

*The Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva includes over 70 members that are island women of professional and executive backgrounds, who seek to raise awareness of the uncomfortable, often unspoken topic of violence against women; and*

**WHEREAS:** *Gender violence and abuse can affect women of all ages, living in any community, but it is a topic too often kept secret or highlighted only when horrific acts play out in newspaper and media reports; and*

**WHEREAS:** *Zonta Clubs are extending their core mission of improving the status of women through service and advocacy, working locally to specifically reduce violence against women through education and awareness; and*

**WHEREAS:** *Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva working along with the United Nations (UN Women) and with Zonta International (ZI) and its 32,000 members worldwide in 65 countries is engaged during 2013 and beyond in a specific anti-violence campaign entitled "Zonta Says NO"; and*

**WHEREAS:** *"Zonta Says NO" reaches its focus during a designated "16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence" which runs from Monday, November 25, through Tuesday, December 10, 2013; and*

**WHEREAS:** *Orange has been designated as the official color for the "Zonta Says NO" campaign, a color also adopted by the United Nations for this topic.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kevin Ruane, Mayor of the City of Sanibel, Lee County Florida, on behalf of the members of the City Council and the citizens of Sanibel, do hereby proclaim that on November 25, 2013 and during the "16 Days of Activism" all citizens are urged to support work to end violence against women and to eliminate the detrimental consequences it has on the well-being of our community.**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Sanibel to be affixed hereto.**