

**WHEREAS**, every day, more than 100 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are nearly 13,000 - gun homicides each year; and

**WHEREAS**, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is the Mayors' highest responsibility; 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 and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later, should be now celebrating her 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday; and

**WHEREAS**, to help honor Hadiya – and the more than 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 4, 2021, the first Friday in June, as the 7<sup>th</sup> 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**, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to Wear Orange on June 4<sup>th</sup>, the first Friday in June 2021, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

**WHEREAS**, by wearing orange on June 4, 2021, 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 wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children safe.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, SHELLY PETROLIA**, Mayor of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, on behalf of the City Commission, do hereby declare the first Friday in June, June 4, 2021 to be:

### **National Gun Violence Awareness Day**

and encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Delray Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 2021.

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SHELLY PETROLIA  
MAYOR