

CITY OF LAKEWOOD



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious community concern that affects individuals and families across every neighborhood, age, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic background, and circumstance; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence can have lasting physical, emotional, financial, and social impacts on survivors, children, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, every person has the right to live free from violence, abuse, intimidation and survivors deserve to be treated with dignity, compassion, respect, and understanding; and

WHEREAS, from January 1, 2026 through August 31, 2026, the City of Lakewood Legal Department, on behalf of the residents of Lakewood, DuPont and Steilacoom, filed 358 domestic violence cases (averaging about 45 per month); and

WHEREAS, these figures reflect only crimes that have been reported and are likely well below the actual occurrence rate; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood recognizes the importance of services that support survivors of domestic violence, including advocacy, safety planning, emergency shelter, prevention and education; and

WHEREAS, local advocates, victim service providers, law enforcement agencies, courts, health care providers, community organizations, and other partners play an essential role in responding to domestic violence and connecting survivors and their families with resources and support; and

WHEREAS, the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center and other local service providers offer critical resources and coordinated support to individuals and families impacted by domestic violence, helping survivors navigate systems and access safety, advocacy, and other needed services; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an opportunity to increase public awareness, promote prevention and healthy relationships, recognize the experiences and resilience of survivors, and remind our community that everyone has a role in creating a culture of safety, respect, and accountability.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Lakewood City Council hereby proclaims October 2026 as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Lakewood and urges all residents to join in by learning about domestic violence, supporting survivors, promoting healthy and respectful relationships, and becoming aware of the resources available within our community. **PROCLAIMED this 5th day of October, 2026.**

Patti Belle, Deputy Mayor

Michael D. Brandstetter, Councilmember

J. Trestin Lauricella, Councilmember

Paul Bocchi, Mayor

Ryan Pearson, Councilmember

Philip Lindholm, Councilmember

Ellen Talbo, Councilmember