



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** every day, more than 100 Americans are killed by gun violence, alongside more than 230 who are shot and wounded, and on average there are nearly 13,000 gun homicides every year. Americans are 25 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and
- WHEREAS,** Colorado has 805 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 14.0 deaths per 100,000 people, and has the 21st highest rate of gun deaths in the United States. Gun homicides and assaults are concentrated in cities, with more than half of all firearm related gun deaths in the nation occurring in 127 cities; and
- WHEREAS,** mayors, city council members, and law enforcement officers know their communities best, are the most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to understand how to keep their residents safe; and
- WHEREAS,** gun violence prevention is more important than ever as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to exacerbate gun violence after more than a year of increased gun sales, increased calls to suicide and domestic violence hotlines, and an increase in city gun violence; and
- WHEREAS,** in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton, was tragically shot and killed at age 15. To help honor Hadiya – and the 100 Americans whose lives are cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day – a national coalition of organizations has designated the first Friday in June as 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 orange; they chose this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and
- WHEREAS,** everyone can join this campaign by pledging to wear orange on June 4th. On this day, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children and community safe.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Meredith Leighty, Mayor of the City of Northglenn, Colorado, hereby proclaim June 4th, 2021 as:

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

in the City of Northglenn to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence. I encourage all residents to support efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

Dated, at Northglenn, Colorado this 1st day of June 2021.


MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor

