

**WHEREAS**, June  $4^{th} - 6^{th}$  is Wear Orange Weekend signifying the beginning of National Gun Violence Awareness Month, people across the city, state and country will wear orange. It is a simple but powerful action; and,

**WHEREAS**, orange is the color hunters use to protect themselves and others from harm. The color is bright and demands attention. It is the color that a group of people in Chicago chose to honor a friend who was killed by gunfire at the age of 15. They performed a simple act that has become a national movement to honor the victims of gun violence; and,

**WHEREAS**, throughout the month, our social networks, our landmarks, and our communities will light up orange, representing a bright future free from gun violence. Orange expresses our hope as a city and country that our places of worship, our schools, our movie theaters, and our communities will be free from gun violence. and,

**WHEREAS**, the Raleigh Police Department has implemented a Firearm Violence Reduction Strategy to reduce firearm-related crime in Raleigh. Many violent crimes and suicides involve the use of a firearm. The Department is taking steps to reduce these numbers through training and education, partnering and engaging with the community, and utilizing intelligence-led policing; and,

**WHEREAS**, gun violence awareness is highlighted in June but must be communicated daily. We can all work to end gun violence so that Raleigh remains a safe, vibrant, and healthy community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, do I Mary-Ann Baldwin, Mayor of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, hereby proclaim the month of June 4-6, 2021 and the month of June 2021 respectively in the City of Raleigh as

## WEAR ORANGE DAY and GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 2021.

Mary- are Baldwin

Mary-Ann Baldwin Mayor

