

# Proclamation

**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. Americans are 26 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and

**WHEREAS**, gun homicides and assaults are concentrated in cities, with more than half of all firearm related gun deaths in the nation occurring in 127 cities. Cities across the nation, including in Margate, are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is the mayors' highest responsibility. Support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from people with dangerous histories. 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. On June 3, 2022 the 25th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton was recognized, 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

**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 3<sup>rd</sup>, the first Friday in June in 2022, to help raise awareness about gun violence. By wearing orange on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, 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**, I, Antonio V. Arserio, Mayor of the City of Margate, do hereby proclaim June 3, 2022, as

## NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand  
and caused the official seal of the City of Margate to be  
affixed this 1<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022.



**ANTONIO V. ARSERIO, MAYOR**