



City of Charleston

JOHN J. TECKLENBURG

MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** every day, 100 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are nearly 13,000 gun homicides every year; 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,** mayors and law enforcement officers know their communities best, are the most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are 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; and
- WHEREAS,** to help honor Hadiya – and the 100 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 7, 2019, the first Friday in June, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day; 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,** to help raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of victims and survivors, the community is encouraged to wear orange on June 7, 2019; 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, John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor of the City of Charleston, do hereby proclaim Friday, June 7, 2019 as:

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I do hereby set my hand and cause the seal of Charleston to be affixed, this 28th day of May in the year of 2019.

John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor

