

March 11, 2010

WHEREAS, sexual assault affects women, children and men of all racial, cultural and economic backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the immediate physical and emotional costs, sexual assault may also have associated consequences of post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, depression, homelessness, eating disorders and suicide; and

WHEREAS, sexual assault can be devastating for not only the survivor, but also for the family and friends of the survivor; and

WHEREAS, no one person, organization, agency or community can eliminate sexual assault on their own, but we can work together to educate our entire population about what can be done to prevent sexual assault, support victim/ survivors and their significant others, and increase support for agencies providing services to victim/ survivors; and

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing sexual violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Luis A. Alejo, Mayor of the City of Watsonville, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2010, as "*Sexual Assault Awareness Month*" in the City of Watsonville and call upon the people of Watsonville to join their fellow citizens across the United States in recognizing and participating in this special observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Watsonville to be affixed this 11th day of March, two thousand and ten.

Luis A. Alejo, Mayor

WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA