

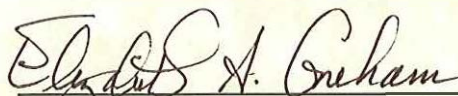
Proclamation

**FREEDOM FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
IS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH
OCTOBER 2015**

- WHEREAS, nation-wide, approximately 12.7 million men and women are physically abused, raped or stalked by their partners per year, which averages to 24 people a minute; and
- WHEREAS, there were over 1,678 domestic violence fatalities in Pennsylvania from 2004-2014; and
- WHEREAS, in 2014, 59 women and 38 men ranging in age from 20 days old to 92 years old were killed by current or former intimate partners, and family members in Pennsylvania; and
- WHEREAS, State College Police reported 338 domestic-violence-related incidences in 2014; nationally, most cases are never reported to the police; and
- WHEREAS, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights found in *Jessica Lenahan (Gonzales) v. United States* that the United States' failure to protect women from gender-based violence constitutes discrimination and a human rights violation, and urged the United States to enact law and policy reform to protect victims of domestic violence and their children; and
- WHEREAS, by recognizing the right to be free from domestic violence, the Borough of State College can show victims that it is committed to the protection of men and women against domestic violence, and that it will investigate and prosecute any form of such violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Elizabeth Goreham, do hereby proclaim that the Borough of State College, Pennsylvania joins U.S. and world leaders in recognizing the right to be free from domestic violence and declares that freedom from domestic violence is a fundamental human right toward which local governments should aspire on behalf of all citizens they serve. This Proclamation shall serve as a charge to all local government agencies to incorporate these principles into their policies and practices.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed, the great seal of the Borough of State College, this 12th day of October 2015.



Mayor Elizabeth A. Goreham
October 12, 2015

