PROCLAIMING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH OCTOBER 2010

WHEREAS, domestic violence, due to the nature and severity of the crime, is one of the highest priority crimes for law enforcement in Marin County; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Jury reported that in 2009, law enforcement responded to over 800 domestic violence incidents. The Center for Domestic Peace (CDP), home of Marin Abused Women's Services, the county's leading advocacy group, received over 2,500 calls on its domestic violence hotlines; and

WHEREAS, the Marin County Civil Grand Jury reported that domestic violence has been Marin's number one violent crime for more than twenty years, yet it rarely makes the front pages of Marin's newspapers; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Jury reported that in 2009, two of the five homicides in Marin resulted from acts of intimate partner violence; and

WHEREAS, more reporting has taken place over the years as domestic violence has become the focus of public awareness and requires the resources of a significant number of government agencies and community organizations to respond to these serious incidents; and

WHEREAS, the number of efforts over the years to eradicate the problem of domestic violence in Marin County has resulted in a joint effort between the CDP's Domestic Violence Response Team (DVRT) and the Marin County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC); and

WHEREAS, the joint efforts of the DVRT and the DVCC are committed to implementing uniform protocols of response to domestic violence among the agencies and organizations involved. This unified collaboration is critical in the intervention and prevention of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Jury believes that the DVCC, with CDP acting as the primary coordinator, holds the most immediate potential for an existing group that could increase interaction and collaboration among agencies, departments, and the courts; and

WHEREAS, the Marin County Board of Supervisors is unremittingly resolved to end domestic violence in Marin County by directing policy towards this end.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin hereby proclaims the Month of October 2010, as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" and calls on the Center for Domestic Peace and the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council to help change the attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors that condone and perpetuate domestic violence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin recognizes the work of CDP and the DVCC as an essential component in ending domestic violence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin calls on local government agencies to participate in and to cooperate to the fullest extent with the work of CDP and the DVCC.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 5th day of October 2010.