

NEWS RELEASE

Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Executive Shapiro and Council Recognize Gun Violence Awareness Day

SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO—Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro and County Council passed a resolution recognizing June 4 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day and called on residents to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence. To commemorate the day, Executive Shapiro encouraged County residents to wear orange in recognition of the awareness campaign.

The Wear Orange Campaign began in response to the death of a Chicago teen in 2013. Hadiya Pendleton was shot and killed at age 15, just one week after she performed at President Obama’s second inaugural parade. Her friends wore orange in her honor and asked others to stand up and speak out against gun violence. The selection of orange as the campaign color is a nod to hunting culture and acknowledges that America has a proud heritage of responsible gun ownership and reflects the value of human life.

According to research, nearly 100 Americans are killed each day by guns, and firearms are the second leading cause of death for American children and teens. Research also indicates that access to a gun increases the risk of death by suicide by three times, and that Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than people in other developed countries.

“Every day we lose family members and friends to preventable tragedies. We can and must do better,” said Executive Shapiro. “I know our state and federal lawmakers can find shared ground to balance 2nd Amendment rights with common sense gun laws that will protect our communities from devastating gun violence. By raising awareness, we encourage our state and federal lawmakers to take steps towards real change on this issue. Enough is enough.”

To learn more about Wear Orange and National Gun Violence Awareness Day, please visit <https://wearorange.org/>.



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