

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, dating violence is a reality for many young people and an issue that many may be unaware of; and,

WHEREAS, one in three young people are affected by physical, sexual or verbal dating violence with one in five who are in a serious relationship reporting having been assaulted, threatened or coerced by a partner; and,

WHEREAS, young people can make better decisions when they understand that healthy relationships are based on respect and when they learn to identify early warning signs of an abusive relationship; and,

WHEREAS, elimination of dating violence must be achieved through the cooperative efforts of individuals, organizations and communities; and,

WHEREAS, Dating Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing dating violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Karen Rose Messerli, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Lee's Summit, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2010 as

DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

to increase local awareness of dating violence and encourage the youth in our community to identify and proactively end abusive relationships.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri, this *23rd* day of February, 2010.



Karen Rose Messerli
MAYOR KAREN ROSE MESSERLI