



Proclamation

In Recognition of National Gun Violence Awareness Day, June 5, 2026

Town of Ross, California

WHEREAS, The first Friday in June is declared as National Gun Violence Awareness Day to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that as a country, state, town, and individually, we all must do more to educate ourselves on and reduce gun violence; and

WHEREAS, gun violence remains a leading cause of death among American children and teens, surpassing motor vehicle accidents. In 2023, over 4,700 children and teens (ages 0–19) were killed by firearms in the United States, accounting for nearly 1 in 10 gun-related deaths nationwide; and

WHEREAS, every day, more than 100 Americans are killed by gun violence, and on average, there are more than 13,000 gun-related homicides every year, and Americans are 25 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and

WHEREAS, supporting the Second Amendment and advocating for responsible gun ownership are not mutually exclusive with implementing common-sense measures to prevent gun violence, including universal background checks, safe storage laws, and red flag laws that help keep firearms out of the hands of individuals with dangerous histories; and

WHEREAS, every day 316 people are shot by a gun in the United States, and 11 children (ages 1–17) are injured or killed due to improperly stored or misused firearms, and unsecured firearms in a residence increase the risk of gun-related suicide by 300%; and recognizing that securely storing firearms is the single best way to help prevent firearm accidents, theft, and misuse, the Town of Ross is committed to supporting its residents in this effort; and

WHEREAS, the Ross Police Department is guided by the philosophy of Community Oriented Policing and works to preserve and enhance the quality of life, safety, and security of the Town for its residents, businesses, visitors, and students, and has taken proactive steps to advance firearm safety, including offering free trigger locks and cables to residents and collecting unwanted firearms and ammunition from residents without charge as part of this commitment.

WHEREAS, the Town of Ross reaffirms its commitment to ending the epidemic of gun violence and calls on community members, leaders, and lawmakers to take action to reduce firearm-related deaths through education, advocacy, and policy reform. We pledge to promote safe gun storage, support the Ross Police Department's ongoing firearm safety programs, and ensure that all Ross residents — especially the students of The Ross School, The Branson School, and The Ross Preschool — can live free from the threat of gun violence.

Dated this 11th day of June, 2026

Julie McMillan, Mayor