

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION

### STALKING AWARENESS MONTH JANUARY 2023

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

WHEREAS, stalking is a severely underreported crime; yet, in 2021 in North Dakota, over 600 offenses of stalking were reported; and

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

WHEREAS, the majority of stalking victims are stalked by someone they know and many are forced to protect themselves by relocating, altering their identities, changing jobs and obtaining protection orders; 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 used by stalkers; and

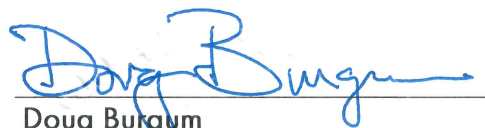
WHEREAS, there is a great need for public awareness about the nature, criminality and potential lethality of stalking; and

WHEREAS, communities can better combat stalking by adopting multidisciplinary responses by teams of local agencies and organizations and by providing more and better victim services; 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 2023, STALKING AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.



  
Doug Burgum  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:   
Michael Howe  
SECRETARY OF STATE