

The Council Chambers  
City Hall  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

A Proclamation

- Whereas:** January was declared National Stalking Awareness Month in 2011 because stalking is prevalent in every community and affects all people regardless of age, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality; and
- Whereas:** One in every three women and one in every six men are victims of stalking in their lifetimes; and
- Whereas:** Stalking can upend the lives of victims and their families, forcing them to make tough decisions including changing jobs, relocating homes, or even hiding their addresses through state offered programs to protect themselves and their families; and
- Whereas:** In 2024, President Biden has called on all Americans to speak out against stalking and to support the efforts of advocates, courts, service providers and law enforcement to help those who are targeted and send the message to perpetrators that these crimes will not go unpunished; and
- Whereas:** The City of Portsmouth has employed a Victim Witness Advocate since 1999 with funding from the Violence Against Women Act to work with the Portsmouth Police Department to support victims of stalking; and
- Whereas:** The City works with Haven, one of twelve crisis centers across the state to provide 24/7 support to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, sexual harassment, and stalking; and
- Whereas:** The City reminds everyone that confidential, local help is available, 24 hours a day, at the HAVEN Violence Prevention and Support Hotline: 603-994-SAFE; and
- Whereas:** The City of Portsmouth stands with all New Hampshire Prosecutors as sentries on the front lines, advocating on behalf of victims of stalking; and

Now, therefore, I, Deaglan McEachern, Mayor of the City of Portsmouth, on behalf of the members of the City Council and citizens of Portsmouth, do hereby proclaim January 2024 in Portsmouth as

Stalking Awareness Month

And call on our citizens to come together to reaffirm our commitment to ending stalking and supporting survivors.



Given with my hand and the  
Seal of the City of Portsmouth  
on this 16th day of January 2024

Deaglan McEachern, Mayor of Portsmouth