



CITY OF PLAINFIELD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mayor, City Administration, and Council Mobilize to Stand Against Gun Violence

June 2, 2022, Plainfield NJ – Plainfield is adding its voice to cities across the nation that are taking a stand against gun violence.

On Saturday, June 4th, in what will be a strong protest against gun violence, Mayor Adrian O. Mapp, Council President Barry Goode, and Councilwoman Terri Briggs-Jones will lead a procession through parts of Plainfield to protest the gun violence which is insidiously becoming part of the U.S. culture.

The March is part of the Wear Orange weekend and seeks to honor the lives of those affected by gun violence and elevate gun violence prevention efforts nationwide. It happens a day after National Gun Violence Day on June 3rd. The group will assemble at the Plainfield Performing Arts Center (PPAC), 724 Park Avenue, at 9:30 AM. They will then march to City Hall to hear calls to action from the organizers and to encourage dialog to find solutions.

In partnership with the Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund the Mayor and Councilpersons will be joined by the NJ Chapter of Mom's Demand Action, Assemblywoman Linda Carter, Chair of the Union County Board of Commissioners Rebecca Williams, Norman Deen Muhammad Founder of Plainfield Anti-Violence Coalition, and other community activists.

“It was time to make our voices heard,” said Councilwoman Briggs-Jones, in answering why she thought it was time to organize this march. “In the wake of two mass murders just weeks apart it felt like something had to be done to express our frustration. Additionally, we needed to have a space to share our thoughts and possible solutions. As a mother, my heart breaks when I think of the babies who were gunned down. We’ve had enough of thoughts and prayers, they do have a time and place – however, action must be part of the reaction and solution.”

“Leaders must always lead by example and provide spaces for honest expression and dialog” was Mayor Mapp’s response when posed with the question, why now? “Sometimes it seems that nothing we do will make a difference, but being a conduit for freedom of speech is as important as making the speech itself. If we go silent then who will cry for the children who lost their lives? if we don’t raise our voices, then who will speak on their behalf? if we don’t march, then how will they know that we protest? When we become inured to violence and lose our empathy then we are doomed as a nation. The gun violence must be curtailed and we cannot stop gathering, marching, speaking, and singing our sorrow and protest until that is achieved.”

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The City of Plainfield, also known by its iconic nickname "The Queen City", is 153-years-old, home to a population of 54,586 individuals according to the 2021 United States Census. The City of Plainfield is currently recorded as third-largest city in Union County in terms of population. The current mayor of the beautiful Queen City is Mayor Adrian O. Mapp, serving a historical, never-before-seen, consecutive third term. For more information on the City of Plainfield, visit online at www.plainfieldnj.gov, Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofplainfieldnj, Instagram at [@cityofplainfieldnj](https://www.instagram.com/cityofplainfieldnj) and Twitter at [@cityofplainfld](https://twitter.com/cityofplainfld).