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**WEAR 
ORANGE**

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GARY JOINS THE “WEAR ORANGE” CAMPAIGN MAYOR PROCLAIMS JUNE 2 NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

Gary, Indiana-Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson joined the “Wear Orange” campaign (www.WearOrange.org) by proclaiming June 2 to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the City of Gary. The campaign is established to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence. The proclamation encourages all citizens to support their local communities’ efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson said, “Gary has been and is involved in a number of programs directed toward reducing violent crimes in the City of Gary. While one life lost to violent crime is too many, we have seen far too many young people and families ravaged by gun violence. We are committed to partnering with initiatives like the “Wear Orange” campaign to promote gun violence awareness that we hope will save lives and lead to safer communities.”

“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 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.”

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. Visit “Wear Orange” 2016 at www.WearOrange.org.

"Wear Orange" Inspired by Chicago Teens Who Refused to Be Silent in the Face of Daily Gun Violence

About Wear Orange

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 – the color hunters wear in the woods to protect themselves and others and a color that reflects the value of human life. 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.