

# Proclamation

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

*WHEREAS*, Teen dating violence is a pattern of actual or threatened physical, sexual, emotional and technological abuse perpetrated by an adolescent against a current or former dating partner; 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, or threatened by a partner, and breakups can be a time of even greater risk even when a relationship was never physically abusive; and,

*WHEREAS*, Technologies such as cell-phones and the Internet have made dating abuse both more persuasive and hidden, increasing the danger of dating violence and stalking; and,

*WHEREAS*, Teen dating violence is considered a serious public health issue placing adolescent victims at greater risk for poor academic achievement, teen pregnancy, substance use, behaviors associated with violence, suicide and adult re-victimization; 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,

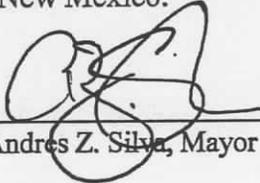
*WHEREAS*, Dating Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing dating violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims; and,

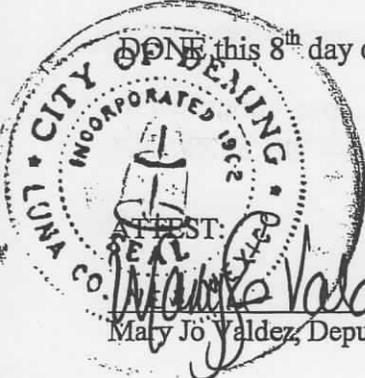
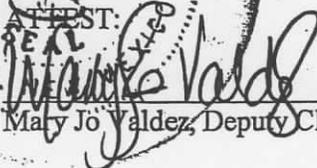
*WHEREAS*, The establishment of National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month will benefit teens, their families, schools, and communities regardless of socio-economic status, ethnicity or gender; and,

*WHEREAS*, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico, has also proclaimed the month of February as "Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month".

NOW THEREFORE, I, Andres Z. Silva, Mayor of the City of Deming will be joining with Governor Richardson in proclaiming February 2010 as; **"Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month"**

DO NE this 8<sup>th</sup> day of February 2010 in the City of Deming, New Mexico.

  
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Andres Z. Silva, Mayor

  
ATTEST:  
  
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Mary Jo Valdez, Deputy Clerk