

**PROCLAMATION
TO DECLARE JUNE 4, 2021
NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY IN THE CITY OF TROY**

WHEREAS, Every day, more than 100 Americans are killed by gun violence, alongside more than 230 who are shot and wounded, and on average there are more than 13,000 gun homicides every year. Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than people in other countries; and

WHEREAS, Support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from dangerous people. Michigan has an average of 1212 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 12.1 deaths per 100,000 people. Michigan has the 31st highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and

WHEREAS, Gun homicides and assaults are concentrated in cities, with more than half of all firearm related gun deaths in the nation occurring in 127 cities; and

WHEREAS, Cities across the nation, including Troy, are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions. Support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from people with dangerous histories; and

WHEREAS, Law Enforcement agencies and local Police Departments know their communities best and 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, Gun violence prevention is more important than ever as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to exacerbate gun violence after more than a year of increased gun sales, increased calls to suicide and domestic violence hotlines, and an increase in city gun violence; and

WHEREAS, In January 2013, 15-year-old Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed. A group of Hadiya's friends 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 4, 2021, to help raise awareness about gun violence. By wearing orange on Friday, June 4, 2021 Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, As a community, 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 Troy City Council declares **Friday, June 4, 2021** to be **National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the City of Troy** and encourages all citizens to support our community's efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we encourage responsible gun ownership and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands to help keep our children safe.

Presented the 24th Day of May 2021