

NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

National Stalking Awareness Month January 2015

Whereas, under the laws of all fifty states, the District of Columbia, and federal government, stalking is a crime;

Whereas, 3.4 million people over the age of 18 are stalked each year in the United States, and nearly 75% of victims are stalked by someone they know;

Whereas, 3 in 4 women killed by an intimate partner had been stalked by that intimate partner;

Whereas, many stalking victims are forced to protect themselves by relocating, changing their identities, changing jobs, and obtaining protection orders;

Whereas, many stalkers use increasingly sophisticated devices—such as global positioning systems, cameras, and computer spyware—to track their victims;

Whereas, laws and public policies must be continually adapted to keep pace with new tactics used by stalkers;

Whereas, Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse, Inc. and Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County continue their project to better combat stalking by coordinating a multidisciplinary response of local agencies and organizations and by increasing victim services;

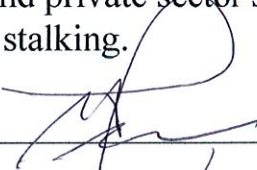
Whereas, the Palm Beach County Anti-Stalking Multidisciplinary Collaborative has released an Anti-Stalking Toolkit and Victim's Right brochure which will assist service providers and victims in coordinating and accessing the most appropriate, effective services for each victim of stalking in Palm Beach County; and

Whereas, Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse and Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County are joining forces with victim service providers, criminal justice officials, and concerned citizens throughout Palm Beach County and the United States to observe **National Stalking Awareness Month** and to promote the 2015 theme, "Stalking: Know it. Name it. Stop it."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Geoffrey Pugh, as Mayor of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, do hereby proclaim January 2015 as

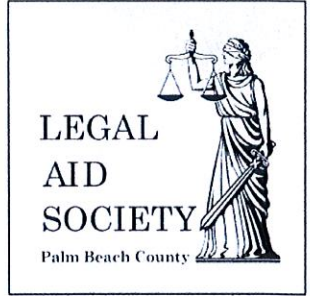
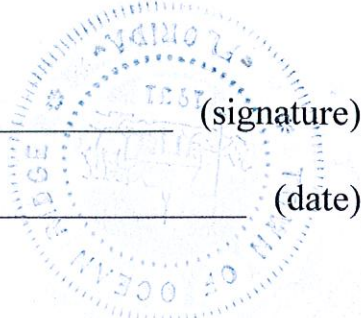
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In the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida and applaud the efforts of Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse, Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, and the many victim service providers, police officers, prosecutors, national and community organizations, and private sector supporters for their efforts in promoting awareness about stalking.



1/12/15

(signature) (date)



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