PROCLAMATION

Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, every day, on average 316 Americans are killed by gun violence, alongside more than 210 who are shot and wounded; on average there are nearly 21,000 gun-related homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 26 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and Wisconsin has over 600 gun-related deaths every year, with a rate of 12.1 deaths per 100,000 people; and

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

WHEREAS, mayors and law enforcement officers know their communities best, are most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to understand how to keep citizens safe; and

WHEREAS, gun violence prevention is more important than ever with recent increased gun sales, increased calls to suicide and domestic violence hotlines, and an overall increase in gun violence; and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was shot and killed at age 15; to help honor Hadiya and all Americans whose lives are cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day, a national coalition of organizations has designated the first Friday in June as National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2025, people across the country will wear orange to raise awareness about gun violence and to honor Hadiya and all victims of gun violence and the loved ones of those victims.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, JACOB A. WOODFORD, Mayor of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim June 6th, 2025, as

Gun Violence Awareness Day

in Appleton and ask all citizens to renew their commitment to reduce gun violence, encourage responsible gun ownership, and to wear orange on June 6th to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to raise awareness about gun violence.

Signed and sealed this 28th day of May 2025.

JACOB A. WOODFORD

MAYOR OF APPLETON

#46-307