

REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

DATE: MAY 13, 2020

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: GREG RAMIREZ, CITY MANAGER

BY: LOUIS CELAYA, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: PROCLAMATION SUPPORTING NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY – JUNE 5, 2020

The City of Agoura Hills has received a request to consider issuing a proclamation declaring the first Friday in June, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. The request was made by a local James Brady advocacy group, and the sample proclamation language is attached for your consideration.

The proclamation acknowledges and remembers victims and survivors of gun violence, recognizes that protecting public safety in communities they serve is a Mayor's highest responsibility, and acknowledges a national coalition of organizations who have designated the first Friday in June, as the 5th National Gun Violence Awareness Day. Additionally, the proclamation also commemorates the victims of gun violence by calling for the wearing of orange colors, designates June 5, 2020, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day, and encourages all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence.

Should the City Council, approve this proclamation, City staff will prepare a final proclamation formatted for the Mayor's signature, and send the proclamation to the James Brady advocacy group.

RECOMMENDATION

City staff respectfully recommends:

- 1) The City Council approve the Proclamation declaring the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day
- 2) Direct staff to prepare a formal proclamation for signature by the Mayor

Attachment: Sample Proclamation Declaring the First Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day

**PROCLAMATION
DECLARING THE FIRST FRIDAY IN JUNE TO BE
NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY**

This Proclamation declares the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the City of Agoura Hills to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence.

WHEREAS, every day, 100 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are nearly 13,000 gun homicides every year. Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than people in other high-income countries; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is a Mayor's highest responsibility; and

WHEREAS, 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, 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, to help honor the 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 5, 2020, the first Friday in June, as the 5th National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, to commemorate the lives of victims of gun violence, people wear the color orange – the color orange because hunters wear it 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 5th, the first Friday in June in 2020, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 5, 2020 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, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Agoura Hills Mayor and City Council declare the first Friday in June, June 5, 2020, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. We encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

(NAMES AND SIGNATURES AND DATE UNDER MAYOR'S NAME)