

**WHEREAS:** The City of Michigan City will be joining communities across the country in a nationwide observance of National Day of Concern About Young People and Gun Violence; and

**WHEREAS:** The National Day of Concern will empower young people in cities all across the country, to come together to make a strong and collective statement renouncing the violent use of guns; and

**WHEREAS:** While the government remains committed to being an active partner in the effort to prevent youth violence, the real key to ending this violence lies in the hands of our young Americans themselves; and

**WHEREAS:** Every young person must assume personal responsibility for avoiding violent confrontation, have the strength of character to walk away from a dispute before it turns deadly, and have the courage and common sense to refuse to participate in gang activities, to use drugs, or to carry or use a gun; and

**WHEREAS:** as part of the nationwide Day of Concern, students in our community and across America are urged to voluntarily sign a "Student Pledge Against Gun Violence". This pledge is a solemn promise by young people never to bring a gun to school, never to use a gun to settle a dispute, and to discourage their friends from using guns; and

**WHEREAS:** by keeping this promise and giving one another the chance to grow to healthy, productive adulthood, young Americans will be taking an enormous step toward a stronger, safer future for themselves and our Nation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I MAYOR CHARLES E. OBERLIE,** Mayor of City of Michigan City, do hereby proclaim October 19, 2005 as:

**A DAY OF NATIONAL CONCERN ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE AND GUN VIOLENCE**

and encourage all young Americans to raise your voice together to make a common promise on a common day for your future and a future for your children and grandchildren without gun violence.

*furthermore:* I call upon all citizens to join in the proactive campaign against gun violence amongst our youth and to reaffirm our responsibility for making the country safer from violence. Violence is neither inevitable nor an abstract force against which we are powerless.

**DATED THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2005**

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Charles E. Oberlie, Mayor  
City of Michigan City

**ATTEST:**

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Thomas F. Fedder, Clerk