

City of Rochester



WHEREAS, every day, approximately 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, and 45,222 gun-related deaths in total; and

WHEREAS, cities across the nation, including Rochester, are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is mayors' highest responsibility; 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; and on June 3, 2022 we recognize what would have been her 25th birthday as people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence; and the loved ones of those victims; and

WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 3, 2022, Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and 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 I, Kim Norton, Mayor of the City of Rochester, Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the first Friday in June which is June 3, 2022, to be

National Gun Violence Awareness Day

and I encourage 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 WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the corporate seal of the City of Rochester to be affixed this 3rd day of June, 2022.