



# PROCLAMATION

## National Gun Violence Awareness Day

**WHEREAS**, every day, more than 110 Americans are killed by gun violence, alongside more than 200 who are shot and wounded, and on average there are nearly 16,000 gun homicides every year; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington has 810 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 10.5 deaths per 100,00 people and Washington has the 39th highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and

**WHEREAS**, cities across the nation, including in Bothell, are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions and protecting public safety in the communities they serve is mayors' 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**, gun violence prevention is more important than ever as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to exacerbate gun violence after more than two years of increased gun sales, increased calls to suicide and domestic violence hotlines, and an increase in city gun violence; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15; and on June 3, 2022 to recognize the her 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, people across the US will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness day and wear orange in tribute to Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence; and

**WHEREAS**, the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange; a color they chose because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters in the woods; and

**WHEREAS**, by wearing orange on June 3, 2022 Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of 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;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, I Mason Thompson, Mayor of Bothell, declare the first Friday in June, June 3, 2022, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. I encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

Signed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022

*Mason Thompson*  
Mason Thompson (May 27, 2022 14:07 PDT)

Mason Thompson, Mayor