

## **National Stalking Awareness Month Proclamation January 2017**

**WHEREAS**, under the laws of all fifty states, the U.S. Territories, the District of Columbia, and federal government, stalking is a crime;

**WHEREAS**, 7.5 million people were stalked in one year in the United States, and the majority of victims are stalked by someone they know;

**WHEREAS**, 3 in 4 women killed by an intimate partner had been stalked by that intimate partner;

**WHEREAS**, many stalking victims lose time from work and experience serious psychological distress and lost productivity at a much higher rate than the general population, and are often forced to protect themselves by relocating, changing their identities, changing jobs, and obtaining protection orders;

**WHEREAS**, the Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas (DVACK) alone has assisted 178 stalking victims in filing Protection from Stalking Orders from January-December 2016;

**WHEREAS**, many stalkers use technology—such as cell phones, global positioning systems (GPS), cameras, and spyware—to monitor and track their victims, and laws and public policies must be continually adapted to keep pace with new tactics used by stalkers;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for great public awareness about the nature, criminality, and potential lethality of stalking;

**WHEREAS**, criminal justice systems can enhance their responses to stalking by regular training of law enforcement officers and aggressive investigation and prosecution of the crime;

**WHEREAS**, communities can better combat stalking by adopting multidisciplinary responses by teams of local agencies and organizations and by providing more and better victim services; and

**WHEREAS**, DVACK is joining forces with victim service providers, criminal justice officials, and concerned citizens throughout Central Kansas and the United States to observe **National Stalking Awareness Month**.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Kaye J. Crawford, Mayor of Salina, Kansas, do hereby proclaim January 2017 as **STALKING AWARENESS MONTH** in the City of Salina, Kansas and applaud the efforts of the many victim service providers, police officers, prosecutors, national and community organizations, and private sector supporters for their efforts in promoting awareness about stalking.

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Kaye J. Crawford  
January 23, 2017