



Text File

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WHEREAS, in the sixteen years since the passage of the Violence Against Women Act, the silence surrounding domestic violence has been broken, reaching survivors, preventing incidences of abuse and saving lives. While these achievements are critical, domestic violence remains a devastating public health crisis when one in four women will be physically or sexually abused in her lifetime; and,

WHEREAS, one of the most important areas of concern, however, is the impact domestic violence has on the work place and work place safety ; and,

WHEREAS, STANDING FIRM; The Business Case to End Partner Violence alerts employers to the financial, safety and human costs of partner violence in the workplace and workforce and arms them with tools for taking effective organizational action ; and,

WHEREAS, Partner violence affects employers' bottom line by affecting productivity and liability, and the employer play a crucial role in protecting the workplace from violence related to partner abuse ; and,

WHEREAS, STANDING FIRM works collaboratively with all of the victim service agencies in the region, providing employers with free and low-cost tools to make the business case, formulate an action plan using best practice action steps, consultation, training communication and policy templates and other resources; and ,

WHEREAS, Lead employers in the **STANDING FIRM** initiative are UPMC, the Pittsburgh Foundation, Fifth Third Bank, Chatham and Carlow Universities, Allegheny County and , proudly, the City of Pittsburgh who has trained and educated over 2400 City employees. Since its inception, 92 regional companies and organizations have joined **STANDING FIRM**.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize October as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** and commends **STANDING FIRM** for the tremendous progress made in reducing domestic violence in the workplace and recommitting to making every person safe through their workplace mission; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare October 4, 2011, to be "**STANDING FIRM DAY**" in the City of Pittsburgh.