

1 [Domestic Violence Awareness Month - October 2012]

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Resolution ratifying that the Board of Supervisors declares the month of October 2012 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City and County of San Francisco.

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WHEREAS, In 1981, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, in an effort to connect battered women’s advocates across the nation, organized a week of a series of activities conducted at the local, State and federal levels. So as to mourn those who had died because of domestic violence, to celebrate those who had survived and to connect those who continually work to end violence; and,

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WHEREAS, As a result if these efforts, in October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed, followed by the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month Commemorative Legislation, which was passed by the U.S. Congress; and,

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WHEREAS, Domestic violence is a crime and does not discriminate, crossing all ethnic, racial, political, class and gender lines; and,

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WHEREAS, Domestic violence involves the systematic use of force, threats and intimidation to establish and maintain control of the victim; and,

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WHEREAS, Each year domestic violence and organizations and their allies sponsor activities to raise awareness about domestic violence and abuse at the national level; and,

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WHEREAS, 15.5 million children in the United States live in families in which domestic violence occurred at least once in the past year, and seven million children live in families in which severe domestic violence occurred; and,

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WHEREAS, Children of mothers who are victims of domestic violence are six times more likely than other children to die before the age of five; and,

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1 WHEREAS, Only approximately one-quarter of all physical assaults, one-fifth of all
2 rapes, and one-half of all stalking incidents perpetrated against women by intimate partners
3 are reported to the police; and,

4 WHEREAS, It is know that over one-third of women in the United States are killed by
5 their current or former partners; and

6 WHEREAS, Each year, over eight million children witness violence between their
7 parents and later these children are at a 40% greater risk than those from non-violent homes
8 to develop emotional and behavior problems; and

9 WHEREAS, Research indicates that partner violence is highly correlated with parental
10 violence upon children. Those children who have been subjected to parental abuse, or who
11 have been witness to assaults between their parents, may experience the following symptoms:
12 Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, low self-esteem, anxiety, depression, attention and cognitive
13 deficits, school problems, poor peer relations and delinquent behavior as adolescents; now,
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
16 does hereby ratify the month of October 2012 as “Domestic Violence Awareness Month” in
17 the City and County of San Francisco.

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