

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, under the laws of all 50 states, U.S. Territories, the District of Columbia, and federal government, stalking is a crime; and

WHEREAS, 7.5 million people were stalked in a one-year period in the United States, and the majority of victims are stalked by someone they know; and

WHEREAS, 3 in 4 women killed by an intimate partner had been stalked by that intimate partner; and

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

WHEREAS, many stalkers use technology – such as cell phones, global positioning systems (GPS), cameras, and spyware – to monitor and track their victims; 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 through regular training and assertive investigation and prosecution of the crime; and

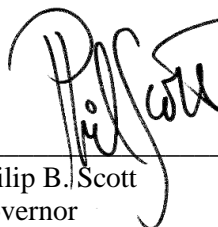
WHEREAS, laws and public policies must adapt to keep pace with new tactics used by stalkers, and communities can better combat stalking by adopting multidisciplinary responses by teams of local agencies and organizations, and by providing more and better victim services.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim January 2019 as

STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

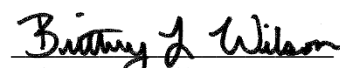
in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 24th day of January, A.D. 2019.



Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittny L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs