

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

PROCLAMATION

DECLARING JUNE 5, 2020 TO BE NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

This proclamation declares June 5, 2020, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the City of Hyattsville to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence.

WHEREAS, every day, countless lives are affected by gun violence and every day, adults, children and teens are shot in murders, assaults, suicides and suicide attempts, unintentional shootings, and police interventions; and

WHEREAS, the highest responsibility of our Mayor and Council is to protect the public and ensure our community's safety; and

WHEREAS, elected officials and law enforcement officers know their communities best and are best positioned to understand how to keep our residents safe; and

WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from dangerous people; and

WHEREAS, June 5, 2020, would be the 23rd birthday of Chicago's Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who was tragically shot and killed weeks after marching in then President Obama's second inaugural parade; and

WHEREAS, in honor of Hadiya – and the countless lives who are cut short and the countless survivors whose lives are forever changed by gun violence – a national coalition of organizations has designated June 5, 2020, as the sixth annual National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing the color orange, which among other meanings represents the value of human life.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the City of Hyattsville, do hereby recognize June 5, 2020, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day, and invite all to join this campaign by pledging to wear orange on June 5, as we raise awareness of gun violence and renew our community's resolve to reduce that violence by keeping firearms out of the wrong hands and encouraging responsible gun ownership.

Candace B. Hollingsworth
Mayor, City of Hyattsville

June 1, 2020

