



# PROCLAMATION

## National Gun Violence Awareness Day

**WHEREAS**, every day, more than 120 Americans are killed by gun violence and more than 200 are shot or wounded; and

**WHEREAS**, Americans are 26 times more likely to be murdered with guns than people in other developed countries; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina ranks 23rd amongst states for gun deaths in the United States with an average of 1,636 deaths every year with 54% of gun-related deaths by suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2025, the Town of Hillsborough experienced one accidental shooting resulting in bodily injury, one assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury, one suicide, and one robbery at gunpoint; and

**WHEREAS**, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from dangerous people; and

**WHEREAS**, together with our neighbors in Orange County, Carrboro, and Chapel Hill, the Town of Hillsborough supports efforts to enact commonsense gun safety laws and educate the community on gun safety; and

**WHEREAS**, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to wear orange on Friday, June 5th to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

**WHEREAS**, by wearing orange on June 5th, Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives and lost human potential of Americans stolen by gun violence; 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, Mark Bell, mayor of the Town of Hillsborough, do hereby proclaim June 5, 2026, as "National Gun Violence Awareness Day" in the Town of Hillsborough and encourage everyone 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 this seal of the Town of Hillsborough to be affixed this 27th day of May in the year 2026.

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Mark Bell, Mayor  
Town of Hillsborough