

LA SALLE COUNTY Office of The County Judge

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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, income levels, and sexes;

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity, due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control or abuse;

WHEREAS, in our country, more than three women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends every day, and approximately 1 million incidents of domestic violence are reported in the United States in 1998;

WHEREAS, children who grow up in violent homes are believed to be abused and neglected at a rate higher than the national average;

WHEREAS, domestic violence costs the nation billions of dollars annually in medical expenses, police and court costs, shelters and foster care, sick leave, absenteeism, and non-productivity;

WHEREAS, only a coordinated community effort will put a stop to this heinous crime;

NOW THEREFORE, I do hereby proclaim the month of October to be National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urge all citizens to participate actively in the scheduled events and programs to eliminate the use of personal and institutional violence against women.

Jimmy P. Patterson

La Salle County Judge