

Office of the Mayor
City of Fayetteville
Proclamation



WHEREAS: every day, more than 120 Americans are killed by gun violence and more than 200 are shot and wounded, with an average of more than 17,000 gun homicides every year, and

WHEREAS: Arkansas has 631 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 21.0 deaths per 100,000 people, a crisis that costs the state 8.2 billion dollars each year, of which 181.4 million is paid by taxpayers. Arkansas has the 8th highest rate of gun deaths in the US, and

WHEREAS: mayors and law enforcement officers, in partnership with local violence intervention activists and resources, 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 residents safe, and

WHEREAS: in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15; and on June 2, 2023 to recognize the 26th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton, people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence; and the loved ones of those victims; 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 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 2nd, the first Friday in June in 2023, to help raise awareness about gun violence and by wearing orange Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors, and

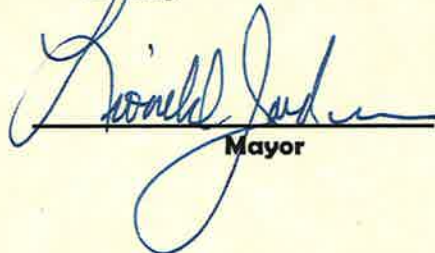
WHEREAS: we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have access to them and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our families and communities safe.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Lioneld Jordan, Mayor of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas do hereby proclaim June 2, 2023 as

"National Gun Violence Awareness Day"

in Fayetteville, Arkansas and encourage our residents to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas to be affixed on the 2nd day of June, 2023.



Mayor

Attest:



City Clerk Treasurer

