A PROCLAMATION FOR
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, domestic violence, which can include physical, mental, sexual, emotional, and financial abuse, is a means of intimidation and violence to influence and control a partner involved in an intimate relationship; and

WHEREAS, These crimes violate an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity, making it all the more important for state, local, and community partners to work to eliminate this type of abuse and to provide necessary services, including emergency shelter, advocacy education, awareness and resources to ensure that all victims are empowered to achieve self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in the United States, more than one in three women and one in six men have experienced sexual and physical violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence found evidence of at least 66 homicide victims who died because of domestic violence and at least 19 suicides directly correlated to experiencing domestic abuse; and

WHEREAS, Domestic violence can affect anyone regardless of their age, race, gender, or socioeconomic status, leaving an impact on thousands of individuals and families across North Carolina over the years; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious public health issue that results in billions of dollars spent each year on medical, mental health, and loss of work productivity costs. However, despite the level of need, countless domestic violence programs are facing funding shortages and are operating at a reduced capacity; and

WHEREAS, by working together, we can build a culture where intimate partner violence is not tolerated and all individuals can be safe, respected, and free from abuse.

THEREFORE, I, Amelia Stinson-Wesley, Mayor of the Town of Pineville, do hereby proclaim October 2026, as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Pineville, North Carolina.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the Town to be affixed this 13th day of October in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six.

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Mayor Amelia Stinson-Wesley