

City of Albany

Proclamation

IN RECOGNITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH
October 2026

WHEREAS, home should be a place of warmth, unconditional love, safety, and peace;
and

WHEREAS, domestic violence touches the lives of people of all ages, leaving a devastating impact on women, men, and children of every background and circumstance; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence remains a major public health, social justice, and human rights issue, and preventing violence requires the participation and engagement of people of all genders; and

WHEREAS, freedom from domestic violence is a fundamental human right; and

WHEREAS, survivors of domestic violence may face physical injuries, long-term psychological harm, financial instability, and difficulty finding safe and stable housing; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence can take many forms, including physical, sexual, emotional, and psychological abuse, stalking, and coercive control, and may not always be recognizable to members of the community; and

WHEREAS, intimate partner violence is a leading cause of injury among women and can result in serious and lasting physical and emotional harm; and

WHEREAS, sexual violence also disproportionately affects women, and survivors are often harmed by someone they know, including an intimate partner, acquaintance, friend, coworker, or family member; and

WHEREAS, millions of children are exposed to domestic violence each year, which can have long-lasting effects on their emotional well-being and social and academic functioning; and

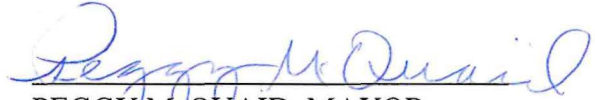
WHEREAS, the presence of a firearm in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide, making access to safety and effective intervention especially critical; and

WHEREAS, people experiencing domestic violence who face threats related to their immigration status may be afraid to report abuse due to fears of detention, deportation, or other consequences; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an opportunity to increase public understanding, support survivors, recognize the signs of abuse, promote prevention, and strengthen the community response to domestic violence; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Albany City Council does hereby proclaim **October 2026 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month** and encourages all members of our community to work together to promote safe, healthy, and respectful relationships and to support those affected by domestic violence.

DATED: October 5, 2026



PEGGY McQUAID, MAYOR

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