



City of St. Charles  
ILLINOIS

# Proclamation

## National Gun Violence Awareness Day – June 5, 2020

- WHEREAS,** every day, more than 100 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are more than 13,000 gun homicides every year; and
- WHEREAS,** Illinois has 1363 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 10.6 deaths per 100,000 people. Illinois has the 37<sup>th</sup> highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and
- WHEREAS,** protecting public safety in the communities they serve is one of the Mayor’s highest responsibilities; 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, and 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,** the pandemic facing America has drastically impacted communities and individuals sheltering in place which may result in situations where access to firearms results in increased risk in intimate partner violence gun deaths, suicide by gun and unintentional shootings; and
- WHEREAS,** the idea of a National Gun Violence Awareness Day was inspired by a group of Chicago high school students, friends of Hadiya Pendleton, to honor her memory and remind us to honor all whose lives have been lost. Wearing orange on the First Friday of June as a day to raise awareness of gun violence comes from these same students who chose this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters; and
- WHEREAS,** anyone can join this campaign by pledging to wear orange the first Friday in June, June 5th, 2020 and 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 encourage responsible gun ownership.

**THEREFORE,** I, Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor of the City of St. Charles, do hereby proclaim that the first Friday in June, June 5, 2020 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.

Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor

SEAL:

