

**PROCLAMATION  
DECLARING THE MONTH OF JUNE TO BE  
NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

This proclamation declares the month of June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Month in the Town of Ross to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to end this public health crisis.

**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 annually; and

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

**WHEREAS**, mayors' and council members' highest responsibility is to ensure public safety in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from people with dangerous histories; and

**WHEREAS**, gun violence prevention is more important than ever with the increase in firearm homicides and nonfatal shootings across our country; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15; to recognize what would have been her 27<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 2, 2024, people across the United States recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day or Month and wear orange, chosen because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters in the woods, and it symbolizes the value of human life; and

**WHEREAS**, we encourage Ross citizens to join this campaign by helping to raise awareness about gun violence, its victims and survivors; and

**WHEREAS**, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence.

**THEREFORE**, the Ross Town Council declares June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Month.

*Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024*

---

*C. William Kircher, Mayor*