

**CITY OF MADISON HEIGHTS PROCLAMATION
FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH – NOVEMBER 2025**

WHEREAS, the mission of Family Court Awareness Month (FCAM) is to highlight the urgent need to prioritize child safety in family court proceedings, especially as one in three families in Michigan is impacted by domestic abuse;

WHEREAS, an estimated 58,000 children in the United States are ordered into unsupervised contact with an abusive parent each year. Since 2008, nearly 1,000 children have been killed during court-ordered visitation, including 39 children in Michigan. Among them were 6-year-old Rowan Morey-Pols of Caledonia in 2024 and 3-year-old Dylan Thebo of Kent County in 2021;

WHEREAS, the families of Rowan and Dylan have worked tirelessly to raise awareness and promote legislative change aimed at improving child safety in Michigan. In 2025, Rowan's Act was introduced by Representative Angela Rigas to allow a faster response for Amber Alerts when law enforcement believes a missing child is in danger.

WHEREAS, across Michigan, including in Oakland County, law enforcement agencies have adopted Lethality Assessments to help identify high-risk domestic violence situations. The Madison Heights Police Department is proud to already utilize lethality assessments as part of its response when making domestic violence arrests, demonstrating a proactive commitment to victim safety and early intervention.

WHEREAS, Family Court Awareness Month emphasizes the importance of judicial education on domestic violence, child abuse, coercive control, post-separation abuse, and the lasting effects of childhood trauma, so that all professionals involved in family court cases are equipped to protect vulnerable children;

WHEREAS, Family Court Awareness Month encourages collaboration among legislators, advocates, law enforcement, professionals, and communities like Madison Heights to improve family court practices and ensure they prioritize the safety, well-being, and best interests of children;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Madison Heights Mayor and City Council do hereby proclaim the month of November 2025 as FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH in the City of Madison Heights, Oakland County, Michigan, and urge our residents to support efforts to increase awareness, promote education, and advocate for reforms that protect children and families.



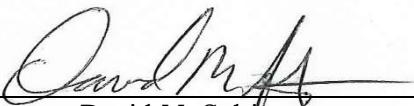
Roslyn Grafstein
Mayor




Mark Bliss
Mayor Pro Tem



William J. Mier
Councilman




David M. Soltis



Sean D. Fleming
Councilman



Emily J. Rohrbach
Councilor



Quinn J. Wright