

MUNICIPALITY OF NORRISTOWN
A HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO. 22-38 of 2022

A RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NORRISTOWN, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, RECOGNIZING JUNE 3, 2022, AS “GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY.”

WHEREAS, gun violence is a national, state and local problem affecting Americans in cities, suburbs and rural communities; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), in 2020, the most recent year for which complete data is available, 45,222 people died from gun related injuries including gun murders and suicides, which is a 14% increase from 2019, a 25% increase from five years ago, and a 43% increase from the prior decade; and

WHEREAS, of those gun related deaths, 19,384 were gun murders, which is the most since 1968 and reflects a 34% increase from 2019, a 25% increase from five years ago, and a 75% increase over the past decade; and

WHEREAS, of those gun related deaths, 24,292 were suicides, which has also shown a general increase with a 10% climb over five years and a 25% climb over ten years; and

WHEREAS, according to research based on CDC data between 2016 and 2020, 1,628 people in this Commonwealth die by guns which is at a rate that is higher than the national average, and 60% of gun deaths in Pennsylvania are by firearm suicide; and

WHEREAS, according to Gun Violence Archive, a research group that collects data from more than 7,500 law enforcement, media, government and commercial sources, in 2021, there were 692 mass shootings, which was the highest number recorded for the eight-year period reported; and

WHEREAS, according to the Montgomery County Department of Health, gun violence affects people of all ages and races but has a disproportionate impact on young adults, males and racial/ ethnic minorities, and it costs the U.S. \$229 billion or an average of \$700 per gun; and

WHEREAS, gun violence prevention is more important than ever as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to exacerbate gun violence after more than a year of increased gun sales, increased calls to suicide and domestic violence hotlines, and an increase in gun violence; and

WHEREAS, Gun Violence Awareness Day is a nationwide and statewide occasion to recognize the impact of gun violence and to honor the lives of all gun violence victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, this year Gun Violence Awareness Day is being observed on June 3, 2022, and people are encouraged to wear orange, the color hunters wear, to show that they are not targets and to call for an end to gun violence.


NOW, THEREFORE, be it, and it is hereby **RESOLVED** by the Members of Council of the Municipality of Norristown that June 3, 2022, is recognized as Gun Violence

Awareness Day, and that all residents are encouraged to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives, and that Municipal Council further encourages Montgomery County and all communities to recognize the same.


ADOPTED and **RESOLVED** this 7th day of June 2022.

ATTEST:

NORRISTOWN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL



Crandall O. Jones
Municipal Administrator/ Secretary



Thomas Lepera
Council President

