

**PROCLAMATION**

13-09

**Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

Issued by the Board of Franklin County Commissioners

WHEREAS, family and relationships are often counted among life's greatest blessings and, tragically, many Kansans relationships are tarnished by violence and fear; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence includes verbal, emotional, economic, sexual and physical abuse, and all forms of abuse can carry long-range physical and mental health implications; and

WHEREAS, the effects of domestic violence reach far beyond its victims and perpetrators, causing disruption in our schools, places of work and worship and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Franklin County has one of the highest per capita incidence of reported domestic violence cases in Kansas; and

WHEREAS, during October 2013, the Franklin County Domestic Violence Unit and other concerned agencies and groups in Franklin County sponsor and promote Domestic Violence Awareness Month to focus community-wide attention on abused women and their children and to promote support of shelters and community programs that serve them;

NOW, THEREFORE the governing body of Franklin County, Kansas does hereby proclaim the month of October 2013 as:

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

and urges all its citizens to speak out against sexual and domestic violence, to provide support for survivors of this heinous crime, to encourage community leaders to hold offenders accountable, and to make prevention efforts a priority by hosting events, by creating policies at school and work, and by supporting and participating in ongoing programs designed to reduce and eventually eliminate domestic violence as a societal problem.

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2013

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Steven W. Harris, Chairman

Attested and Recorded, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2013

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Janet Paddock, County Clerk