



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

**2017**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, too many individuals – regardless of age, ability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, or circumstance – face the pain and fear of domestic violence; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Violence Against Women Survey, approximately 1.3 million women and 835,000 men are physically assaulted by an intimate partner in the United States every year; and

**WHEREAS**, overall, 3 in 10 women and 1 in 10 men in our country have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner, and reported at least one impact related to these or other forms of violent behavior in their relationship; and

**WHEREAS**, the impacts on victims who experience domestic violence include fear and concern for safety; post-traumatic stress symptoms; inability to attend school or work; injury; the need for housing, victim's advocacy, and legal services; emotional trauma; and, in some cases, permanent disability or death; and

**WHEREAS**, 80 percent of female victims of rape experienced their first sexual assault before the age of 25 and, within this group, 42 percent before the age of 18; more than 25 percent of male victims of rape experienced their first sexual assault when they were 10 years of age or younger; and

**WHEREAS**, a great deal of domestic violence incidents go unreported by survivors who experience fear of repercussions, threats of future violence, denial, guilt, shame, feelings of worthlessness, and/or fear of negative response; in North Carolina, many cities and counties are not required to accurately report acts of domestic violence; and

**WHEREAS**, during National Domestic Violence Awareness month, we shine a light on this violation of the basic human right to be free from violence and abuse, pledging to ensure every victim of domestic violence knows they are not alone; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina encourages citizens to raise awareness of the prevalence of domestic abuse; foster supportive communities where all people feel safe in all aspects of their lives; and help survivors recover, heal, seek justice, and thrive;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October, 2017, as "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twentieth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.