



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Hon. Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: June 2, 2016

CONTACT: Alexander Marion
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**MINER PROCLAIMS JUNE 2 AS “GUN VIOLENCE
AWARENESS DAY” IN SYRACUSE, JOINS NATIONAL
#WEARORANGE CAMPAIGN TO HIGHLIGHT EFFECTS OF
TRAGIC GUN CRIMES IN CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY**

*June 2, 2016 Is Part of a National Effort to Raise Awareness of the Affect Gun
Violence Has on Cities Throughout America and Push for Meaningful Solutions
that Save Lives*

*Miner: Syracuse Has Suffered Tremendous Loss and We Cannot Tolerate Gun
Violence Any Longer*

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Mayor Stephanie A. Miner announced joined the national #WearOrange campaign and proclaimed June 2, 2016 to be Gun Violence Awareness Day in the City of Syracuse. Holding a press conference on the steps of City Hall, the Mayor issued a proclamation and talked about the importance of saving lives through raising awareness of the scourge of gun violence affecting cities. Mayor Miner was joined by Common Councilor Helen Hudson and other gun violence awareness advocates.

“Syracuse has suffered tremendous loss from the scourge of gun violence and we cannot tolerate this loss any longer. It is important we do whatever we can to keep our streets and our families safe,” said **Syracuse Mayor Stephanie A. Miner**. “Orange is a familiar color to our community so I am especially pleased to join nationwide advocates in the #WearOrange campaign and recognize Gun Violence Awareness Day in the City of Syracuse because ending the violence in our community matters to everyone.”

Common Councilor **Helen Hudson** said: “Gun Violence Awareness Day is a sad statement to say we have to keep bringing awareness but we do. Awareness of all of the casualties that come along with gun violence. Families torn apart, children that will only know their fathers and sometimes mothers by stories. Good hard working people that are under siege in the neighborhoods that they have raised their children in or still raising their children in is simply not acceptable.”

“Mayors across the U.S. fight to keep their communities safe every day – so it’s no surprise they’re stepping up once again for National Gun Violence Awareness Day,” said **John Feinblatt**, president of Everytown for Gun



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Safety and board member of Mayors Against Illegal Guns. “We’re grateful to all the mayors who’ve declared they’ll #WearOrange on June 2nd, and we look forward to even more Americans sharing the message of gun safety and responsibility along with us.”

Mayor Miner has been a longtime advocate of gun violence awareness. Under Miner’s leadership, Syracuse was one of the first cities to become involved in the national Gun Violence Awareness effort in 2013. Throughout her time in office, the Mayor has been a member of Mayors Against Illegal Guns, a nationwide coalition working to end gun violence in cities. In January of this year, Mayor Miner held a roundtable with U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand with advocates and law enforcement talking about how the federal government and cities can work together to address gun violence.

About #WearOrange and National Gun Violence Awareness Day

More than 100 mayors in 31 states will join the more than 300 influencers, corporations, [partner organizations](#) and a [series of iconic landmarks](#) across the country that will be participating in the second annual National Gun Violence Awareness Day on June 2. Additionally, there will be more than 150 Orange meet-ups that are set to take place in communities nationwide. All events are searchable via an online map ([available here](#)) and easy to track on June 2 by following the #WearOrange hashtag.

In 2013, a small group of teens at a South Side Chicago high school asked their classmates to honor the life of their murdered friend Hadiya Pendleton by wearing orange. They inspired the Wear Orange campaign ([wearorange.org](#)), a coalition of more than 200 non-profits, cultural influencers and elected officials working to reduce gun violence in America. Spearheaded by Everytown for Gun Safety, the campaign asks Americans who believe we can do more to save lives from gun violence to do one simple thing on June 2, National Gun Violence Awareness Day: Wear Orange. Those who wear orange pledge to honor the lives of Americans stolen by gun violence, to help keep firearms out of dangerous hands and to protect our children from gun violence. Wear Orange has already reached more than 220 million people worldwide and is fast becoming the symbol of the gun violence prevention movement.

The full text of Mayor Miner’s proclamation appears below:

WHEREAS, the people of the City of Syracuse and the State of New York have the right to live in communities and homes in which they are comfortable and safe; and,

WHEREAS, every day, 91 Americans are killed by gun violence and Americans are 25 times more likely to be murdered with guns than people in other developed countries; and,



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WHEREAS, deaths by gun violence are already equal to deaths from motor vehicle accidents across the country and gun violence is predicted to grow; and,

WHEREAS, curbing the danger that gun violence presents to our community can only be done through meaningful action and dialogue; and,

WHEREAS, political, community, faith, and law enforcement leaders have a sacred responsibility to do whatever possible and necessary to foster conversation, reduce gun violence, and keep our community safe; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Syracuse recognizes the important efforts being made nationwide to reduce gun violence and make Gun Violence Awareness Day possible and reaffirms the city's commitment stopping gun violence and protecting its community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEPHANIE A. MINER, Mayor of the City of Syracuse, do hereby proclaim this Second Day of June, Two Thousand Sixteen to be

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY
In the City of Syracuse

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Syracuse to be imprinted this Second Day of June, Two Thousand Sixteen.

/s/
Stephanie A. Miner
Mayor

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