

**MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION  
DECLARING FEBRUARY 2012  
NATIONAL TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS  
AND PREVENTION MONTH  
IN THE CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE**

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence is a crime within our society that destroys individual lives and entire families which often begins among teenagers as they begin dating and can last into adulthood; and

**WHEREAS**, dating violence involves abusive behavior committed by a person intending to harm, threaten, intimidate, harass, coerce, control, isolate, restrain or monitor another person with whom they have or have had a dating relationship; and

**WHEREAS**, national studies and surveys of teen dating relationships have shown that one in three teens in the United States is a victim of physical, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds rates of other types of youth violence; and

**WHEREAS**, teen dating violence, including physical and emotional harassment and assault, is a reality for many teenagers which can go unknown to parents, friends and family; and

**WHEREAS**, the lack of awareness regarding teen dating violence is widespread, with only 33% of teens that have been in an abusive relationship having ever told anyone about the abuse and 81% of parents not believing or not knowing that teen dating violence is an issue; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Pflugerville is joining together with the Pflugerville Independent School District and others across the nation to raise awareness of the issue of teen dating violence, to promote safe and healthy relationships, and to encourage our teens to recognize the signs of an abusive relationship and to have the courage to break the cycle of abuse by breaking the silence and seeking help;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Jeff Coleman, do hereby proclaim February 2012 as National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month in the City of Pflugerville and encourage all citizens to support efforts to promote awareness and prevention of teen dating violence and to empower teens to develop healthy relationships and successful lives.

**IN OFFICIAL RECOGNITION WHEREOF**, I hereby affix my signature this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012.

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Jeff Coleman, Mayor