



# Proclamation



## Gun Violence Awareness Day

WHEREAS, every day, more than 110 people in the United States are killed with guns; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Center for Health Statistics, 1,699 North Carolinians were killed with guns in 2020, and North Carolina had the 21st highest rate of gun deaths in the United States; and

WHEREAS, recent mass shootings—including the incident of racial terrorism at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York, and the massacre of children and teachers at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas—are horrifying reminders that the United States stands alone among high-wealth countries in its exceptionally high level of gun violence; and

WHEREAS, the high level of gun violence in the United States is not an unstoppable force of nature, but is a consequence of policy choices by federal and state lawmakers that enable easy access to guns; and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, 15-year-old Hadiya Pendleton was shot and killed on a playground in Chicago, Illinois; and since 2015, people across the United States have observed National Gun Violence Awareness Day on the first Friday in June in honor of Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence and their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, advocates also observe Wear Orange Weekend on the weekend accompanying National Gun Violence Awareness Day by wearing orange, a tradition begun by Hadiya Pendleton's childhood friends; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro will display orange flags at the entrance of Town Hall on Wear Orange Weekend, and the Town of Chapel Hill will host a rally and flag raising ceremony at Peace and Justice Plaza on East Franklin Street in Chapel Hill on Friday, June 3rd, at 12:30 pm;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Damon Seils, mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim Friday, June 3rd, 2022, to be Gun Violence Awareness Day in Carrboro. I encourage all residents to attend the rally at Peace and Justice Plaza in Chapel Hill on June 3rd and to support local efforts to raise awareness about gun violence, such as the work of Students Demand Action and the North Carolina chapter of Moms Demand Action.

FURTHERMORE, I encourage all residents to contact state and federal lawmakers—including Senator Richard Burr and Senator Thom Tillis—to insist they enact widely supported gun restrictions and gun safety legislation, and to remind them that lawmakers' continued inaction on such legislation helps to make guns easily available and contributes to the deaths of North Carolinians and people across the United States.

This the 2nd day of June, 2022.



Damon Seils, Mayor