



## Legislation Text

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**TO:** Mayor Bien-Willner and Town Council Members

**FROM:** Jill Keimach, Town Manager  
Peter Wingert, Chief of Police

**DATE:** September 26, 2019

**DEPARTMENT:** Police Department

**AGENDA TITLE:**

**Proclaim October 2019 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.**

Domestic Violence Awareness Month brings a spotlight to a topic which is generally not discussed. Studies estimate that only half of incidents are reported. Bringing social awareness to the topic provides conversation, which supports the victim and can increase the reporting to law enforcement.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Proclaim October 2019 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

First observed in October 1987, Domestic Violence Awareness Month is focused on three key themes:

- Mourning those who have died because of domestic violence
- Celebrating those who have survived
- Connecting those who work to end violence

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the "Day of Unity" held in October 1981, conceived of by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence to connect advocates across the country. The Day of Unity is still celebrated on the first Monday of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

-Adapted from the *1996 Domestic Violence Awareness Month Resource Manual* of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

There is no budgetary impact to proclaiming October 2019 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

Proclamation Domestic Violence Awareness Month