

Proclamation

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA DESIGNATING JUNE 2, 2023 AS

National Gun Violence Awareness Day

WHEREAS, every day in the United States about 120 Americans are killed by guns, and according to the Center for Disease Control, between 2018-2021, on average, over 43,000 people annually died by guns; and

WHEREAS, guns are the leading cause of death among children and teens in the United States, and in the United States, an average of 3,540 children and teens die by guns every year, of which 35% of these deaths are suicides and 60% are homicides; and

WHEREAS, black children and teens in the United States are 14 times more likely than their white peers to die by gun homicide; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety is a responsibility of local government, and support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from people with dangerous histories; and

WHEREAS, to honor those whose lives are cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day, a national coalition of organizations has designated the first Friday in June, which this year falls on June 2, 2023, as the 9th annual National Gun Violence Awareness Day, and people across the United States will pledge to wear orange during Wear Orange Weekend, June 2-4, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

WHEREAS, the idea for Wear Orange Weekend was inspired by friends of Hadiya Pendleton, who was tragically shot and killed in 2013 - they commemorate her life by wearing orange, choosing this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has taken action to reduce gun violence by, among other initiatives, enacting legislation to require safe storage of firearms in the home, supporting gun buy back events, and implementing firearm relinquishment orders, and renews its commitment to reduce gun violence by pledging to do all it can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands and encouraging responsible gun ownership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby designates the June 2, 2023, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

Dated: May 23, 2023

SUPERVISORS:

DAVE PINE, *President*

NOELIA CORZO

RAY MUELLER

WARREN SLOCUM

DAVID J. CANEPA

Attest: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors