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September 5, 2013

Venice City Council
Mayor John Holic
Vice Mayor Bob Daniels
Council Member Jim Bennett
Council Member Emilio Carlesimo
Council Member Jeanette Gates
Council Member Kit McKeon
Council Member David Sherman
401 W. Venice Ave.
Venice, FL 34285

Dear Council Members:

On behalf of Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC), I respectfully request that the Venice City Council proclaim the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Venice, Florida. We ask that the enclosed proclamation be read and presented to a SPARCC representative at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2013, 9:00 am.

As you know, domestic violence continues to be a major social and health crisis in our community. SPARCC provides free services to victims of domestic and sexual violence for Sarasota and DeSoto counties and seeks to prevent such violence through public awareness and education.

We urge the citizens of Venice to recognize the prevalence of domestic violence, seek to prevent domestic violence, and promote awareness by wearing purple ribbons, which are available from SPARCC, during the month of October 2013.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Jessica Hays
Director of Community Awareness
Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC)
941-365-0208 ext. 106

VENICE CITY COUNCIL
PROCLAMATION:

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all ages, income levels, and gender, but most often women and children; and

WHEREAS, once started, the campaign of physical, psychological, economic and sexual violence only gets worse, resulting in a heavy burden on society and families; and

WHEREAS, 108,046 domestic violence offenses were reported in the State of Florida in 2012, including 191 deaths at the hands of intimate partners and family members; and

WHEREAS in Sarasota County, there were 1,445 crimes of domestic violence reported during 2012, including 7 homicides; and

WHEREAS, Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC) provides free services to victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children in Sarasota and Desoto Counties, and seeks to stop the crime of domestic violence through public awareness and education;

NOW THEREFORE, I do hereby proclaim the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urge all citizens to observe this month by becoming aware of the tragedy of domestic violence, supporting those who are working toward its end, and participating in community efforts.