

Date of Meeting: June 1, 2021

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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUSINESS MEETING
BOARD MEMBER INITIATIVE**

SUBJECT: Proclamation to Recognize June 4, 2021 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day

ELECTION DISTRICT: Countywide

CRITICAL ACTION DATE: June 1, 2021

STAFF CONTACT: Rey Banks, Chief of Staff to Supervisor Briskman
Zachary Harris, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Briskman
Max Brotman, Intern to Supervisor Briskman

PURPOSE: To recognize June 4, 2021 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

RECOMMENDATION: Supervisor Briskman recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve this proclamation.

BACKGROUND: Since its inauguration in 2015, the first Friday in June has been recognized as National Gun Violence Awareness Day. Also known as #WearOrangeDay, National Gun Violence Awareness Day was created to memorialize those injured and killed by gun violence in the United States each year. Therefore, we would like to recognize June 4, 2021 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day in Loudoun County.

DRAFT MOTION:

1. I move that the Board of Supervisors approve the attached Proclamation to recognize June 4, 2021 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day in Loudoun County.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Proclamation

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS** National Gun Violence Awareness Day, also known as #WearOrangeDay, started in 2013 after 15-year-old Hadiya Pendleton was shot and killed in Chicago; and
- WHEREAS** National Gun Violence Awareness Day now takes place every first Friday of June to remember victims like Hadiya Pendleton; and
- WHEREAS** The United States has the 28th-highest rate of gun-related deaths in the world, with 4.12 fatalities per 100,000 people; and
- WHEREAS** Even among the 64 highest-income countries and territories, the United States experiences the eighth most firearm-related homicides; and
- WHEREAS** In 2021, there have been 7,142 gun-homicides and 9,042 suicides by firearm. That is 16,184 firearm-related deaths in only 137 days; and
- WHEREAS** Three quarters of all murders involve a firearm as well as just over half of suicides; and
- WHEREAS** Gun violence is an imminent threat to the safety and security of our citizens; 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 RESOLVED that the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim June 4, 2021 to be

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

in Loudoun County, and we honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and recognize that we as a County, Commonwealth, and Country must do more to reduce gun violence.

Phyllis J. Randall, Chair At-Large

Koran T. Saines, Vice Chairman, Sterling District

Caleb A. Kershner, Catoctin District

Juli E. Briskman, Algonkian District

Matthew F. Letourneau, Dulles District

Sylvia R. Glass, Broad Run District

Kristen C. Umstatt, Leesburg District

Tony R. Buffington, Blue Ridge District

Michael R. Turner, Ashburn District

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors
June 1, 2021

