

WHEREAS, every day, more than 120 Americans are killed by gun violence and more than 200 are shot and wounded, with an average of more than 18,000-gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, in Florida, nearly 3,000 people die by guns in an average year, a crisis that costs the state \$40.3 billion every year, of which approximately \$875 million is paid by taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, firearms are now the leading cause of death for American children; and

WHEREAS, gun homicides and assaults are concentrated in cities, and cities across the nation are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions; and

WHEREAS, local government and law enforcement officers—in partnership with local violence intervention activists and resources—know their communities best, and are best positioned to understand how to keep their citizens safe; and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, honor student Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15; and

WHEREAS, on June 7, 2024, to recognize what would have been her 27th birthday, people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to Hadiya Pendleton, other 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, choosing this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when in the woods, and because orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and

WHEREAS, the tragic events at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, where gun violence resulted in the loss of 17 students and faculty, and the wounding of 17 others, brings greater attention to the need for awareness in our community; and

WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 7, 2024, Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to help keep our children and our communities safe.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Commission of the City of Coconut Creek, Florida, hereby proclaims June 7, 2024, as

“NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY”

and encourages all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, we have hereunto
set our hands and caused the seal of
the City of Coconut Creek to be affixed
this 23rd day of May 2024.