

IN RECOGNITION OF FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH

NOVEMBER 2021

- WHEREAS,** IN 2021, GREYSON KESSLER, A FOUR-YEAR OLD WAS SHOT AND KILLED BY HIS BIOLOGICAL FATHER DURING AN APPROVED COURT VISIT DESPITE HIS FATHER'S HISTORY OF ABUSIVE BEHAVIOR AND HIS MOTHER ALI KESSLER'S PLEA TO THE COURT TO PROTECT HIM; AND
- WHEREAS,** TO HELP HONOR GREYSON KESSLER AND THE ESTIMATED 58,000 CHILDREN ANNUALLY THAT ARE AT RISK, DUE TO BEING ORDERED INTO UNSUPERVISED VISITATION WITH AN ABUSIVE PARENT BY STATE COURTS. - A NATIONAL COALITION OF ORGANIZATIONS HAVE DESIGNATED NOVEMBER AS NATIONAL FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH; AND
- WHEREAS,** THE MISSION OF THE FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH COMMITTEE AND ONE MOMS BATTLE (OMB) IS FUELED BY THE DESIRE FOR AWARENESS AND CHANGE IN THE FAMILY COURT SYSTEM WHILE HONORING THE LIVES OF 800(+) CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN REPORTED AS BEING MURDERED IN THE UNITED STATES BY SEPARATING OR DIVORCING PARENTS, WHEREIN AT LEAST 110 CASES THE COURTS HAD HEARD DIRECT PLEAS TO INTERVENE; AND
- WHEREAS,** FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH WILL INCREASE AWARENESS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING ON FAMILY VIOLENCE, CHILDHOOD TRAUMA AND POST SEPARATION ABUSE FOR ALL PROFESSIONALS WORKING WITHIN THE FAMILY COURT SYSTEM, AND
- WHEREAS,** THE MISSION AT THE FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH COMMITTEE IS TO EDUCATE JUDGES AND OTHER FAMILY COURT PROFESSIONALS ON THE EMPIRICAL DATA AND RESEARCH THAT IS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE. 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 (ACE) STUDY (CDC-KAISER PERMANENTE), SAUNDER'S STUDY (US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE), THE MEIER STUDY: CHILD CUSTODY OUTCOMES IN CASES INVOLVING ABUSE ALLEGATIONS, AND THE SANTA CLARA LAW STUDY (CONFRONTING THE CHALLENGE OF HIGH-CONFLICT PERSONALITY IN FAMILY COURT), NOW;
- THEREFORE,** JOSH LEVY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA, AND THE HOLLYWOOD CITY COMMISSION, HEREBY PROCLAIM NOVEMBER 2021 AS:

FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH

SIGNED THIS 3RD DAY OF
NOVEMBER 2021 AT
HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

MAYOR JOSH LEVY
VICE MAYOR LINDA SHERWOOD
COMMISSIONER CARYL SHUHAM
COMMISSIONER LINDA HILL ANDERSON
COMMISSIONER TRACI L. CALLARI
COMMISSIONER ADAM GRUBER
COMMISSIONER KEVIN D. BIEDERMAN