RESOLUTION NO. 14-145

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2014 "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE CITY OF DORAL; SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING EDUCATIONAL AND AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, 1 in every 4 women will experience domestic violence during her lifetime; and

WHEREAS, approximately 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year; and

WHEREAS, when a family member is abused, it can have long-term damaging effects on the victim that also leave a mark on family, friends, and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, families are indispensable to a stable society, and they should be a place of support to instill responsibility and values in the next generation; and

WHEREAS domestic violence is widespread and is devastating to society as a whole, but particularly women and children; and

WHEREAS, violence against women and children is a prevalent social ill due to the historical imbalance of power in gender and age;

WHEREAS, the problem of domestic violence is not confined to any group or groups of people, but crosses all economic, racial, gender, educational, religious, and societal barriers, and is sustained by societal indifference;

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control and/or abuse;

WHEREAS, victims should have help to find the compassion, comfort, and healing they need, and domestic abusers should be punished to the full extent of the law;

WHEREAS, victims of violence should have access to medical and legal services, counseling, transitional housing, and other supportive services so that they can escape the cycle of abuse;

WHEREAS, we encourage domestic violence victims and their families to seek assistance from appropriate victims' services organizations;

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the compassion and dedication of the individuals who provide services to victims of domestic violence and work to increase public understanding of this significant problem;

WHEREAS, it is battered women themselves who have been in the forefront of efforts to bring peace, equality, and healing to our homes and communities;

WHEREAS, local programs, state coalitions, national organizations, and other agencies nationwide are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic violence and its prevalence, and to eliminating it through prevention and education; and

WHEREAS, important partnerships have been formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, healthcare providers, allied professionals, and victim services to assist victims of domestic violence and their families; and

WHEREAS, our Nation must dedicate ourselves to protecting vulnerable members of our society; and

WHEREAS, our Nation has a moral obligation to work to prevent domestic violence and to address its brutal and destructive effects; and

WHEREAS, our Nation must make ending domestic violence a national priority; and

WHEREAS, the month of October is nationally recognized as Domestic Violence
Awareness month; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council for the City of Doral find that it is in the best interest of the community to support awareness and education efforts year round, especially during the month of October.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Section 1.</u> Recitals. The above recitals are confirmed, adopted, and incorporated herein and made a part hereof by this reference.

Section 2. Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclaimed. The month of October 2014 is hereby proclaimed "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in the City of Doral.

Section 3. Support of Domestic Violence Awareness Efforts. The City of Doral hereby pledges its support of, and hereby expresses an intent to conduct outreach and educational efforts during, Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City. All City Officials and employees, all public and private institutions, and residents of

the City of Doral are hereby encouraged to participate in appropriate awareness and education outreach efforts.

<u>Section 4.</u> <u>Implementation.</u> The City Manager is hereby authorized and to take such other action as is necessary to implement the provisions of this Resolution.

<u>Section 5.</u> <u>Effective Date.</u> This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilmember Rodriguez Aguilera who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Mayor Boria and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Luigi Boria Yes Vice Mayor Christi Fraga Yes Councilwoman Ana Maria Rodriguez Yes Councilwoman Bettina Rodriguez Aguilera Yes

Councilwoman Sandra Ruiz

Not present at the time of

the vote

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10 day of September, 2014

LUIGI BORIA, MAYOR

ATTEST:

BARBARA HERRERA. CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE SOLE USE OF THE CITY OF DORAL.

WEISS, SEROTA, HELFMAN, PASTORIZA

COLE AND BONISKE CITY ATTORNEY