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*****PRESS RELEASE*****

SUPERVISOR CATHERINE STEFANI, CITY HALL LEADERS, AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS GATHER FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

SAN FRANCISCO – Supervisor Catherine Stefani, alongside the San Francisco Domestic Violence Consortium, fellow City Hall leaders, and community partners, is honored to mark the occasion of Domestic Violence Awareness Month through the lighting of City Hall in purple.

Date: October 24, 2023

Time: 6:00-7:00 PM

Location: San Francisco City Hall (Polk St Steps) : 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102

In the United States, research shows that between 22% and 57% of women experiencing homelessness report Domestic Violence (DV) as the cause of their homelessness. Housing instability is four times more likely for women who experience DV than those who do not, and at least one in four homeless women reports domestic violence as the primary cause of their homelessness. In the “Community Needs Assessment” for San Francisco, Safe House Alliance found that 2,684 survivors were turned away from Victim Service Provider-Emergency and Transitional Housing between 2019-2020. This shows that for every survivor who received safe housing that year, at least three others did not. We want to acknowledge these statistics and the need to better serve and protect these vulnerable communities here in San Francisco and across the nation.

Today’s rally is a chance to come together and re-affirm our City and County’s commitment to supporting efforts to raise awareness about domestic violence, prevent its occurrence, and provide resources for survivors. While we know our law enforcement officers and dispatchers play a vital role in addressing domestic violence on our streets and in our homes, our community partners answer nearly three times the amount of calls for service. We rely upon their ability to be a trusted source of information and support in the community and want to thank them for their tireless work.

As we gather tonight to combat domestic violence and support survivors, let the purple light of City Hall serve as a beacon of hope, a symbol of resilience, and a testament to our unwavering

dedication to creating a safer, more compassionate San Francisco for all. Together, we will stand strong against domestic violence and ensure that no survivor's call for help goes unanswered.

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