



**Republic of Palau**  
***Office of the President***

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.  
*President*

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**PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 17-221**

*To Proclaim November 25, 2017 as White Ribbon Day in which law enforcement officers shall lead the fight to End Violence Against Women and Children in the Republic of Palau and the Pacific Region.*

**WHEREAS**, the White Ribbon Campaign is the first male-led campaign to end violence against women and children in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical to encourage men and boys to take a stand that violence, in any form, is never acceptable; and

**WHEREAS**, the White Ribbon Campaign recognizes that most men do not commit acts of violence against women and children, but by staying silent about violence against women and children men are implicitly allowing such violence to continue; and

**WHEREAS**, the White Ribbon Campaign asks men, young and old, to speak out against violence against women and children by wearing a white ribbon as a public pledge that wearer does not condone, excuse, and will not remain silent about violence against women and children; and

**WHEREAS**, violence against women and children has historically been considered a "family thing" or a "women's issue," but it is not; violence against women, children and partners is a societal issue that requires a societal response in order to ensure that all of our people live free of violence; and

**WHEREAS** violence against women and children remains a de-stabilizing threat to our community and society as a whole; therefore, it is a critically important issue that must be brought to the forefront of discussions in communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the White Ribbon Campaign believes that violence against women and children will end when men and women work together in publicizing the issue; and



**WHEREAS**, violence against women and children is a problem across the Pacific, and there is an urgent need to acknowledge the prevalence of violence against women and children in the Pacific at all levels of the community; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., DO HEREBY PROCLAIM November 25, 2017 as "White Ribbon Day," a day where Palauans and all who reside in the Republic of Palau come together, led by men and women, united in the prevention of, and to bringing about the end of, violence against women and children; and

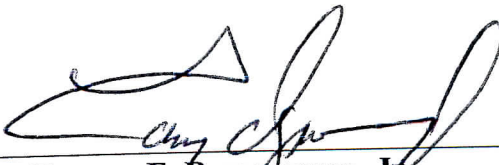
**I FURTHER PROCLAIM**, that Palauan tradition and culture does not condone or endorse any type of violence against women and children; and

**I FURTHER URGE**, elected and appointed public officials and community leaders to speak out and do everything that they can from their position of leadership to increase public awareness about violence against women and children and to oppose all forms of violence against women and children, and;

**I FURTHER URGE**, the public to make the issue of violence against women and children a predominant issue of discussion in our communities across the Republic; and

**I FURTHER URGE**, the public to wear a White Ribbon as a public declaration that: "I do not condone, I will not excuse, and I will not remain silent about violence against women and children in my community."

**SO PROCLAIMED** on this 22<sup>ND</sup> day of November 2017  
in the Republic of Palau.

  
**Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.**  
**President of the Republic of Palau**