



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

*Proclamation*

WHEREAS, New Jersey law defines stalking as repeated and unwanted contact, surveillance or proximity to an individual which purposefully or knowingly causes a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or suffer other emotional distress; and

WHEREAS, stalking victims may be monitored, harassed or threatened - often through phone calls, text messages, video and location devices, social media and other electronic methods; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 6 to 7.5 million people are stalked annually in the United States; and

WHEREAS, nearly 1 in 6 women and 1 in 17 men have experienced stalking victimization at some point in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, about half of all victims of stalking indicated that they were stalked before the age of 25; and

WHEREAS, most victims are stalked by someone they know, as stalking is frequently perpetrated by former or current intimate partners; and

WHEREAS, stalking is also a significant risk factor for domestic violence-related homicide with over 76 percent of victims experiencing stalking first; and

WHEREAS, as a result of stalking, victims may experience depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress and other related health implications; and

WHEREAS, anyone who suspects he or she is being stalked is encouraged to document what is happening, tell a trusted person, make a safety plan and connect with a provider agency; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey continues to provide supportive services through multiple state and local agencies, including the Departments of Children and Families, Law and Public Safety and local law enforcement to assist and support victims of stalking; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to educate residents about the impact and prevalence of the crime of stalking;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do proclaim:

JANUARY 2021  
AS  
STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-second day of January in the year two thousand twenty-one, the two hundred forty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States.

*Philip D. Murphy*  
Lt. GOVERNOR

*Philip D. Murphy*  
GOVERNOR