



Proclamation

Stalking is a deplorable act that shakes the lives of its victims and damages the community. It undermines emotional well-being and the effects of stalking can manifest themselves in every part of the victim's life, including causing heightened anxiety and lost productivity.

Nationally, more than one million women and 370,000 men are stalked each year. Hawai'i recognizes the seriousness of stalking and the toll it can take on victims' lives. These victims may be forced to take drastic measures to protect themselves, such as relocating, changing their names, finding new jobs or filing for protective orders.

Stalking is a crime in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, and also a crime under federal law. It is behavior that can sometimes escalate into violent and even deadly acts. The National Center for Victims of Crime claims that 76 percent of women murdered by an intimate partner had been stalked by their killer. Eighty-one percent of women stalked by a current or former intimate partner were physically assaulted by that person.

In their lifetimes, 1 in 12 women and 1 in 45 men will be the victims of stalking, most commonly by someone they know, according to a National Violence Against Women Survey and the U.S. Department of Justice.

The State of Hawai'i has joined with national organizations, victim service providers, criminal justice officials and concerned citizens throughout the country to inform the public about the consequences of stalking. Since 2003, the Grants and Planning Branch of the Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division has provided the coordination and facilitation of multi-agency efforts to provide training on stalking in addition to completing two statewide protocols on stalking investigation response for law enforcement and victim advocates. Over the last few years, our Administration has also enacted legislation addressing stalking, including a law to allow cases involving both stalking and domestic violence to be tried in the same court.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **January 2008**, as

ANTI-STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

in Hawai'i, and urge all of our citizens to learn more about this critical issue.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-eighth day of December 2007.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i

James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i