

1 [Domestic Violence Awareness Month - October 2014]

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3 **Resolution declaring October 2014 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City**
4 **and County of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, For far too long domestic violence was ignored or treated as a private
7 matter where victims suffered in silence without hope of intervention; and

8 WHEREAS, In spite of charters, conventions, and other governmental declarations,
9 globally one billion women – one of every three women – will be raped or beaten in her
10 lifetime and one billion mothers, daughters, sisters, partners, and friends will be violated; and

11 WHEREAS, Fifty percent of the men who have frequently assaulted their partners are
12 reported to also frequently abuse their children; and

13 WHEREAS, While domestic violence is generally thought to be physical, it can also
14 take an emotional, psychological, or sexual form, in which one person in a relationship will use
15 a pattern of behavior to control the other person, and many victims will not immediately
16 consider this to be “abuse;” and

17 WHEREAS, Although women are much more likely to be victims of domestic violence,
18 men account for fifteen percent of victims, and therefore any person can be a victim; and

19 WHEREAS, Children in homes affected by domestic violence are more likely to be
20 abused or neglected, and even without being directly abused, children can often experience
21 emotional or behavioral damage; and

22 WHEREAS, The health-related costs of dealing with rape, physical assault, stalking,
23 and homicide committed by domestic partners exceed \$5,800,000,000 dollars each year; and

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1 WHEREAS, There has been significant progress made in changing laws, providing
2 support to survivors, and reducing the incidence of domestic violence, but we have not come
3 far enough, and there is more work left to be done; and

4 WHEREAS, San Francisco has a strong commitment to ensure human rights and
5 equality for all of its residents through its City Charter in providing for such policies through the
6 Human Rights Commission and the Commission on the Status of Women; now, therefore, be
7 it

8 RESOLVED, That, in solidarity, San Francisco City Hall's family joins San Franciscans,
9 our Bay Area neighbors, and world leaders and grassroots activists – women, men, girls, and
10 boys – to rise against violence and join the global call to action against domestic violence;
11 and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors stands with all
13 those who have been affected by this crime, recognizes those individuals and groups who
14 have stepped forward to break the cycle of violence, and recommits to putting an end to
15 domestic violence in America; and, be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this month, as we renew our efforts to support victims of
17 domestic violence in their time of greatest need, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors does
18 hereby declare October 2014 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City and County
19 of San Francisco.

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