



# *Proclamation*

## NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

JANUARY 2017

**WHEREAS**, under the laws of all fifty (50) states, the U.S. Territories, the District of Columbia and the Federal government, stalking is a crime; and

**WHEREAS**, legislation has been drafted for the approval of the Osage Nation Congress which makes stalking a crime within the Osage Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly ten (10) million people are stalked each year in the United States, and the majority of victims are stalked by someone they know; and

**WHEREAS**, many stalking victims lose time from work and experience serious psychological distress and lost productivity at a much higher rate than the general population; and

**WHEREAS**, many stalking victims are forced to protect themselves by relocating, changing their identities, changing jobs, and obtaining Orders of Protection; and

**WHEREAS**, many stalkers use technology – such as cell phones, global positioning systems (GPS), cameras, and spyware – to monitor and track their victims; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for great public awareness about the nature, criminality, and potential lethality of stalking; and

**WHEREAS**, criminal justice systems can enhance their responses to stalking by regular training of law enforcement officers and aggressive investigation and prosecution of the crime; and

**WHEREAS**, laws and public policies must be continually adapted to keep pace with new tactics used by stalkers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Osage Nation Executive Branch is currently considering policy for all Osage Nation employees providing protections for victims of domestic violence, including stalking; and

**WHEREAS**, communities can better combat stalking by adopting multi-disciplinary responses by teams of local agencies and organizations and by providing more and better victim services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Osage Nation is joining forces with victim service providers, criminal justice officials, and concerned citizens throughout the Osage Nation, the state of Oklahoma and the United states to observe **National Stalking Awareness Month**.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Geoffrey M. Standingbear, as **Principal Chief** of the **Osage Nation**, do hereby proclaim January 2017 as STALKING AWARENESS MONTH, throughout the Osage Nation and applaud the efforts of the many victim service providers, police officers, prosecutors, national and community organizations and private sector

A blue ink signature of Geoffrey M. Standingbear is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

