

1 [Domestic Violence Awareness Month - October]

2

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

5

6 WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month was launched nationwide in October
7 of 1987 as a way for individuals and organizations to raise awareness for issues relating to
8 domestic violence; and

9 WHEREAS, Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery,
10 sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and
11 control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another; it includes physical violence,
12 sexual violence, threats, economic, and emotional/psychological abuse; and

13 WHEREAS, Domestic violence can happen to anyone, regardless of age, gender,
14 sexual orientation, race, socioeconomic status, religion, or nationality; and

15 WHEREAS, In the United States, over 10 million adults experience domestic violence
16 annually; and

17 WHEREAS, One in four women and one in 10 men will experience domestic violence
18 during their lifetime; and

19 WHEREAS, Nationwide, on average per day, there are more than 20,000 calls placed
20 to domestic violence hotlines; and

21 WHEREAS, Social isolation, financial hardships, and general uncertainty related to
22 COVID-19 has created a 'Shadow Pandemic' with rates of domestic violence intensifying
23 worldwide; and

24 WHEREAS, Over the last 18 months, gun sales surged across the United States as
25 rates of domestic violence incidents also dramatically increased; and

1 WHEREAS, The presence of a gun in domestic violence situations increases the risk of
2 homicide for women by 500%; and

3 WHEREAS, Every 16 hours, a woman is shot and killed by a spouse or intimate
4 partner in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, Most female victims of domestic violence were previously victimized by the
6 same offender; and

7 WHEREAS, The Family Violence Council found that in fiscal year 2020, 7,241
8 domestic violence related 911 calls were made and 3,379 incidents were responded to by the
9 police; and

10 WHEREAS, Of those incidents, Black/African American and Latinx communities were
11 overrepresented with a share of 29% and 27% of the incidents respectively; and

12 WHEREAS, Female victims made up 70% of police incidents and victims between the
13 ages of 18 and 39 represented 54% of police incidents; and

14 WHEREAS, In fiscal year 2020, 79% of survivors of family violence who sought shelter
15 in San Francisco were turned away; and

16 WHEREAS, Domestic violence continues to be a pervasive public health issue that has
17 only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That, in solidarity, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors joins local
19 residents, our Bay Area neighbors, world leaders and grassroots activists in the global call to
20 action against domestic violence; and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors stands with all
22 those who have been affected by domestic violence, recognizes those individuals and groups
23 who have stepped forward to break the cycle of violence, and recommits to cultivating an
24 environment that refuses to accept incidents of abuse as the norm; and, be it

25 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors does

1 hereby declare every October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City and County
2 of San Francisco and each year will renew efforts to support victims of domestic violence in
3 their time of greatest need.

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25