



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, every day, more than 120 Americans are killed by gun violence and more than 200 are shot and wounded. With an average over 17,000 gun homicides every year, Americans are 26 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and

**WHEREAS**, Colorado has as the 39<sup>th</sup> highest rate of gun deaths in the United States, with 850 gun deaths every year at a rate of 17.4 deaths per 100,000 people; 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 we see an increase in firearm homicides and nonfatal shootings across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton, was tragically shot and killed at age 15. On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, to recognize the 26<sup>th</sup> birthday of Hadiya, people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to the victims of gun violence and the loved ones of those victims; 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**, by wearing orange on June 2, 2023 Americans will again raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Northglenn renews our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledges 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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 as:

### NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

in the City of Northglenn and 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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2023.

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MEREDITH LEIGHTY  
Mayor

