



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, dating violence is a reality of many youth, and an issue that many are unaware of; and

**WHEREAS**, 1 in 3 young people are affected by physical, sexual or verbal dating violence, with 1 in 5 in a serious relationship reporting having been slapped, pushed, hit, threatened or coerced by a partner, and breakups can be a time of even greater risk even when a relationship was never physically abusive; and

**WHEREAS**, young people can choose better relationships when they understand that healthy relationships are based on respect and learn to identify early warning signs of an abusive relationship; and

**WHEREAS**, elimination of dating violence must be achieved through cooperation of individuals, organizations and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Dating Violence & Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing dating violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Don Murphy, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Pelham, Alabama, do hereby proclaim the period of February 1 – February 28, 2010 as

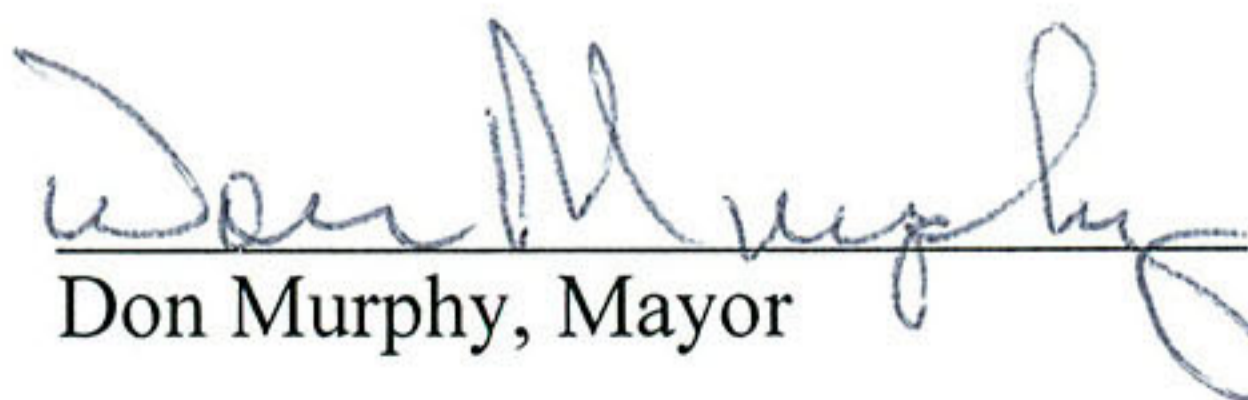
## **DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS & PREVENTION MONTH**

in Pelham, Alabama.

**FURTHERMORE**, I join with the Stop Dating Violence and The Emily Fund to help support organizations that promote advocacy and services to the youth in our area.



Given under my hand, in the City of Pelham, Alabama this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2010.

  
Don Murphy, Mayor