



# *PROCLAMATION*

WHEREAS, Alaska continues to strive to overcome the high rate of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, all people have the right to live with respect and dignity and free from fear; and

WHEREAS, the most vulnerable group of Alaskans, our children, are burdened with the longest healing and toughest obstacles to recovery; and

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity, due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control or abuse; and

WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide ranging, directly affecting women and children and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, all citizens should be aware of the impact of abusive words, angry confrontations, sexual harassment, physical assaults, sexual assaults, bullying behavior and we should commit to promote a safe respectful climate for all citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ruth E. Knight, Mayor of the City of Valdez, hereby proclaim the month of October to be "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH" in Valdez and call upon all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, and businesses to promote active non-violence and to increase participation in our efforts to prevent domestic violence.

DATED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016.

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

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Ruth E. Knight, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk