

## Sexual Assault Awareness Month Resolution

**WHEREAS**, sexual assault affects every person in Chatham County, as a victim survivor or as a family member, significant other, neighbor or co-worker of a victim survivor; and

**WHEREAS**, many community members in Chatham County are working to provide quality services and assistance to sexual assault survivors and dedicated volunteers help staff the 24-hour hotline, respond to emergency calls and offer support comfort and advocacy during medical exams, criminal proceedings and throughout the healing process; and

**WHEREAS**, staff and volunteers of Family Violence and Rape Crisis Services and many community partner agencies are promoting prevention education by offering training to schools, churches, civic organizations and the community; and

**WHEREAS**, law enforcement, medical providers, mental health, prosecutors, probation and parole, victim advocates and human services agencies are collaborating to improve the community response to sexual assault and provide support and services to survivors while holding perpetrators accountable; and


**WHEREAS**, it is vitally important that continued educational efforts about prevention and services for sexual assault be supported and enhanced; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical to increase public awareness of sexual assault, to educate people about the need for community involvement in efforts to reduce sexual violence, to increase support for agencies providing sexual assault services and to increase awareness of the healing power of creative expression; and

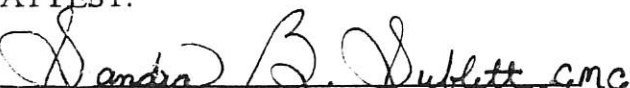
**WHEREAS**, the Coalition for Family Peace requests public support and assistance as it continues to work toward a society where all children, women and men can live in peace, free from violence and exploitation;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 2007 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Chatham County and commend this observance to all community members.

Adopted, this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2007.

  
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Carl Thompson, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
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Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, Clerk to the Board  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners