

PROCLAMATION

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

OCTOBER 2023

"Every1KnowsSome1"

WHEREAS, there is no age, race, gender, religion, or economic status that is immune from the impact of domestic violence that affects children, families, and entire communities and results in violations of a person's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity by physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic control and abuse to maintain power and control over another individual, including abuse against children and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, National Domestic Violence Awareness Month strives to highlight how common domestic violence is as nearly 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men aged 18 and older have suffered injury due to intimate partner violence including rape, physical violence, and/or stalking and 1 in 15 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year; and

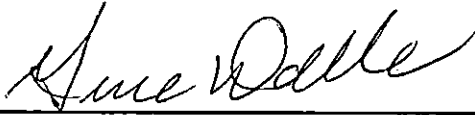
WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month was launched nationwide in October 1987 as a way to help victims find the compassion, comfort, and healing they need by uniting them with organizations working on addressing domestic violence issues to assist with access to medical and legal services, counseling, and safe housing; and

WHEREAS, this month allows us to reflect on what it means to be a survivor, a service provider, a counselor, a law-enforcement officer, or a shelter worker as they work together to make a difference in the lives of those caught in a violent situation; and

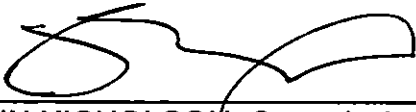
WHEREAS, local domestic violence service provider, **Women's Center of East Texas**, is focused on ending violence by providing shelter and non-residential services including individualized safety planning, counseling, and comprehensive support services to survivors of domestic violence and their children.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the COMMISSIONERS COURT of Upshur County, do hereby proclaim the month of October, 2023 as **National Domestic Violence Awareness Month** in Upshur County, Texas, and urge the public to actively work toward eradicating domestic violence, improving survivor safety, and holding perpetrators of domestic abuse accountable for their actions.

Signed this 29th day of September, 2023



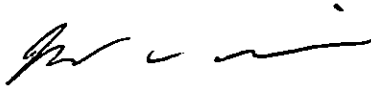
GENE DOLLE, Commissioner, Pct. 1



DUSTIN NICHOLSON, Commissioner, Pct. 2



MIKE ASHLEY, Commissioner, Pct. 3



JAY W. MILLER, Commissioner, Pct. 4