



CITY OF ROCHESTER  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

# *Proclamation*

- WHEREAS:** *The majority of all homicides in the United States of America, New York State and the City of Rochester are perpetrated with a gun and victims who survive shootings very often suffer irreversible consequences, both physically and mentally, that forever alter the course of their lives; and*
- WHEREAS:** *In the year 2012 alone, 26 of 36 homicide victims in Rochester were victims of gun violence, which represented an increase of 86 percent over the previous year. In the year 2012 alone there were 218 shooting victims in Rochester, which represented a 52 percent increase over the previous year; and*
- WHEREAS:** *Most gun violence occurs in urban areas such as Rochester that are already coping with a disproportionate share of the ill effects of poverty, including inadequate education systems and inadequate employment opportunities, and gun violence greatly perpetuates the negative cycle of poverty; and*
- WHEREAS:** *The victims of gun violence are not limited to those who are shot. Every homicide and every shooting affects the lives of countless numbers of family members and friends of the men, women and children who are shot, and the pain and grief suffered by these family members and friends is beyond measure; and*
- WHEREAS:** *Bringing awareness to gun violence is an important step to ending it and most gun violence occurs in the summer months beginning in June*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas S. Richards, Mayor of the City of Rochester, New York, do hereby proclaim June, 2013 to be:

## **GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

*In Witness Whereof, I Have hereunto set my hand on this Seventeenth of April in the Year Two Thousand and Thirteen.*

**Signed:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas S. Richards'.

**Mayor, Rochester, New York**