



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY**

**2022**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, to honor the many Americans whose lives are cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day, a national coalition of organizations has designated June 3, 2022, as the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina averages more than 1,300 gun deaths each year and has the 17<sup>th</sup> highest rate of gun deaths in the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, according to a recent report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), over 45,000 firearm-related deaths occurred in the United States in 2020; more than half of these deaths were suicides; and

**WHEREAS**, gun violence is the leading cause of death for children and teens in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Americans are 25 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and

**WHEREAS**, for every one person killed with a firearm, approximately two more are injured; and

**WHEREAS**, gun violence is the leading cause of death for women in instances of domestic violence in the United States each year; and

**WHEREAS**, practicing safe gun storage protects children, prevents accidents, and reduces gun thefts; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina is committed to reducing gun violence, limiting access to those who are unqualified to carry firearms, and encouraging responsible gun ownership in order to keep our communities safe; and

**WHEREAS**, Gun Violence Awareness Day was inspired by Hadiya Pendleton who would have celebrated her 25<sup>th</sup> birthday on this date, but was tragically shot and killed as a teenager; her friends asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange, a symbol of the value of human life, and a reference to hunters who wear orange for safety to prevent accidental shootings; and

**WHEREAS**, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to Wear Orange on June 3<sup>rd</sup> to help raise awareness of gun violence and honor the lives of those we have lost;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 3, 2022, as "GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this second day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-two and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth.