

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE [November 21, 2017; Austin, TX] PRESS RELEASE

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## SAFE Launches SAFEMen Pledge

SAFE asks men to commit to ending the cycle of violence

**Austin**, **TX**— As reports of widespread sexual harassment and assault continue to surface, the spotlight is on the numerous men who have taken advantage of countless women. The SAFE Alliance is asking men to commit to ending the cycle of violence by signing the <u>SAFEMen Pledge</u>.

According to the Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (IDVSA), nearly 44% of Texas women and 22.5% of Texas men have been sexually assaulted. In addition, nearly 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men in the U.S. have been victims of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime, according to The Center for Disease Control (CDC). These various forms of violence overlap and intersect rather than occur independently.

With the SAFEMen Pledge campaign, SAFE hopes to take a step toward changing the societal norms that so often turn a blind eye, condone, and breed violence and abuse as acceptable means of coercive control over another person.

Among the signatories are Mayor Steve Adler, Dell Medical Dean Clay Johnston, City Councilman Greg Casar, businessman Joah Spearman, Texas Senator Kirk Watson, and many more. SAFE is encouraging men to sign the pledge and take action by supporting survivors, always practicing consent, teaching children what healthy relationships look like, and <u>more.</u>

## THE SAFEMen PLEDGE

I pledge to:

-Recognize the power and privilege implicit in my relationships.

-Commit to a culture of nonviolence and respect through my actions, speech and attitude.

-Be an active upstander, speaking up against gender violence and sexism and teaching others how to do the same.

-Encourage and support survivors by believing them and standing with them as they heal

