## Town of Apex, North Carolina Proclamation

from the Office of the Mayor

## NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS WEAR ORANGE DAY

- WHEREAS, every day, 100 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are nearly 19,000 gun homicides every year; and
- WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is the Mayor's highest responsibility; and
- WHEREAS, Mayors, residents, and law enforcement officers working together know their communities best, are the most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address public safety needs, and are the best positioned to understand how to keep their citizens safe; and
- WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade was tragically shot and killed just weeks later, who should be celebrating her 24<sup>th</sup> birthday. To honor Hadiya, the 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 4, 2021, the first Friday in June, as the 7<sup>th</sup> National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and
- WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 4, 2021, 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, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of the Town of Apex, do hereby proclaim the first Friday in June, June 4, 2021, to be national Gun Violence Awareness Day. 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 THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Apex, North Carolina to be affixed this the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2021

Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor