

Whereas, Vicksburg continues to strive to overcome the high rates of domestic violence; and

Whereas, the safety and health of the citizens of Vicksburg is vital to the wellness of our city; and

Whereas, violence within the home and within relationships breaks the core of the human spirit and jeopardizes the harmony that exists in our community; and

Whereas, domestic and sexual violence harms victims physically, sexually, psychologically, and economically with both immediate and long-term consequences; and

Whereas, Vicksburg's residents have the right to live without harm and without the fear of harm; and

Whereas, Vicksburg's Haven House Family Shelter is dedicated to reducing domestic violence by providing protection for victims in their quest for safety and dignity; and

Whereas, victims of domestic violence should have access to medical and legal services, counseling, transitional housing, and other supportive services so that they can escape the cycle of abuse.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, I, George Flaggs, Jr., by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Vicksburg, for and on behalf of the Honorable Michael A. Mayfield, Sr., North Ward Alderman and the Honorable Willis T. Thompson, South Ward Alderman, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2016 as

"DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH"

in Vicksburg, MS.

Let It Further Be Resolved, that I call on the citizens of Vicksburg to speak out against domestic violence and support local efforts to assist victims of these crimes in finding the help and healing they need.

In Official Recognition Whereof, I hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Vicksburg to be affixed on this 30th day of September, in the year of our Lord, two thousand sixteen.

George Flaggs, Jr. Mayor