

SAMPLE Crime Prevention Month PROCLAMATION



An official proclamation puts the power of state and local government behind crime prevention. Both as symbol and substance, the proclamation ceremony presents an excellent opportunity for a media event.

- Ask a top official (e.g., governor, mayor, city manager, council president, police chief, or sheriff) who has championed prevention to issue the proclamation.
- Schedule a press conference or photo opportunity for the last week in September to proclaim October as Crime Prevention Month. Contact your local law enforcement agency to arrange for an appearance by McGruff®.
- Contact the news media and emphasize their opportunity to report on positive news about crime prevention efforts. Work with the media on ways to honor people and programs that have made outstanding contributions to community safety.
- Use this sample proclamation as a model, but adapt it to reflect state or community concerns.

For further information, contact NCPC's Communications Department at 202-466-6272.

A Proclamation for Crime Prevention Month

Whereas, the vitality of our [city/county/state] depends on how safe we keep our homes, neighborhoods, schools, workplaces, and communities;

Whereas, crime and fear of crime destroy our trust in others and in civic institutions, threatening the community's health, prosperity, and quality of life;

Whereas, people of all ages must be made aware of what they can do to prevent themselves and their families, neighbors, and coworkers from being harmed by crime;

Whereas, people of all ages must be made aware of the dangers of crime and how they can protect themselves from becoming victims;

Whereas, the personal injury, financial loss, and community deterioration resulting from crime are intolerable and require investment from the whole community;

Whereas, crime prevention initiatives must include self-protection and security, but they must go beyond these to promote collaborative efforts to make neighborhoods safer for all ages and to develop positive opportunities for young people;

Whereas, adults must invest time, resources, and policy support in effective prevention and intervention strategies for youth, and adults must make sure to engage teens in programs to drive crime from their communities;

Whereas, effective crime prevention programs succeed because of partnerships with law enforcement, other government agencies, civic groups, schools, faith communities, businesses, and individuals as they help to nurture communal responsibility and instill pride;

Now, *therefore*, I [name of leader], [title], do hereby proclaim October [year] as Crime Prevention Month in [name of area] and urge all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, and businesses to invest in the power of prevention and work together to make [city/county/state] a safer, stronger, more caring community.