



Proclamation

Gun Violence Awareness Month 2026

WHEREAS, the month of June is recognized nationally as Gun Violence Awareness Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness about the impact of gun violence and strengthening efforts to prevent violence in communities across the nation; and

WHEREAS, gun violence remains a public health and community safety crisis in the United States, impacting individuals, families, and communities through homicides, suicides, mass shootings, and unintentional shootings, with thousands of children, teens, and young adults affected each year; and

WHEREAS, in honor of the life of 15 year old Hadiya Pendleton, who was tragically killed in a shooting in Illinois, the Wear Orange movement was established to commemorate her life and has since become a nationally recognized symbol of remembrance, advocacy, and action for gun violence awareness and prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS, communities across the nation continue to experience the devastating effects of gun violence, reinforcing the urgent need for effective prevention and intervention strategies as well as sustained investments in community safety and support services; and

WHEREAS, Joliet Township Government remains steadfast in its commitment to reducing gun violence and supporting those affected by it through investing in community-based solutions, advancing healing-centered and trauma-informed approaches, and addressing the systemic inequities and root causes that allow violence to persist; and

WHEREAS, as part of this commitment, Joliet Township Government has disbursed more than \$50,000 in direct assistance to families impacted by gun violence through the Community Violence Intervention (CVI) program thus far this year, helping to support recovery, stability, and healing in the aftermath of tragedies; and

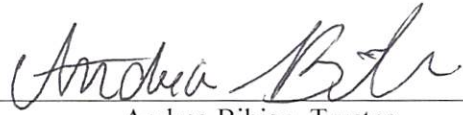
WHEREAS, through collective action, accountability, and sustained investment in safer, healthier communities, together we can build a future in which gun violence is not accepted as inevitable, but recognized as preventable, and where every resident has the opportunity to live and thrive in safety, dignity, and peace; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Joliet Township Government Board hereby recognizes June 2026 as Gun Violence Awareness Month and encourages all residents to observe Wear Orange Day and Wear Orange Weekend, in honor of victims and survivors of gun violence, and in support of efforts to end gun violence in our communities.

ADOPTED this 23rd day of June of 2026.



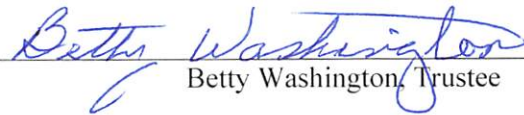
Quinn Adamowski, Trustee



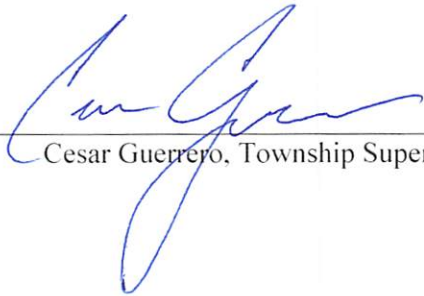
Andrea Bibian, Trustee



Archie Gavin, Trustee



Betty Washington, Trustee



Cesar Guerrero, Township Supervisor

ATTEST:



Kendra Landfair, Township Clerk