

MVCS

MARTHA'S VINEYARD
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Celebrating 50 Years of Service!

February 6, 2013

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111 Edgartown Road
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508-693-0032
The Thrift Shop:
508-693-2278

CONNECT to End Violence:
Hotline: 508-696-SAFE (7233)

Board of Selectmen
Chilmark Town Hall
401 Middle Road
Chilmark, MA 02535

Dear Chilmark Selectmen,

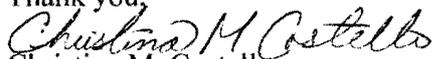
On behalf of CONNECT to end violence, a program of Martha's Vineyard Community Services; I am writing to request your support and approval to declare Martha's Vineyard a Domestic Violence Free Zone. This proclamation will be another demonstration of our regional Island-wide unified and multidisciplinary response to building awareness with the ultimate goal of ending domestic violence in our community. Domestic Violence Free Zones have been declared in several Massachusetts cities, as well as on a national and international level.

This proclamation will be visible through six street signs; one in each town. This sign, in itself, will not end or necessarily prevent domestic violence but certainly it will make a statement that our community takes domestic violence serious and that the laws surrounding domestic violence are enforced. In addition, the street signs will be another reminder to victims/survivors that they are not alone and that support and help is available in our community. We hope these signs will communicate to Islanders that domestic violence should not be a secret and is a nationally recognized public health issue.

As the community leaders, approval of this declaration will communicate a shared ownership of domestic violence prevention as a community issue. We know that increased outreach and prevention efforts result in victims/survivors being aware of services and taking their first step to seek support. We have presented the Domestic Violence Free Zone Declaration to the Island Police Chiefs and State Police Sergeant and have received their full support.

As the sponsor of the proclamation, CONNECT will provide the funding for the six street signs. Please let me know if you have any questions, I can be reached at (508) 684-8074 x103 or via email at ccostello@mvcommunityservices.com.

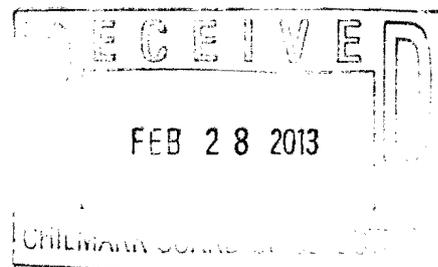
Thank you,


Christina M. Costello

Program Director



www.mvcommunityservices.com



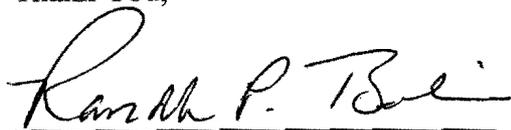
February 5, 2013

Board of Selectmen
Chilmark Town Hall
401 Middle Road
Chilmark, MA 02535

Dear Chilmark Selectmen,

The Island Police Chiefs and State Police Sergeant are in agreement and support of CONNECT to end violence, a program of Martha's Vineyard Community Services, in their endeavor to establish Martha's Vineyard as a Domestic Violence Free Zone. Our individual departments recognize that this proposed proclamation will enhance and strengthen our community efforts in combating domestic violence against our citizens.

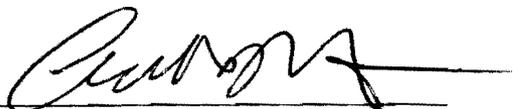
Thank You,



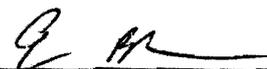
Chief Randhi Belain
Aquinnah Police Department



Chief Brian Cioffi
Chilmark Police Department



Chief Antone Bettencourt
Edgartown Police Department



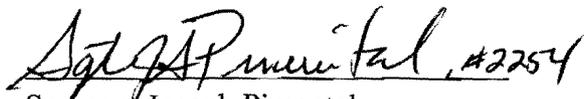
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Chief Daniel Hanavan
Tisbury Police Department



Chief Daniel Rossi
West Tisbury Police Department



Sergeant Joseph Pimental
Massachusetts State Police Department