State of Maine

Proclamation

WHEREAS, registered nurses in the United States comprise the largest health care profession; and

WHEREAS, registered nurses are responsible for improved safety and quality in patient care delivery; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that violenc e is a health care problem and Forensic Nurses work to increase victim-centered care; and

WHEREAS, forensic nurses mitigate violence through public health strategies with both offender and victim, and through forensic nursing practice strategies that pre vent violence in an attempt to create a world without violence; and

WHEREAS, forensic science and technology continues to advance, encouraging the growth of programs utilizing Forensic Nurses; and

WHEREAS, forensic nurses are highly educated profession als that continue to meet the increasingly complex forensic and health care needs of individuals, families, communities, populations, and systems worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Nurses Examiners are the largest group of forensic nurses worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Maine's Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Program began in 1997; and

WHEREAS, there are over 100 nurses who are Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (or in training) practicing in hospital emergency departments statewide; and

WHEREAS, nearly every Maine hospital has a Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner available for victims of interpersonal and sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, greater awareness of Forensic Nurses and their work ensures communities will utilize their services to prevent, mitigat e, or intervene following acts of violence; and

WHEREAS, promotion of Forensic Nurses through celebration of the successes of the profession will increase public awareness and utilization in our communities,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN E. BALDACCI , Governor of the State of Maine , do hereby proclaim November 9 - 13, 2010 as

FORENSIC NURSING WEEK

throughout the State of Maine, and urge all citizens to recognize this observance.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this fourth day of October Two Thousand and Ten.

John E. Baldacci
Governor

Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State
TRUE ATTESTED COPY