CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES Proclamation

WHEREAS, Dating violence is a reality for many New Mexican youth, 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 9 in a serious relationship reporting having been slapped, pushed, hit, threatened 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, communities, and city; and,

WHEREAS, Teen dating violence is considered a serious public health issue, placing teen victims as a great risk for violence; 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, Lori S. Montgomery, Mayor of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, do hereby proclaim February 2010 as:

"Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month"

in the City of Truth or Consequences.

ATTEST:

Mary B Penner, City Clerk

Lori S. Montgomery, Mayor