

# STATE OF ALASKA



## *Executive Proclamation* by *Governor Sean Parnell*

WHEREAS, Alaska has faced an epidemic of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the health and safety of Alaskan families is crucial to securing the future of our state; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence violates an individual's dignity, destroys the safety of our homes, and corrodes the fibers of our communities. It can include physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control and/or abuse, affecting thousands of Alaskans every year of every ethnic and cultural background, economic status, level of education, family structure, religion, and age; and

WHEREAS, everyone has the right to feel safe in their home; and

WHEREAS, too often, the victims of domestic violence are children who can have lifelong repercussions from the emotional or physical trauma of experiencing or witnessing domestic violence. Children exposed to domestic violence in their homes are at a greater risk of being in abusive relationships as adults; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial that we stop turning our heads from domestic violence in our communities, start an honest and open dialogue, and remove the stigma of shame for victims; and

WHEREAS, through tough laws, the expansion of victim and survivor services and support, and the commitment of all Alaskans not to tolerate domestic violence in our homes or communities, we can end this epidemic in our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sean Parnell, Governor of the State of Alaska, do hereby proclaim October 2010 as:

### *Domestic Violence Awareness Month*

in Alaska, and ask all citizens to stand together against domestic violence in our state, offer support and understanding to survivors, take action to end the cycle of domestic violence in our communities, and choose respect.

Dated: September 30, 2010



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sean Parnell".

*Sean Parnell, Governor*  
*who has also authorized the*  
*seal of the State of Alaska to*  
*be affixed to this proclamation.*