturbing to realize that 90% of domestic violence victims' children are eyewitnesses to these attacks, and that domestic violence may be the single major precursor to fatalities from child abuse and neglect in the US.
- 6 Our prosecutors, law enforcement officers and victim advocates have worked together with SafeSpace to reduce domestic violence in our County and assist victims and their families.
- 7 Through education, awareness, and enforcement, we are striving to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault. Public action awareness will create a society that promotes strong values, fosters a safe and loving home environment for every family and refuses to tolerate domestic violence in any form.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Lucie County, Florida that this Board does hereby proclaim the month of October 2021 as "**NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**" in St. Lucie County, Florida. This Board urges all citizens to actively participate in the scheduled activities and programs sponsored by SafeSpace, Inc. to work toward the elimination of personal and institutional violence against adults and children.

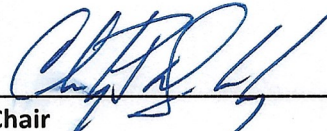
PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 5TH day of October 2021.

ATTEST:


Deputy Clerk



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: 
Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:

BY: 
County Attorney