



WHEREAS, in 2024, Maryland experienced 671 firearm fatalities, including homicides, suicides, and unintentional shootings; and

WHEREAS, while homicides and gun violence are down significantly in Maryland compared to nationwide, guns are still the leading cause of death among children and teens every year, and we still need to work to eliminate gun violence and gun homicides across the country; and

WHEREAS, Rockville, Maryland, and other cities across the nation are working to end this senseless violence with evidence-based solutions, and in support of these efforts, the State of Maryland passed legislation in 2024 restricting ghost guns; and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15; and on June 5, 2026, people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to - (1) Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence; and (2) the loved ones of those victims; and

WHEREAS, vigils and events will be held in Montgomery County and throughout Maryland to raise awareness regarding gun violence, and to honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors in our area and across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Rockville community members renew their commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all they can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our communities safe, and the City of Rockville, in partnership with the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office, participates in the Gun Buy-Back program annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of the City of Rockville, Maryland, declare **June 5, 2026**, as **Gun Violence Awareness Day**, **June 5-7, 2025**, as **Gun Violence Awareness Weekend**, and **June 2026**, as **National Gun Violence Awareness Month**, and encourage all residents to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.




Monique Ashton, Mayor


Kate Fulton, Councilmember


Izola (Zola) Shaw, Councilmember


Barry Jackson, Councilmember


Manissa Valeri, Councilmember


David Myles, Councilmember


Adam Van Grack, Councilmember

June 1, 2026