

CITY OF VINELAND

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-458

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF JUNE AS
GUN SAFETY AND VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH.

WHEREAS, gun violence is a continually growing problem on the national, state, county, and municipal levels; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the bordering State of New York, after a grassroots campaign that began at the local level, became the first state to officially recognize June as Gun Violence Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, it is acknowledged that gun violence and gun-related incidents have an overall impact on the health, welfare and safety of New Jersey residents; and

WHEREAS, Cumberland County has an opportunity to collectively pledge a unified devotion, in all of its municipalities, to ending gun violence and gun-related incidents; and

WHEREAS, Cumberland County municipalities have a particular need for the implementation of gun safety and violence awareness programs because:

- a. Cumberland County has a large recreational hunting population;
- b. Cumberland County holds the 6th highest percentage of the total Firearm License Holders in New Jersey;
- c. Cumberland County was the 4th highest Youth Firearm License Holder county in New Jersey in 2011;
- d. Cumberland County has experienced an increase of fatal shootings and juvenile firearm possession between 2012 and 2014;

WHEREAS, Cumberland County should unite in promoting a positive program, in which its gun owners are educated on safe practices; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that preventing gun violence in Cumberland County is equally important as promoting gun safety; and

WHEREAS, Cumberland County and the municipalities therein recognize the power and necessity of a unified and coordinated campaign against gun violence in tandem with safe and responsible gun ownership; and

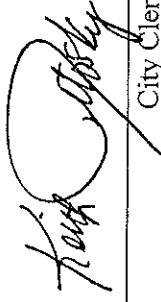
WHEREAS, recognition of the month of June as Gun Safety and Violence Awareness Month will provide an ongoing opportunity to educate residents on gun safety, foster meaningful dialogue amongst the community about gun violence, and identify much-needed solutions to gun-related crimes and incidents in Cumberland County; and

WHEREAS, Cumberland County's designation could provide an impetus for the designation of June as Gun Safety and Violence Awareness month across the State of New Jersey;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Vineland declares the month of June as Gun Safety and Violence Awareness Month.

Adopted: November 24, 2015

ATTEST:



City Clerk

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President of Council

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