

A PROCLAMATION

“Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness Month”

WHEREAS, teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness Month will be celebrated nationwide during the month of February to raise awareness about abuse in teen and 20-something relationships and promote prevention programs; and

WHEREAS, females and women ages 16 to 24 are most likely to be abused in a dating relationship, and 1 in 3 young people report experiencing some form of dating abuse in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, abusive relationships can impact adolescent development. Teens who experience dating violence may suffer long-term negative behavioral and health consequences, and adolescents in controlling or violent relationships may carry these dangerous and unhealthy patterns into future relationships; and

WHEREAS, all 50 states and the District of Columbia have laws against dating violence-associated crimes such as sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking; and

WHEREAS, the laws of the State of Georgia and DeKalb County prohibit stalking and physical abuse and allow minors to obtain civil protection orders against dating partners; and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County Solicitor-General Sherry Boston and her staff of prosecutors in the Special Victims Unit are committed to combat the recent increase in domestic violence related cases by working to restore the dignity, safety, and well-being of DeKalb County residents who have been victims of crime, particularly of domestic violence and teen dating violence; and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County Solicitor-General Sherry Boston and her staff urge our citizens to create partnerships with schools, civic groups, churches, and in their own families to empower young people to develop healthy relationships throughout their lives and to engage in activities that prevent and respond to teen dating violence.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mike Davis, Mayor of the City of Dunwoody, Georgia, do hereby proclaim the month of **February 2012** as “**Teen Dating Violence and Awareness Month**” in Dunwoody, Georgia

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dunwoody, Georgia, to be affixed, this 13th day of February, 2012.

City of Dunwoody

Michael G. Davis, Mayor

Attest:

Sharon Lowery, City Clerk