

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

STALKING AWARENESS MONTH JANUARY 2025

WHEREAS, under the laws of North Dakota and the federal government, stalking is a crime; and

WHEREAS, over 700 stalking offenses were reported in 2023 in North Dakota, yet stalking remains a severely underreported crime; and

WHEREAS, 13.5 million people are stalked in a one-year period in the United States, and the majority of victims are stalked by someone they know— 3 in 4 women killed by an intimate partner have been stalked by that intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, more victims are stalked using technology—such as phone calls, text messages, social media platforms, internet posts, emails and electronic tracking—than not using any technology; and

WHEREAS, many lose time from work and experience serious psychological distress and lost productivity at a much higher rate than the general population, and are forced to protect themselves by relocating, changing their identities, changing jobs and obtaining protection orders; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for greater public awareness about the nature, criminality and potential lethality of stalking; and

WHEREAS, criminal justice systems can enhance their responses to stalking by regular training and thorough investigation and prosecution of the crime, and laws and public policies must be continually adapted to keep pace with new tactics and technologies used by stalkers; and

WHEREAS, National Stalking Awareness Month is observed annually in January by a network of victim service providers, criminal justice officials and concerned citizens throughout the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
January 2025, STALKING AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.




Kelly Armstrong
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE