

Proclamation for Teen Dating Violence

WHEREAS teen dating violence is a serious public health and safety issue that affects millions of young people each year, with one in three teens in the United States experiencing physical, emotional, or sexual abuse by a dating partner; and

WHEREAS, teen dating violence can have long-lasting effects on a young person's mental, emotional, and physical well-being, impacting academic performance, self-esteem, and future relationships; and

Whereas, education, awareness, and prevention are essential in promoting healthy relationships, respectful communication, and personal boundaries among adolescents; and

WHEREAS Haven House Family Shelter has advocates dedicated to working towards ending teen dating violence by empowering young people to develop healthier relationships, assisting victims in accessing the information and supportive services they need, and providing advocacy, counseling, and community education; and

WHEREAS the City of Vicksburg recognizes the importance of community partnerships, schools, families, and organizations working together to prevent teen dating violence and to support young people in building safe and respectful relationships.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, _____, on behalf of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, do hereby proclaim the month of **February 2026** as

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Vicksburg, and encourage all citizens, schools, parents, and youth-serving organizations to participate in educational activities, wear orange on February 10th in recognition of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Day, and promote healthy, respectful, and violence-free relationships among our youth.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Vicksburg to be affixed this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor