



City of Takoma Park, Maryland Mayoral Proclamation

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY IN TAKOMA PARK – FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2019

- WHEREAS,** every day, 100 Americans are killed by gun violence; and
- WHEREAS,** firearms are the second leading cause of death for American children and teens; 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 residents safe; and
- WHEREAS,** orange is the color that Hadiya Pendleton’s friends wore in her honor when she was shot and killed in Chicago at the age of 15, just one week after performing at President Obama’s second inaugural parade in 2013; and
- WHEREAS,** 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,** wearing orange on June 7 and on other days in June will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives and lost human potential of Americans stolen by gun violence; and
- WHEREAS,** this year, we honor and remember some of the most recent victims of gun violence, including those who were shot and killed at a Virginia Beach Municipal Building on Friday, May 31: Laquita C. Brown, Michelle “Missy” Langer, Ryan Keith Cox, Tara Welch Gallagher, Mary Louise Gayle, Alexander Mikhail Gusev, Katherine A. Nixon, Joshua O. Hardy, Herbert “Bert” Snelling, Robert “Bobby” Williams, Richard H. Nettleton, and Christopher Kelly Rapp; and
- WHEREAS,** our community was directly impacted by the death of Cyril Briscoe, a Takoma Park resident and recording artist who was killed in a shooting on May 27 in Prince George’s County.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KATE STEWART, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, on behalf of the Council, residents, and staff, declare June 7 to be Gun Violence Awareness Day in Takoma Park. I encourage all residents to support local efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

Dated this 5th day of June, 2019.

**Kate Stewart
Mayor**

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk