

DECLARING THE FIRST FRIDAY IN JUNE TO BE NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

This proclamation declares the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the City of Harper Woods to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to end this public health crisis.

WHEREAS, every day, more than 120 Americans are killed by gun violence and more than 200 are shot and wounded, with an average of more than 17,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is mayors' 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, mayors, city council and law enforcement officers—in partnership with local violence intervention activists and resources—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, On February 13th two students from the Harper Woods/Grosse Pointe Communities were victims of gun violence, Arielle Diamond Anderson attended Grosse Pointe North and Brian Fraser attended Grosse Pointe South, and Alexandria Verner whose mother worked at Grosse Pointe North.

WHEREAS, The community placed orange ribbons around trees and are requesting that June 2nd 2023 be recognized as a day to wear orange, a color that symbolizes the value of human life and in tribute to:

Brian and Arielle and Alexandria,
the loved ones of those victims and
all victims and survivors of gun violence; and

WHEREAS, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to wear orange on June 2nd, the first Friday in June in 2023, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 2, 2023 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 hands of people who should not have access to them, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our families and communities safe.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Harper Woods Mayor and City Council declare the first Friday in June, June 2, 2023, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. 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.

Mayor and City Council
City of Harper Woods
May 1, 2023