CITY OF SPOKANE

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking for the purposes of forced labor or sexual exploitation is one of the largest and most profitable crime industries in the world. It is a public health issue that impacts individuals, families, and communities. Traffickers disproportionally target at-risk populations including individuals who have experienced or been exposed to other forms of violence (child abuse and maltreatment, interpersonal violence and sexual assault, community and gang violence) and individuals disconnected from stable support networks (youth who have runaway or are homeless, unaccompanied minors); and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking is a violation of human rights by involving force, coercion, and/or fraud, or in which the victim is under 18 years of age. Human Trafficking is unbiased when it comes to its victims/survivors, including but not limited to all ages, gender identities, races, religions, and social classes; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking a heavily under reported crime, not only across the nation but globally. Although awareness has grown and its evolution of becoming a renowned crime is developing, our efforts will continue as a community. We can make a difference by believing survivors, acknowledging the prevalence of this crime, and educating ourselves to better understand its severity and impact. In doing so, we can better understand and support those impacted. Everyone deserves safety, support, justice, hope, and healing:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lisa Brown, Mayor of the City of Spokane, on behalf of the people of Spokane, do hereby proclaim the month of January as Human Trafficking Prevention Month and January 11, 2026 as

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY

in Spokane and encourage all of our residents to start by believing, become informed on this growing problem, support those impacted, to be vigilant and report suspicious activity, and to work towards solutions to end trafficking in all its forms in our community.

I, Lisa Brown, Mayor of Spokane,
do hereunto set my hand and
cause the seal of the City of Spokane
to be affixed this
2nd day of January 2025.

Lisa Brown

Lisa Brown
Mayor