

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH OCTOBER 2026

- WHEREAS,** Domestic violence is a serious crime that harms our children, families, schools, communities, workplaces, and economy for people from all backgrounds and walks of life; and
- WHEREAS,** Domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, and security due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, and economic control or abuse; and
- WHEREAS,** In the United States, more than 12 million adults experience domestic violence each year, and approximately one in three women and one in four men have experienced rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner; and
- WHEREAS,** The Moore-Miller Administration continues to lead the work to build a stronger, safer state for all by making investments to support survivors of domestic violence and hold perpetrators accountable for their actions; and
- WHEREAS,** Through the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy, the State of Maryland has directed \$60 million in state and federal funds to victim service programs through the Victims of Crime Act, to provide critical support to victims of crime; and
- WHEREAS,** Through the Victim Compensation Reform Act, the State of Maryland has removed unnecessary barriers for victims of crime to get the resources they need to recover through modernizing Maryland's victims' compensation program, allowing for faster access to compensatory funds to support immediate needs like funeral or emergency relocation expenses and improving the likelihood that victims of crime will be willing to testify against perpetrators; and
- WHEREAS,** During Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the State of Maryland joins survivors, advocates, and partners across the state to remember all crime victims and commend the ongoing and tireless efforts of victim advocates and members of the victim service community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 2026 as DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH and OCTOBER 1 as PURPLE LIGHTS NIGHT in Maryland, and do commend this observation to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 1st day of October
Two Thousand and twenty-six

[Signature]
Governor

[Signature]
Lt. Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State