



*Whereas, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, gender, and income levels. It is widespread and affects over 4 million Americans each year; and*

*Whereas, one in three Americans has witnessed an incident of domestic violence. Children who grow up in violent homes are believed to be abused and neglected at a rate higher than the national average; and*

*Whereas, domestic violence costs the nation billions of dollars annually in medical expenses, police and court costs, shelters, foster care, sick leave, absenteeism, and non-productivity. Only a coordinated community effort will put a stop to this heinous crime; and*

*Whereas, Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing domestic violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services, and assistance to victims.*

*Now, Therefore, I, Cindy Finerty, Mayor of the City of Palm Desert, California, Do Hereby Proclaim the month of October, 2010, as*

## ***Domestic Violence Awareness Month***

*in the City of Palm Desert and urge our citizens to work together to eliminate domestic violence from our community.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Palm Desert, California, to be affixed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010.*

*Cindy Finerty*  
MAYOR

*Jean M. Benson*  
COUNCILMEMBER

*Robert A. Spang*  
COUNCILMEMBER

*[Signature]*  
COUNCILMEMBER

*Richard S. Kelly*  
COUNCILMEMBER