

# *PROCLAMATION*

**Bethel Domestic Violence Awareness Month  
October, 1993**

**WHEREAS, every 15 seconds a woman is battered in the United States by her husband or partner; and**

**WHEREAS, every day four battered women are killed in the United States; and**

**WHEREAS, in homes where spousal abuse occurs, children are abused at a rate 1,500% higher than the national average; and**

**WHEREAS, a study conducted by the University of Alaska shows that at least 26% of Alaskan women have been physically abused by a partner at some time in their lives; and**

**WHEREAS, approximately 20,000 women and children sought safe shelter and other services from Alaskan domestic violence shelters during the past year; and**

**WHEREAS, approximately 1000 people of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta received crisis intervention and advocacy services from Tundra Women's Coalition, our regional domestic violence program, during the past year; and**

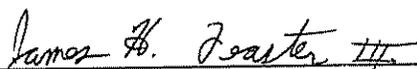
**WHEREAS, 395 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta women and children sought and received 4,410 nights of safe shelter from Tundra Women's Coalition during the 1993 state fiscal year; and**

**WHEREAS, violence against women and children continues to become more prevalent as a social problem; and**

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

**WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide ranging, directly affecting women and children and society as a whole.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of the important work done by domestic violence programs, I, James H. Feaster, Mayor of the City of Bethel, Alaska, do hereby proclaim the month of October 1993 as Bethel Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urge all citizens to actively participate in the scheduled activities and programs sponsored by the Tundra Women's Coalition to work toward the elimination of personal and institutional violence against women.**

  
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**James H. Feaster III, Mayor**

# TUNDRA WOMEN'S COALITION

P.O. Box 1537, Bethel, AK 99559

(907) 543-3455

September 20, 1993

Dear City Council Members:

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month is scheduled for October 1993. This is an annual observance during which, domestic violence survivors, their advocates, and organizations which serve them, join together to educate their communities about domestic violence and to encourage people to support the ending of violence against women and children. Last year Governor Hickel also declared the month Alaska Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and we expect he will do the same this year.

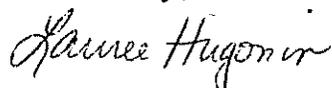
We are asking that you consider sponsoring a proclamation to recognize October 1993 as Bethel Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Such a proclamation will publicly reaffirm the City's commitment to ending domestic violence and emphasize your personal commitment to crime victims and their needs.

TWC is sponsoring a Walk For Peace, October 4, 1993. The Walk will begin at noon at the courthouse. We are having a short presentation prior to the Walk, and would like to extend an invitation to each of you to attend. We would also like to invite the Mayor or his designee to present the proclamation at that time.

I have enclosed a copy of the 1992 Alaska proclamation and a sample that could be used for the 1993 Bethel proclamation. If you have any questions concerning this request, the sample proclamation, or Domestic Violence Awareness Month, please feel free to contact me at 543-3455.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Lauree Hugonin  
Executive Director

STATE OF ALASKA



*Executive Proclamation*  
*by*  
*Walter J. Hickel, Governor*

In Alaska, more than nineteen thousand women are victims of domestic violence each year, and approximately eighty-seven hundred victims and their children sought safety and other services from programs funded by the State of Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault from July 1, 1991, through June 30, 1992.

The problems of domestic violence are not confined to any group or groups of people, but cross all economic, racial, and social barriers. The impact of domestic violence is wide-ranging, affecting society as a whole.

The crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, and security, often leaving an imprint of fear and hostility. All people have a right to freedom from fear in their own homes.

In our responsibility to impose sanctions on those who break the law by perpetuating violence, we must also meet the needs of battered women and their children who often suffer grave financial, physical, and psychological losses.

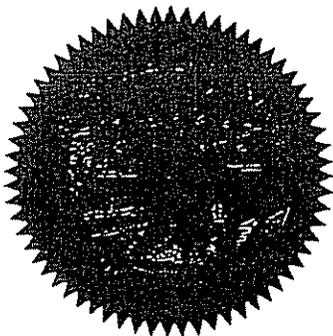
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Walter J. Hickel, Governor of the State of Alaska, do hereby proclaim the month of October 1992 as:

***DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH***

in Alaska, in recognition of the important work done by domestic violence programs, and urge all citizens to actively support those efforts designed to reduce and ultimately eliminate domestic violence.

DATED: September 24, 1992

Done by \_\_\_\_\_



*Walter J. Hickel*

Walter J. Hickel, Governor  
who has also authorized the seal  
of the State of Alaska  
to be affixed to this proclamation.