



# City of Woodland

## REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: April 13, 2010

SUBJECT: Proclaim April 2010 as National Sexual Assault Awareness Month

### **Report in Brief**

Sexual assault occurs all too frequently in our communities. Nationally 1 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men have been victims of rape or attempted rape. Locally there ten felony rapes reported in Woodland in 2009. Nearly two-thirds of sexual crimes are committed by persons who are not strangers to the victims.

The best way to prevent such crimes is to educate the community about high risk conduct that may lead to sexual assault. This year sexual assault victim organizations such as the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center (SADVC) of Yolo County are focusing preventative education on students in secondary schools and college. This segment of our population is often targeted to become victims of sexual assault. Frequently alcohol and/or drugs are used to incapacitate the victim. SADVC conducts activities throughout the month of April to raise public awareness around the problem of sexual assault in Woodland and throughout Yolo County.

Staff recommends that the City Council proclaim April 2010 as National Sexual Assault Awareness month.

### **Fiscal Impact**

No direct fiscal impact.

### **Public Contact**

This action has been included on the posting of the City Council agenda.

**SUBJECT:**

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**ITEM:**

**Recommended Actions**

Staff recommends that the City Council proclaim April 2010 as National Sexual Assault Awareness month.

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Chief of Police  
Interim Director, Parks & Recreation

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Carey F. Sullivan  
Acting City Manager

# City of Woodland

## PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF APRIL 2010 AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

**WHEREAS**, on average, a person is sexually assaulted in the United States every 2 ½ minutes; and

**WHEREAS**, 1 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men have been victims of rape or attempted rape; and

**WHEREAS**, two-thirds of sexual crimes are committed by persons who are not strangers to the victims; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Justice National Crime Victims Survey 2005 reports that victims of sexual assault are 13 times more likely to abuse alcohol, 26 times more likely to abuse drugs and 4 times more likely to contemplate suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, last year the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center of Yolo County assisted 403 victims of sexual assault; including free therapy for 69 adult victims and 43 child victims; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Justice National Crime Victims Survey reports that 44% of sexual assault victims are under the age of 18; and that girls ages 16-19 are 4 times more likely than the general population to be victims of sexual assault; and

**WHEREAS**, prevention education programs have the potential to reduce the prevalence of sexual assault in their communities and last year the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center provided rape prevention education to 3,417 youth in public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the Woodland Police Department works in collaboration with SADVC's Sexual Assault Response Team providing 24/7 on-call and immediate support for victims from the moment a crime report is taken to include in-person assistance with hospital and forensic examination, legal assistance and court accompaniment.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the City Council of the City of Woodland, California does hereby proclaim April 2010 as "National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month" in the City of Woodland, and urge our community to participate fully in activities and events to observe Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Dated: April 13, 2010

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Marlin H. Davies, Mayor

Artemio Pimentel, Vice Mayor  
William L. Marble, Council Member

Martie L. Dote, Council Member  
Jeff W. Monroe, Council Member