

PROCLAMATION

City of Punta Gorda, Florida

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

WHEREAS, domestic violence is widespread and affects over 4 million Americans each year; and

WHEREAS, one in three Americans have witnessed an incident of domestic violence; and

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

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

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, The City Council of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida does hereby proclaim the month of October, 2010 as

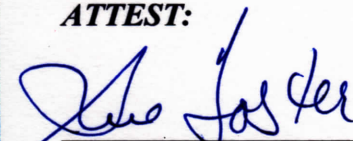
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

and urges our citizens to work together to eliminate domestic violence from our community.

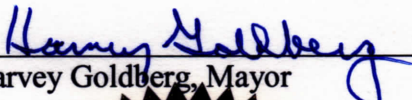
PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 10th day of August, 2010.

CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA

ATTEST:



Sue Foster, City Clerk


Harvey Goldberg, Mayor

