

Proclamation

Domestic Violence Awareness Month October 2016

WHEREAS, home should be a place of warmth, unconditional love, tranquillity, and security; however, for many families, home is tainted with violence and fear; and

WHEREAS, over the past two decades, rates of domestic violence against females have dropped by nearly three-quarters -- but there is still much work to do to build on the progress we have made. Nearly 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have suffered from domestic violence by an intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence is an epidemic within our communities, crossing all social racial ethnic, cultural and economic boundaries; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence not only affects those who are abused, but also has a substantial effect on family members, friends, co-workers, other witnesses, and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, this violence is deep-rooted in family dynamics and has long term damaging effects on victims that often lead to depression, death or suicide; and

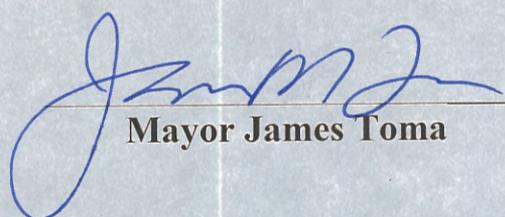
WHEREAS, only through increasing public awareness and resolve will we break this cycle of violence within families and communities through our nation; and

WHEREAS, a coalition of organizations has emerged to confront directly this crisis: law enforcement agencies, domestic violence hotlines, battered women and children's shelters, health care providers, churches and the volunteers that serve those entities are helping the effort to end domestic violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James Toma, Mayor of the City of West Covina, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of October, 2016, as "*Domestic Violence Awareness Month*" in the City of West Covina and call all citizens to become more aware of domestic violence and support those who are working towards its end.

On this 18th day of October, 2016




Mayor James Toma