

City of Kingsport

Proclamation

Whereas, domestic violence transcends racial, ethnic, religious, and socioeconomic borders, and its perpetrators harm their victims, endanger children, traumatize families and threaten our communities; and,

Whereas, 1 in 3 women (43.5 million) and more than 1 in 6 men (20.7 million) have experienced sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime; and,

Whereas, according to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's 2025 Crime in Tennessee report, there were 58,487 reported victims of domestic violence in Tennessee, with simple assault accounting for 65% of all reported domestic violence offenses, and 73 murders and 549 rapes reported with a domestic violence relationship; and,

Whereas, 26 domestic violence shelters across Tennessee reported to the Tennessee Office of Criminal Justice Programs that they fielded 30,929 domestic violence hotline calls, served over 13,200 victims of domestic violence, and provided shelter for 4,267 of those victims, resulting in over 105,500 safe bed nights; and,

Whereas, the City of Kingsport is committed to creating a community where every individual is safe and free from the threat of violence and abuse; and,

Whereas, Domestic Violence Awareness Month serves as a critical opportunity to educate the public, honor the memory of those who have lost their lives, and stand in solidarity with survivors.

Now, Therefore, I, Paul W. Montgomery, Mayor of the City of Kingsport, and on behalf of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Kingsport, do hereby proclaim October 2026 as

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

in the City of Kingsport in recognition of the important work done by survivors, domestic violence programs and victim service providers.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Kingsport, Tennessee, to be affixed this the 6th day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-six.

Paul W. Montgomery, Mayor