

**The Council Chambers
City Hall
Portsmouth, New Hampshire
A Proclamation**

Whereas: January was declared National Stalking Awareness Month in 2011 because the continuing prevalence of stalking in every community and its effect on 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: An estimated 13.5 million people are stalked in a one-year period in the United States and a majority of these stalking cases are perpetrated by someone the victim knows; and

Whereas: Stalking has long-lasting negative effects that 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: Here in Portsmouth, since 2015 when A Safe Place and Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS) officially merged as a single nonprofit, that organization HAVEN has provided support services and prevent education to those impacted by stalking, domestic violence and sexual violence; 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 and the City Legal Departments Prosecutors to support victims of 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 and Law Enforcement as sentries on the front lines, advocating on behalf of victims of stalking.

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 2026 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 20th day of January 2026.

Deaglan McEachern, Mayor of Portsmouth

