

*To all whom these letters shall come, Greetings:
Know ye the Louisville Metro Council hereby issues this*

PROCLAMATION

Declaring

June 7, 2019

National Gun Violence Awareness Day

Whereas, every day, 96 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are nearly 13,000 gun homicides every year. Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than people in other developed countries; and

Whereas, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is a mayor's highest responsibility. Support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from dangerous people. Mayors 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 citizens safe; and

Whereas, January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later, should be now celebrating her 22nd birthday. To help honor Hadiya – and the 96 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 7th, 2019, the first Friday in June, as the 5th 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 7th, the first Friday in June 2019, to help raise awareness about gun violence. By wearing orange on June 7, 2019 Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; 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 be it resolved that the Louisville Metro Council, we hereby acknowledge the first Friday in June National Gun Awareness Violence Day by way of this proclamation with all rights, privileges and responsibilities thereunto appertaining. In testimony, we have caused these letters to be made and the seal of the City of Louisville to be hereunto affixed.

Done in Louisville Kentucky

This 23rd day of May 2019

*Honorable Barbara Sexton Smith
Fourth District Councilwoman*