

# Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, violence in the United States of America and around the world continues to be a social crisis in society and is vital that communities and individuals be educated about violence, and work together on solutions and prevention of violent acts; and

**WHEREAS**, the safety and quality of life of all men, women and children is paramount, and individuals have the right to live their lives violence free, and acts of violence, including gun violence, affect people of all racial, cultural and economic backgrounds; and

**WHEREAS**, each day, approximately 100 Americans are killed by gun violence, with many others injured, and those in the United States are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than those in other developed countries, and acts of gun violence are devastating for not only the victims, but also for their families and friends, and to prevent future violations of our citizens, it is crucial to foster public awareness of the causes and effects of violence; and

**WHEREAS**, *National Gun Violence Awareness Day* was established by a coalition of organizations to bring attention of the need to address gun violence in our nation, and it is held annually on the first Friday in the month of June, this year occurring on June 7, 2019, and it is in honor of the late Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President Barack Obama's second inaugural parade, and was tragically shot and killed just a few weeks later; and

**WHEREAS**, *orange* has been selected as the National Gun Violence Awareness official color, chosen by Hadiya Pendleton's classmates to commemorate her life, and it is a bold color that hunters wear to announce themselves to other hunters, and it symbolizes the value of human life; and

**WHEREAS**, to bring awareness to the Tampa Bay area about gun violence, the Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America - Tampa, survivors, families, community leaders and partners with a vision of ending the epidemic of gun violence are hosting *#WearOrange* on Saturday, June 8, 2019 at the Fair Oaks Park Community Center, and the free event includes a barbeque, fellowship, music, and groceries for families in need, and the organizers are encouraging attendees to wear the color *Orange* in support of this initiative; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Friday, June 7, 2019 as

## ***"NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY"***

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all residents to join in this important awareness campaign by wearing the color *orange* on Friday, June 7, 2019, and assist in creating a community free from violence of all forms.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2019.



*Jane Castor*  
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Mayor