

*Whereas:* June 4<sup>th</sup> marks National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the United State of America; and

*Whereas:* On January 29, 2013 Hadiya Pendleton, a 15-year-old student in Chicago IL, was killed in a park during a shooting; and

*Whereas:* National Gun Violence Awareness Day was inspired and organized by Hadiya Pendleton's friends after Hadiya's death; and

*Whereas:* since this incident, thousands of others have fallen victim to gun violence further proving that gun violence is an epidemic that continually plagues communities throughout the Unites States; and

*Whereas:* the rates of gun violence, whether referring to crimes committed with a gun, deaths: willful, malicious, or accidental – suicides, injuries, mass shootings, and unintentional shootings continue to rise on an annual basis; and

*Whereas*: gun related deaths in 2021 are already up 20% from the numbers observed in 2020; and

*Whereas:* we consistently observe minority communities and people of color being disproportionately effected by gun violence, yearly; and

*Whereas*: protecting public safety in the City of Racine and surrounding communities is of the utmost importance; and

Whereas: it is our responsibility as a community to spread awareness for gun violence; and

*Whereas:* on June  $4^{th}$ , 2021 the color orange is encouraged to be worn to spread awareness for and to honor victims of gun violence.

**Now Therefore:** I, Cory Mason, Mayor of the City of Racine, proclaim June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## Gun Violence Awareness Day

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Racine to be affixed.

Accomplished at the City Hall this 1st day of June, 2021.