

A PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL  
AS  
SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH



**Whereas,** Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and has public health implications for every community member of Ashland; and

**Whereas,** Rape, sexual assault and sexual harassment impact our community as seen by statistics indicating that one in four girls and one in six boys will experience sexual assault before age 18 and one in five women and one in 67 men will be raped at some point in their lives; and

**Whereas,** We must work together to educate our community about what can be done to prevent sexual violence and how to support survivors; and

**Whereas,** Staff and volunteers at **SafeShelby** encourages every person to speak out when witnessing acts of violence and injustice; and

**Whereas,** With leadership, dedication and encouragement, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing sexual violence in Ashland through prevention education, increased awareness and holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence responsible for their actions; and

**Whereas,** The City of Ashland strongly supports the efforts of national, state and local partners, and of every citizen to actively engage in public and private efforts, including conversations about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors connect with services and how every segment of our society can work together to better address sexual violence.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,**

That I, Ray Johnson, Mayor, City of Ashland AL join anti-sexual violence advocates and support service programs in the belief that all community members must be part of the solution to end sexual violence. Along with the United States Government, the State of Alabama and The City of Ashland, I do hereby proclaim April 2018 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month!"

DATED at the City of Ashland, this 2nd day of April 2018.