

# CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH

## PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** On average there are more than 43,000 Americans killed with guns and approximately 76,000 more shot and wounded every year with Americans 26 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and
- WHEREAS,** Gun homicides and assaults are concentrated in cities, with more than half of all firearms related gun deaths in the nation occurring in 127 cities; and
- WHEREAS,** Cities across the nation, including in the City of Lake Worth Beach, are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions with protecting public safety in the communities they serve is a mayor's highest responsibility; and
- WHEREAS,** 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,** Gun violence prevention is more important than ever as we see an increase in firearm homicides, and nonfatal shootings across the country, increased calls to 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 7, 2024, to recognize the 27<sup>th</sup> birthday of Hadiya Pendleton (born: June 2, 1997), 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,** The idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends, who 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 7<sup>th</sup>, the first Friday in June, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and
- WHEREAS,** By wearing orange on June 7, 2024, 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, Betty Resch, Mayor of the City of Lake Worth Beach, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me and on behalf of the City Commission, do hereby proclaim:

**JUNE 7, 2024**

as

**NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY**

To honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence. 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 Seal of the City of Lake Worth Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Betty Resch, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Ann Coyne, MMC, City Clerk