

**A proclamation that the
Borough of Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania,
shall declare the First Friday in June (June 7, 2024) to be
National Gun Violence Awareness Day**

This proclamation declares the first Friday in June to be **National Gun Violence Awareness Day** in the **Borough of Lewisburg, Union County**. In proclaiming this, we honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and declare that, as a community and country, we must do more to reduce and ultimately eliminate gun violence.

WHEREAS: In an average year in America, 43,375 people die and 76,385 are wounded by guns costing the United States \$557.2 billion each year; and in the United States, guns are the leading cause of death among children and teens.

WHEREAS: In Pennsylvania, there are an average of 1,713 gun deaths and an additional 1,992 people wounded by guns every year, thereby having the 33rd highest rate of gun violence in the US and costing the state \$21.7 billion each year, of which \$470.7 million is paid by taxpayers;

WHEREAS: In Pennsylvania, mirroring the nationwide average, 57% of gun deaths are suicides and 40% are homicides. Communities across the nation, including Lewisburg Borough, have mayors and law enforcement officers who know their communities best and are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions;

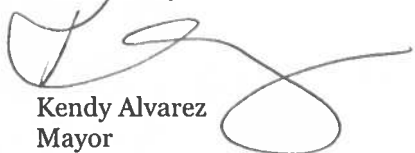
WHEREAS: Support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns out of the hands of children and away from people with dangerous histories;

WHEREAS: In January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15. On June 7, 2024, people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and **wear orange** in tribute to Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence and the loved ones of those victims. Inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends, we wear orange, choosing this color for how it symbolizes the value of human life: hunters wear orange in the woods to protect themselves and other hunters;

WHEREAS: Anyone can join this campaign by pledging to wear orange on June 7th, the first Friday in June 2024, to help raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors and in doing so, we renew our commitment to reducing gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands while encouraging responsible gun ownership and secure storage to help keep our children safe;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Kendy Alvarez, Mayor of the Borough of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, with the support of members of Borough Council and the citizens of Lewisburg, do hereby proclaim the first Friday in June: June 7, 2024, to be **National Gun Violence Awareness Day in Lewisburg Borough**. By proclaiming this, I encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to educate one another, put action items into place to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence, and to honor and value human lives.

PROCLAIMED by the Mayor of the Borough of Lewisburg on the 21st Day of May of the Year 2024.



Kendy Alvarez
Mayor
Borough of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania