

Proclamation

WHEREAS, The mission of Family Court Awareness Month Committee (FCAMC) is to increase awareness of the importance of a family court system that prioritizes child safety and acts in the best interest of children; and

WHEREAS, The mission of FCAMC is fueled by the desire to create awareness and change in the family court system for the conservatively estimated, 58,000 children per year that are ordered into unsupervised contact with physically or sexually abusive parents, while honoring the hundreds of children who have been reported as murdered during visitation with a dangerous parent; and

WHEREAS, The mission of FCAMC is to increase awareness of the importance of empirically-based education and training on domestic violence, childhood trauma, child sexual abuse, coercive control, post separation abuse for all professionals working on cases within the family court system; and

WHEREAS, The mission of FCAMC is to increase awareness of the importance of using scientifically valid, evidence-based, treatment programs and services that are proven in terms of safety, effectiveness, and therapeutic value; and

WHEREAS, The mission of FCAMC is to educate judges and other family court professionals on evidence-based, peer-reviewed research. Such research is a critical component to making decisions that are truly in the best interest of children. This research includes The Adverse Childhood Experiences Study (ACEs) (co-principal investigator: Vincent Felitti, Kaiser Permanente-CDC); Child Custody Evaluators' Beliefs About Domestic Abuse Allegations (principal investigator: Daniel Saunders, University of Michigan, sponsored by the National Institute of Justice); and Child Custody Outcomes in Cases Involving Parental Alienation and Abuse Allegations (principal investigator: Joan S. Meier, GW Law School, sponsored by the National Institute of Justice),

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Mike Callis, on behalf of the City of Portland do hereby proclaim the month of November every year to be FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH and encourage citizens to support the local community's efforts to prevent the harm of children at the hands of family members who have been proven to be abusive and to honor and value the lives of all children.



In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and
Affixed the Seal of the City of Portland, Tennessee,

On this the 1st day of November 2024

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Callis".

Mayor Mike Callis