The City of West Palm Beach PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, dating violence is a reality for many young people, and an issue that many are unaware of; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 3 young people are affected by physical, sexual, or verbal dating violence, with 1 in 5 in a serious relationship reporting having been slapped, pushed, hit, threaten or coerced by a partner, and breakups can be a time of even greater risk even when a relationship was never physically abusive; and

WHEREAS, young people can choose better relationships when they understand that healthy relationships are based on respect and learn to identify early warning signs of an abusive relationship; and

WHEREAS, elimination of dating violence must be achieved through cooperation of individuals, organizations, and communities; and

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

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

DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Lois J. Frankel Mayor