

PROCLAMATION

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in just one day, across the U.S and its territories, nearly 75,000 victims of domestic violence sought services from domestic violence programs and shelters; and

WHEREAS, approximately 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year; and

WHEREAS, when a family member is abused, it can have long-term damaging effects on the victim that also leave a mark on family, friends, and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, the problems of sexual and domestic violence are not confined to any group or groups of people, but crosses all economic, racial, gender, educational, religious, and societal barriers, and are sustained by societal indifference; and

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

WHEREAS, a great deal of domestic violence incidents go unreported by survivors who experience fear of repercussions, threats of future violence, denial, guilt, shame, feelings of worthlessness, and/or fear of negative responses; and

WHEREAS, victims of violence should have access to medical and legal services, counseling, emergency and transitional housing, and other supportive services so that they can safely escape the cycle of abuse; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bragg joins others across the nation in supporting victims of domestic violence, as well as local programs, state collation, and national organizations that are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic violence and sending a clear message that domestic violence is not tolerated; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence impacts millions of people each year, but can be prevented. Preventing domestic violence requires the collective voice and power of individuals, families, institutions, and systems--each that add a valuable voice for transforming our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William V. Lee, Mayor of the City of Fort Bragg, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2019, as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and urge all citizens to actively support work towards the elimination of domestic violence in our community.

SIGNED this 15th day of October, 2019

WILLIAM V. LEE, Mayor

ATTEST:

June Lemos, CMC, City Clerk