



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, sexual assault and sexual harassment are widespread crimes that impact all communities; and

WHEREAS, statistics show that one in five women and one in four men will be a target of sexual assault at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that the majority of sexual assaults are committed by someone known to the victim such as an acquaintance, friend, relative, current or former intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, misuse or exploitation of consent, boundaries, personal information and images online or off also qualify as sexual assault resulting in charges, arrest and prosecution to the fullest extent of the law; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that one in four boys and one in three girls will experience sexual assault before the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, in New Jersey, sexual violence and harassment at home, in workplaces, schools, faith-based institutions, recreational programs and colleges occurs, but often is under- or un-reported due to survivors' fear of not being believed, judgment and/or retaliation; and

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month recognizes the need to educate and engage communities about sexual violence prevention, to support survivors of these crimes and to help eliminate the stigma associated with speaking out; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, through the Division on Women within the Department of Children and Families, provides and coordinates services and advocacy for survivors of sexual assault, including emotional, medical and legal support; and

WHEREAS, state residents can be successful in preventing sexual violence in New Jersey through increased education, awareness, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey strongly supports the efforts of national, state and local partners, and every resident, to actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent sexual violence and to create a safer environment for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

APRIL 2023

AS

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

in New Jersey.



Philip D. Murphy
Lt. GOVERNOR

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twentieth day of March in the year two thousand twenty-three, the two hundred forty-seventh year of the Independence of the United States.

Philip D. Murphy
GOVERNOR