

Mayor Nancy Smith

In the City of Maricopa, Arizona, in recognition of the critical work being done by domestic violence Advocates and allies in service of the victims and survivors they serve, I encourage all citizens to actively observe this month by becoming aware of domestic violence's impact. We celebrate the survivors, remember those we've lost and support our community partners who are working towards the eradication of domestic violence.

Whereas, more than 20,000 calls are placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide EVERY day; and

Whereas, between July 2021 thru June 2022, four local agencies (Against Abuse, Inc., Hope Women's Center, DOVES Network and MPD Victim Services Unit) served approximately 2000 individuals impacted by domestic violence. In addition, Face of a Survivor provided resources for 1200 individuals and 360 families; and

Whereas, home should be a place of warmth, unconditional love, tranquility, and security – gifts to be counted among our greatest blessings. Tragically for many Americans, these are blessings that are often tarnished by violence and fear; and

Whereas, women, men, young children and the elderly are all counted among the victims of domestic violence – too often resulting in physical injury and death. Emotional scars are often permanent as well; and

Whereas, we must recognize the compassion and dedication of volunteers and professionals, applaud their efforts, and increase public understanding of this important – and often hidden – problem of domestic violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nancy Smith, Mayor of the City of Maricopa, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2022 as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** in the City of Maricopa and once again urge all citizens to observe this month by becoming aware of the tragedy of domestic violence and support community efforts in working toward its end.

Dated this 18th day of October, 2022

Nancy Smith, Mayor