



CITY OF ROCHESTER

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS:** *Every day, 96 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are nearly 13,000 gun homicides every year, and Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than people in other developed countries; and*

**WHEREAS:** *Protecting public safety in the communities they serve is the highest responsibility of mayors across America, and support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from dangerous people; 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 have be now celebrating her 21st birthday. To help honor Hadiya – and the 96 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 1st, 2018, the first Friday in June, as the 4th 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 in the woods and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life. Anyone can join this campaign by pledging to Wear Orange on June 1st, the first Friday in June in 2018, to help raise awareness about gun violence. By wearing orange on June 1st, 2018 Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lovely A. Warren, Mayor of the City of Rochester, New York, do hereby proclaim June 1, 2018 to be:

## GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

*In Witness Whereof, I Have hereunto set my hand on this first day of June in the year 2018.*

**Signed:**

  
Mayor, Rochester, New York