

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY
JUNE 5, 2026**

- WHEREAS,** *Hundreds of lives are taken each year by gun violence in Maryland; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Protecting public health and safety is a top priority for the State of Maryland; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Support for legal ownership of firearms goes hand-in-hand with preventing gun crimes before they happen through the implementation of evidence-based practices, like strong regulations and background checks, that are proven to result in lower rates of gun violence; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Addressing gun violence is more important than ever, as we see gun violence continue to impact communities across the state and country; and*
- WHEREAS,** *National Gun Violence Awareness Day was inspired by Hadiya Pendleton, who was tragically shot and killed, and honors her life and the many other victims and survivors of gun violence; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Maryland Department of Health's Center for Firearm Violence Prevention and Intervention, established in 2024, addresses gun violence as both a public safety priority and a public health crisis by connecting agencies, local health departments, law enforcement, and the community to facilitate collaboration and coordination, identify and advance policy, and address implementation and funding gaps; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Strategies to address the epidemic in Maryland have resulted in historic decreases in homicides and non-fatal shootings under the Moore-Miller Administration; and*
- WHEREAS,** *On National Gun Violence Awareness Day, the State of Maryland renews our commitment to reduce gun violence and our pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have access to them and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our families and communities safe.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim JUNE 5, 2026 as NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY in Maryland, and do commend this observation to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 5th day of June
Two Thousand and twenty-six

[Signature]
Governor

[Signature]
Lt. Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State