



City of Mercer Island, Washington

Proclamation

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

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; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other developed and high-income countries; and

WHEREAS, Washington state has 781 gun deaths every year and has the 40th highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is the city's highest responsibility; and

WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding residents goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from people that shouldn't have them; 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 increasing gun sales, increasing calls to suicide and domestic violence hotlines, and increasing gun violence;

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 and community safe.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Benson Wong, do hereby proclaim June 4, 2021 as

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

in Mercer Island and encourage community members to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

APPROVED, this 1st day of June 2021.

Benson Wong, Mayor
4843-6391-9595, v. 1

WEAR  ORANGE