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Approved as to Form and Legality

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City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER KALB & PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2015 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF OAKLAND

WHEREAS, the City Council of Oakland, California seeks to enhance public welfare and promote justice for all citizens by declaring that the protection against domestic violence is a fundamental human right; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a global problem, with millions of annual incidents in the United States alone; and

WHEREAS, survivors of domestic violence must deal with the effects of physical injuries, long-term psychological damage, financial instability, difficulty securing employment, and trouble finding safe housing; and

WHEREAS, in many cases, traumatized children are the silent victims in homes where domestic violence occurs and this trauma has detrimental impacts upon a child's cognitive and emotional development, significantly increasing an exposed child's risk for behavioral problems during their childhood as well as the potential for becoming an abuser or engaging in criminal violence as an adult; and

WHEREAS, the Domestic Violence Unit of the Oakland Police Department (OPD) is one of the highest volume investigative units within OPD's Criminal Investigation Division, receiving nearly 500-600 reports per month (as of 2013); and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland received 8,015 reports of domestic violence offenses in 2012 resulting in 663 charges; and

WHEREAS, according to a June 2013 OPD report, 700 more cases of domestic violence were reported in 2012 than in 2009 in the City of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence can escalate to loss of life, as 26 homicides from 2008-2012 were attributed to domestic violence issues; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence programs in the City of Oakland, including some Oakland Unite programs, provide vital services to families, including crisis hotlines, emergency shelter, support programs for children and teenagers, public education, intervention and legal advocacy; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Family Justice Center works collaboratively with the Oakland Police Department to coordinate efforts for victims, ensure appropriate case management, and share best practices, including direct training of OPD officers; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: by the Oakland City Council that

1. The City of Oakland recognizes October 2015 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month;
2. The City Council encourages community members to learn about the resources available for victims of domestic violence and help hotlines where victims or witnesses of domestic violence can report such crimes;
3. The City Council acknowledges (1) The 2015 National Conference on Domestic Violence, Mental Health and Trauma, sponsored by A Safe Place, The Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community and other partners, occurring on October 23, 2015, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm at The California Endowment, 1111 Broadway, 7th Floor, Oakland, California and (2) the Alameda County District Attorney's Office's and the Alameda County Family Justice Center's commemoration of Domestic Violence Awareness Month with A Day of Remembrance on October 30, 2015 beginning at 11:30 am (formal program from 12:15 pm to 1:15 pm) at the Alameda County Administration Building Plaza, 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, California;
4. A copy of this Resolution will be sent to Highland Hospital and the Board of Trustees of the Alameda Health System, the Alameda County District Attorney and the Attorney General for the State of California.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, AND
PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of
the City of Oakland, California