

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

PROCLAMATION NO. 03-138

Proclaiming October 2003 Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Multnomah County, Oregon

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. Multnomah County and its partner agencies have developed model programs to address domestic violence in our community. These include:
 - mandatory arrest with no matrix or census release of domestic violence offenders;
 - police/community partnerships to provide victims with outreach services;
 - efforts in partnership with the US Attorney to reduce firearm use in domestic violence;
 - increased funding for services to children who witness domestic violence through the City of Portland Children's Initiative;
 - county funding of over \$2 million in victim services contracts, including emergency shelter, culturally specific services, and court advocacy;
 - The Local Public Safety Coordinating Council's Domestic Violence Pre-adjudication Release Work Group work to assure domestic violence victims are notified prior to the release of a defendant booked with domestic violence charges.
- b. Despite our community's best efforts, domestic violence continues to be a pervasive and serious problem in Multnomah County.
- c. Twenty-two percent of adult women have been physically assaulted by a current or former intimate partner in their lifetime.
- d. Each year, fifteen percent of children witness domestic violence; most are under 5 years old.
- e. Young women, 18 to 24 are particularly at risk of assault by their young male partners.
- f. Domestic violence accounts for 40% of all reported violent crimes in Multnomah County and 23% of all reported felony person crimes; domestic violence calls make up to 40-50% of all reported chronic calls in the City of Portland.
- g. Domestic violence shelters and crisis lines are receiving about 30,000 crisis calls a year with requests for shelter for over 15,000 women and children.

- h. On average, domestic violence homicides make up one-quarter of all homicides in the County, usually exceeding the number of gang-or drug-related homicides. In 2002, domestic violence related homicides made up 6 of the 23 homicides in the City of Portland.
- i. While most other crime continues to decrease in our community, domestic violence reports have remained constant.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

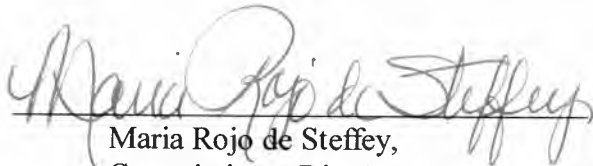
The month of October 2003 to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Multnomah County, Oregon. In so doing, we commit to providing leadership in addressing this issue and working with community partners to reduce the harm caused to children and families by domestic violence.

ADOPTED this 2nd day of October, 2003.

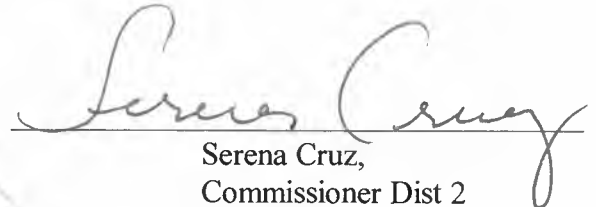
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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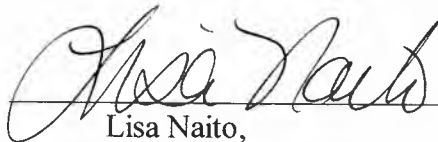
Diane M. Linn, County Chair



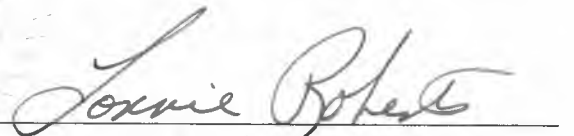
Maria Rojo de Steffey,
Commissioner Dist 1



Serena Cruz,
Commissioner Dist 2



Lisa Naito,
Commissioner Dist 3



Lonnie Roberts,
Commissioner District 4