



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** every day, more than 100 Americans are killed by gun violence, 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 high-income countries; and
- WHEREAS,** Washington has on average 753-gun deaths every year, with a rate of 10 deaths per 100,000 people, and Washington has the 39th highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and
- WHEREAS,** gun homicides predominantly occur in cities, with more than half of all firearm related gun deaths in the nation occurring in 127 cities; and
- WHEREAS,** cities across the nation, including in Redmond, are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions; and
- WHEREAS,** mayors and law enforcement officers know their communities best, are most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to understand how to keep their residents safe; and
- WHEREAS,** the pandemic facing America has drastically impacted communities and individuals sheltering in place, which may result in situations where access to firearms results in increased risk in intimate partner violence gun deaths, suicide by gun, and unintentional shootings; and
- WHEREAS,** support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding individuals goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from people with dangerous histories; and
- WHEREAS,** Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in the January 2013 presidential inaugural parade, was tragically shot and killed just weeks later, and should now be celebrating her 23rd birthday; and
- WHEREAS,** to help honor Hadiya – and the more than 100 Americans whose lives are cut short every day and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day – a national coalition of organizations has designated June 5, 2020, the first Friday in June, as the sixth 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, and 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,** anyone can join this campaign by pledging to Wear Orange on June 5 to help 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 everyone safe;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANGELA BIRNEY, Mayor of the City of Redmond, do hereby proclaim June 5, 2020, as

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

in the City of Redmond to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence. I encourage all residents to support local efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angela Birney", is written over a horizontal line.

Angela Birney, Mayor

June 2, 2020

Date