

**Before the Board of County Commissioners
Martin County, Florida**

A Proclamation

**Recognizing the Month of October 2021 as Domestic Violence
Awareness Month in Martin County, Florida**

Whereas, 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; and

Whereas, domestic violence is particularly devastating because it so often occurs in the privacy of the home, a place meant to represent shelter and security. For this reason, Americans may not realize how widespread it is right here in our own county. The cost of domestic violence to Martin County has been estimated at over \$14.6 million per year; and

Whereas, 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; and

Whereas, each year in the United States, more than 10 million women and men experience physical abuse by their intimate partners, with many experiencing repeat abuse over the course of a year. 90% of children of domestic violence victims are eyewitnesses to these attacks, which may be a major precursor to fatalities from child abuse and neglect in the U.S.; and

Whereas, our prosecutors, law enforcement officers and victim advocates have worked together with SafeSpace to provide awareness and education, reduce domestic violence in our county and assist victims and their families. Public action awareness creates a society that promotes strong values, fosters a safe and loving home environment for every family and a society that refuses to tolerate domestic violence in any form.

Now, therefore, be it proclaimed by the Martin County Board of County Commissioners that the month of October 2021 is recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Martin County, Florida. The Board also urges all citizens to actively participate in the scheduled activities and programs sponsored by SafeSpace, Inc. and work towards the elimination of personal and institutional violence against adults and children.

Presented this Nineteenth Day of October 2021

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

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