## **RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - 36**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2016 AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH.

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every community member of Nassau County; and

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment impact our community as seen by statistics indicating that one in five women and one in seventy-one men will be raped at some point in their lives (CDC, 2012); and

WHEREAS, nearly one in two women and one in five men have reported experiencing other forms of sexual violence victimization other than rape (CDC, 2010); and

WHEREAS, young people experience heightened rates of sexual violence, 12.3% of female victims and 27.8% of male victims were first raped when they were ten years old or younger; and

WHEREAS, sexual violence violates a person's trust and feelings of safety. It happens to people of all ages, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, profession, income and ethnicities; and

WHEREAS, we must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions; and

WHEREAS, with leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is evidence that we can be successful in preventing sexual violence in Nassau County through increased education, awareness, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, Nassau County strongly supports the efforts of national, state, and local partners and of every citizen, to actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent sexual violence. It's time for all of us to start conversation, take appropriate action and support one another to create a safer environment for us all.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, that:

- 1. April 2016 is hereby declared as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Nassau County, Florida.
- 2. The Board hereby joins advocates and communities across the nation, the United States Government, and the State of Florida in playing an active role in preventing sexual violence.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

WALTER J. BOATRIGHT

Its: Chairman

TEPHEN W. KELLEY

PATEDWARDS

DANIEL B. LEEPER

GEORGE V SPICER

Attest as to Chairman's

Signature:

JOHN A. CRAWFORD

Its. Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as the form by the Nassau County Attorney:

MICHAEL S. MULLIN