

Proclamation

Declaring June 2023 to be Gun Violence Awareness Month in the City of Tualatin

WHEREAS, every day, more than 120 Americans are killed by gun violence, alongside more than 200 who are shot and wounded, and on average there are more than 17,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, Oregon has an average of 522 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 11.9 deaths per 100,000 people; the 33rd highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and

WHEREAS, cities across the nation are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions; 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;

WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15; and in June to recognize Hadiya Pendleton's birthday (born: June 2, 1997), people across the United States recognize Gun Violence Awareness 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, by wearing orange in June, Tualatin 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, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUALATIN, OREGON that:

June 2023 is Gun Violence Awareness Month in the City of Tualatin. The community is encouraged to support efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of May, 2023.

CITY OF TUALATIN, OREGON

BY _____
Mayor

ATTEST:

BY _____
City Recorder