

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, stalking is a serious and sometimes deadly crime that threatens people in communities across our state and nation, with more than one million women and nearly 400,000 men in the United States victimized by stalkers each year; and

WHEREAS, stalking affects people from all walks of life and, while an individual may be targeted by a complete stranger or a mere acquaintance, most victims are current or former intimate partners of their stalkers; and

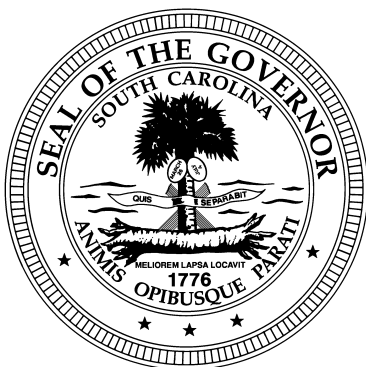
WHEREAS, victims of stalking often experience anxiety, insomnia, severe depression, social dysfunction, and lost work time and productivity at a higher rate than the general public and may take drastic measures, including relocating, obtaining orders of protection, and changing their job, address, and identity, to protect themselves; and

WHEREAS, the fourth annual observance of "National Stalking Awareness Month" calls attention to the crime of stalking, the needs of victims, and the resources available to help those targeted.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim January 2007 as

### STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to honor stalking victims and recognize service providers, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, public and private agencies, and other supporters for their efforts to help raise awareness of this crime and improve the quality of life of its victims.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA