



## Proclamation by the Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Council

### To Whom All These Presents Shall Come:

**WHEREAS**, every day, 93 Americans, including children, are killed by gun violence and more than 200 have sustained nonfatal firearm injuries over the last 5 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than people in other developed countries; and

**WHEREAS**, the most recent data collected and published by Louisville Metro Police Department reveals that there were 124 criminal homicides in Louisville Metro in 2016, the most since 1971 and that there were 100 shooting-related fatalities in Louisville Metro in 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, the most recent data collected and published by Louisville Metro Police Department reveals that there were also 397 non-fatal shooting victims in 2016; 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**, protecting public safety in the communities we serve is our highest responsibility; and

**WHEREAS**, according to Gun Violence Archive 2017, 3,789 children/teenagers were shot or killed in America in the 366 days of 2016 and 1,472 children/teenagers were shot or killed in America in the first 143 days of 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 would have been the 20<sup>th</sup> birthday of Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President Barack Obama's second inaugural parade and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later; and

**WHEREAS**, to help honor Hadiya — and the 93 Americans whose lives are cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day — a national coalition of organizations has designated June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017, as the Third 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 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**, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to Wear Orange on June 2<sup>nd</sup> to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

**WHEREAS**, by wearing orange on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Americans, including Louisvillians, will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives and lost human potential of those stolen by gun violence; and

**WHEREAS**, 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 safe.

**NOW THEREFORE, THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO COUNCIL ("METRO COUNCIL") HEREBY PROCLAIMS JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2017 TO BE GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY IN THE LOUISVILLE METRO AREA IN CONCURRENCE WITH NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY TO HONOR**

**AND REMEMBER ALL VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF GUN VIOLENCE AND TO DECLARE THAT WE AS A COUNTRY AND AS A CITY MUST DO MORE TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE.**

**FURTHER, THE METRO COUNCIL ENCOURAGES ALL CITIZENS TO SUPPORT THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES' EFFORTS TO PREVENT THE TRAGIC EFFECTS OF GUN VIOLENCE AND TO HONOR AND VALUE HUMAN LIVES.**

**FURTHER, THE METRO COUNCIL PROCLAIMS THAT THE BIG FOUR BRIDGE WILL BE LIT IN ORANGE ON JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2017 AND URGES THE COMMUNITY TO VIEW THIS AS A REMINDER THAT WE MUST ALL COME TOGETHER TO END GUN VIOLENCE.**

**AND FURTHER, THE METRO COUNCIL INVITES EVERYONE TO WEAR ORANGE AND ATTEND A WALK AND COOKOUT ON JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2017 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M. AT SHEPPARD PARK, 1601 MAGAZINE STREET, TO END GUN VIOLENCE AND HONOR THE VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF GUN VIOLENCE.**

**Done this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2017.**

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By: Councilwoman Mary Woolridge  
Louisville Metro Council, District 3

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By: Councilwoman Barbara Sexton Smith  
Louisville Metro Council, District 4

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By: Councilwoman Cheri Bryant Hamilton  
Louisville Metro Council, District 5

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By: Councilman Brandon Coan  
Louisville Metro Council, District 8