



RESOLUTION 2024-07

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE EFFORTS TO BRING AWARENESS TO THE ISSUE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND HELP CHANGE THE NEXT GENERATION BY BREAKING THE CYCLE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, domestic violence, also known as Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), includes physical violence, sexual violence, stalking, and psychological aggression (including coercive tactics) by a current or former intimate partner (i.e., spouse, boyfriend / girlfriend, dating partner, or ongoing sexual partner), some forms of intimate partner violence, sexual violence, psychological aggression, coercive tactics, and stalking can be perpetrated electronically through mobile devices and social media sites, as well as in person; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, women experience about 4.8 million intimate partner-related physical assaults and rapes every year and less than 20 percent of battered women sought medical treatment following an injury; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in four women and one in seven men will experience physical violence by their intimate partner at some point during their lifetimes in the United States; and

WHEREAS, about one in three women and nearly one in six men experience some form of sexual violence during their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, when IPV occurs in adolescence, it is called teen dating violence (TDV). TDV affects millions of U.S. teens each year. About 16 million women and 11 million men who reported experiencing contact sexual violence, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime said that they first experienced these forms of violence before the age of eighteen; and

WHEREAS, promoting healthy, respectful, and nonviolent relationships and communities can help reduce the occurrence of intimate partner violence, it also can prevent the harmful and long-lasting effects of IPV on individuals, families, and communities. Domestic violence is a learned behavior and children who witness domestic violence in their home are twice as likely to become abusers or victims as adults; and

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association believes that a coordinated multidisciplinary approach—that includes providing equitable access to alternative modes of transportation for domestic violence victims, human trafficking and crime victims, and curbing victimization through preventing impaired driving—is necessary to improve the safety and quality of life in our communities; and

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association strongly supports the important role of ridesharing efforts in providing support to domestic violence victims, human trafficking victims, motor vehicle crash victims and other victims of crime, thereby fostering safer communities, healthier cities, and more vibrant transportation; and

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association knows and understands that the men and women of Sheriffs' Offices throughout this country respond to and investigate domestic violence cases every day and night within their individual jurisdictions, and that these calls can reach the level of up to 50% of law enforcement calls for service each day, according to the CDC, and that domestic violence and Intimate Partner Violence are some of the most underreported crimes; and

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association understands that the public awareness of the severity and occurrence of the crimes associated with domestic violence is not at an adequate level; and

WHEREAS, the Domestic Violence and Crime Victim Services Committee recommends that NSA designate one day at each of its conferences as "Purple Day" to encourage conference attendees to wear purple in solidarity with victims and survivors of domestic violence;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the National Sheriffs' Association is committed to drawing much-needed attention for increased public awareness on the issue of domestic violence in our communities, especially to our younger generations, and that IPV and TDV are criminal actions that must be eradicated to combat the violent cycle of domestic violence in our communities.