



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, every day, more than 110 Americans are killed by gun violence, alongside more than 200 who are shot and wounded, and on average there are nearly 16,000 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 850 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 14.5 deaths per 100,000 people, and has the 22nd highest rate of gun deaths in the United States; 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 two years 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. On June 3rd, 2022, to recognize the 25th 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, 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 3rd, 2022 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 23rd day of May 2022.

MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor

