



Proclamation



GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY & WEAR ORANGE WEEKEND

WHEREAS, on average, approximately 100 Americans are killed by guns every day, and hundreds more are shot and injured; data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows that there were 39,773 gun deaths in 2017, 14,542 of these were homicides; North Carolina averages 1,350 gun deaths per year, with a rate of 13.0 deaths per 100,000 people; and

WHEREAS, many Americans are taking action against gun violence; groups such as Everytown for Gun Safety, Americans Against Gun Violence, Mothers of the Movement, Moms Demand Action, the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, and youth-led organizations such as March for Our Lives, Students Demand Action, Team Enough, and many more, are working to increase awareness of gun violence, and seeking solutions to this profoundly destructive national crisis; and

WHEREAS, June 2nd, 2020 would have been the 23rd birthday of Hadiya Pendleton; she was shot in the back and killed at the age of 15 while socializing with friends at a park in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, after her death, Hadiya's friends wore orange in her honor, they chose this color because hunters wear orange as a safety measure, allowing them to be seen by other hunters, and serving as a clear visual signal that they are not targets; orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life and has become the color that represents the gun violence awareness and prevention movement; and

WHEREAS, the first Friday of June is the day that Americans across the country mourn victims, speak the truth about gun violence, and work together to find solutions to this challenging issue; now in its 6th year, this is known as Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to wear orange the weekend of June 5 - 7; doing so will raise awareness about gun violence, show solidarity with others who are working for a solution to this crisis, and honor the lives and human potential lost to gun violence; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence, pledging to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and ensure that when a gun is owned, it is done so in a safe, responsible, competent and legal manner.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, hereby proclaim **June 5, 2020** as "**Gun Violence Awareness Day**" and **June 5 - 7** as "**Wear Orange Weekend.**" I encourage all residents to wear orange and show their support for efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence.

This the 2nd day of June 2020.



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor