

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation

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

Whereas, the problems of domestic violence are not confined to any group or groups of people, but cut across all economic, racial and societal barriers, and are supported by societal indifferences; and

Whereas, the impact of domestic violence is wide ranging, directly effecting individuals and society as a whole, throughout the United States and the world, throughout Wyoming, and here in Pinedale; and

Whereas, victims of domestic violence *have* and *deserve* federal and state rights to information, notification, protection, restitution, child support, participation in criminal justice proceedings, and referrals to supportive services; and

Whereas, a coalition of organizations has emerged to directly confront this crisis. Law enforcement officials, those involved with shelters and hotline services, health care providers, the clergy and other concerned citizens are helping in the effort to end domestic violence; and

Whereas, we must recognize the compassion and dedication of these volunteers and professionals, applaud their efforts, and work with them as partners to increase public understanding of this critical problem; and

Whereas, by observing Domestic Violence Awareness Month during October of each year, we show our ongoing commitment to and support for victims of domestic violence, and reaffirm Pinedale's commitment to end domestic violence against women, men and children;

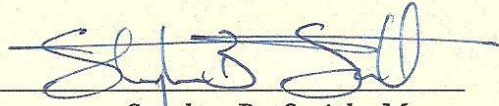
Therefore be it known, the Town of Pinedale expresses its commitment to eliminating domestic violence from society by acknowledging that we each have a part in ending violence in our homes, work and community, and by designating the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in perpetuity.

For these significant reasons, I, Stephen B. Smith, Mayor of the Town of Pinedale, WY, do hereby proclaim the month of October as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

And I urge all residents of Pinedale to recognize domestic violence as a critical issue and to remember that domestic violence is everyone's business. To learn more about ending domestic violence and to find out how you can be part of the solution, contact the Sublette County Sexual Assault/Family Violence (SAFV) Task Force at 307-367-6305 or 307-276-3975.




Stephen B. Smith, Mayor