The City of West Palm Beach PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the social blight of domestic violence has continued to burden America into the 21st Century spilling over into schools and places of work and it affects people from every walk of life, and though abuse may occur in the seclusion of a private residence, its effects scar the face of our nation; and

WHEREAS, our homes should be places of safety and comfort, and, tragically, domestic violence can and does turn many homes into places of torment and the grim facts speak for themselves as almost one-third of American women murdered each year are killed by their current or former partners, and approximately 1 million women annually report being stalked, and many children suffer or witness abuse in their homes which can sadly spawn legacies of violence in families across America; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, we have strict laws intended to hold domestic abusers accountable for their conduct by bringing them to justice, but laws alone are not enough and a comprehensive, coordinated approach must shape our strategy to reduce domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, as a Nation, we must prioritize addressing the problem of domestic violence in our communities every day of the year and National Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides us with a special opportunity to emphasize that domestic violence is a crime, to warn abusers that they will be prosecuted, and work to eliminate this scourge from our land; and

WHEREAS in the effort to eradicate domestic violence this must be echoed by officials from every segment of the criminal justice system, Federal, State, and Local, and community leaders, health care professionals, teachers, employers, friends and neighbors all who play an important role in this task of assisting those who suffer from it.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Lois J. Frankel, Mayor of the City of West Palm Beach, do hereby proclaim the month of October, 2010 as:

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Calm Beach, Florida to be affixed this 1st day of October 2010.

Lois J. Frankel Mayor