MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN AND HILDA L. SOLIS

Proclaiming June 2025 as Gun Violence Awareness Month and Promoting Gun Violence Prevention Strategies Throughout County

Across the nation, June has been designated as Gun Violence Awareness Month. Additionally, the first Friday in June is designated as Gun Violence Awareness Day to bring attention to the serious and traumatic impact gun violence has on the lives of everyday people in the United States. This year, Gun Violence Awareness Day falls on June 6th, 2025. Nationally, gun violence remains the leading cause of death of children and young adults through accidental or intentional shootings. As of May 5, 2025, there have been 99 mass shootings across the country, and 443 accidental shootings.¹ In Los Angeles County, a child is killed or injured by gun violence every 30 hours.²

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) has put forward various motions in recent years that have created or enhanced existing gun safety policies and ordinances and supported local, state, and federal legislation to promote gun safety and address gun violence. Together, the Board and the Department of Public Health's Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) have used their platform to uplift the importance of gun

MOTION

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MITCHELL	
HORVATH	
HAHN	
BARGER	

¹ https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/

² Mortality data from Los Angeles County Annual 2022 Data File, assembled from California Department of Public Health Vital Records Data. Office of Health Assessment & Epidemiology, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Hospitalization & Emergency Department data from California Department of Public Health, EpiCenter - California Injury Data Online, available: https://skylab4.cdph.ca.gov/epicenter/.

safety and how that plays a role in keeping our communities safer. In response to a November 2023 motion by Supervisor Hahn and Supervisor Solis, the Office of Violence Prevention now provides free gun locks and educational materials at Los Angeles County hospitals and libraries³ and will mail free safety locks and materials to people's homes. As of April 29th, 2025, OVP has distributed 28,517 free gun locks. LA County residents can request two free gun locks via mail by visiting the OVP website.⁴

Additionally, Supervisor Hahn has partnered with various law enforcement agencies and OVP over the last few years to host Gun Buy Back events across the Fourth District to remove unwanted firearms off the streets to be destroyed in exchange for gift cards, while also handing out free gun locks. At the most recent Gun Buy Back event, in partnership with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Century Station, the City of Lynwood, and OVP, 336 firearms were collected, bringing the total to 2,388 collected and destroyed across 14 Gun Buy Backs. Supervisor Hahn will be partnering with the City of Long Beach for the next Gun Buy Back event, which will be on Saturday, June 28th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Admiral Kidd Park in Long Beach (2125 Santa Fe Ave, Long Beach, CA 90810).

Furthermore, June 6-8, 2025, is acknowledged nationally as "Wear Orange" weekend to continue to highlight gun violence by wearing orange to signify support and alliance with the mission to end gun violence in the country. This idea started from when "Hadiya Pendleton, a high school student from the south side of Chicago, marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade. One week later, Hadiya was shot and killed

³ https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/185967.pdf

⁴ <u>http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ovp/GunSafety.htm</u>

on a playground in Chicago."⁵ To remember Hadiya, her friends decided to "commemorate her life by wearing orange, the color hunters wear in the woods to protect themselves and others."⁶

The Board's commitment to supporting victims and survivors of gun violence is unwavering as the Board continues to advocate for sensible gun policy at the Local, State, and Federal levels and continues to actively work in our communities to address gun violence, right here in our backyards.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors proclaim:

- 1. June 2025 as Gun Violence Awareness Month;
- 2. June 6, 2025, as Gun Violence Awareness Day;
- 3. June 6-8, 2025, as Wear Orange Weekend

WE, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct CEO Countywide Communications to:

- Promote County and County Departmental events and services directed towards educating, engaging, and providing residents with information, resources, and services about gun violence and gun safety;
- 2. Promote the Gun Buy Back, sponsored by Supervisor Hahn in partnership with Long Beach Police Department, on June 28th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Admiral Kidd Park in Long Beach (2125 Santa Fe Ave, Long Beach, CA 90810) on County social media; and
- 3. Add information, resources, and services from County Departments addressing gun

⁵ <u>https://everytownsupportfund.org/how-to-participate-in-wear-</u>

orange/#:%7E:text=In%202024%2C%20the%2010th%20National,person%20events%20across%20the%20nation

violence and safety to the County's website.

WE, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Office's Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations to continue to advocate and support state and federal legislation aligned with the Board's position on gun safety and violence.

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