

WHEREAS, domestic/intimate partner violence effects numerous individuals regardless of age, ability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious belief, socio-economic status, and/or race; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence and intimate partner violence can have life-long consequences emotionally, mentally, socially, spiritually and physically; violence harms the core of the human spirit and jeopardizes the future well-being of our communities; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 there were 106,736 reported domestic violence offenses in the state of Florida. In 2020 there was a 30.9% increase of reported cases relating to domestic violence aggravated stalking, and a 116.9% increase of reported cases relating to domestic violence simple stalking in the state of Florida; and

WHEREAS; we share a moral duty to identify, address, and stop intimate partner violence; and

WHEREAS, National Domestic Violence Awareness Month brings attention to the significant impact this crime has on everyone; and

WHEREAS, we encourage domestic violence victims and survivors to seek assistance from appropriate victim service organizations such as Margate Police Department's Victim Services Unit, Women in Distress of Broward County, and the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Arlene R. Schwartz, Mayor of the City of Margate, hereby recognize October 2021, as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

In the City of Margate and urge all to respond to and work toward ending domestic violence by supporting their communities' efforts to empower and assist victims in finding and accessing the resources they need, and by promoting awareness and prevention of domestic violence in our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Margate to be affixed this 1st day of October 2021.

ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ, MAYOR