

Proclamation

CITY OF RACINE, WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, every day, more than 120 Americans are killed by gun violence every day, over 200 more are wounded, and nearly 18,000 gun homicides occur annually; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, 762 Wisconsinites lost their lives to firearms, placing Wisconsin 16th in the nation for firearm deaths; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 26 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries, and firearms are the leading cause of death for U.S. children and teens with one in 10 victims aged 19 or younger; and

WHEREAS, National Gun Violence Awareness Day is observed on the first Friday in June, this year on June 5, launching **Wear Orange Weekend** in honor of **Hadiya Pendleton**, who at age 15 was shot and killed in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the color orange—chosen by Hadiya’s friends—has become a national symbol honoring all victims and survivors of gun violence; and

WHEREAS, on this day, throughout Wear Orange Weekend, and during Gun Violence Awareness Month, we join as one Racine community to support efforts that prevent gun violence, promote responsible gun ownership, and protect our children, families, and neighborhoods.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Cory Mason, Mayor of the City of Racine, do hereby proclaim **June 5, 2026**, to be **National Gun Violence Awareness Day** in the City of Racine and encourage all residents to support efforts that prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor the value of every human life.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Racine to be affixed.

Accomplished at the City Hall
this 2nd day of June 2026.

Mayor