

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

Austin to Designate August “Gun Safety Awareness Month”

August 31, 2023 – Austin, TX – This morning, Austin will join Fort Worth and Houston in designating the month of August as “Gun Safety Awareness Month” with a proclamation sponsored by Mayor Pro Tem Paige Ellis. During the event, Ellis will set forth a proclamation announcing that August will be dedicated to educating communities about the importance of keeping guns locked and stored away when not in use to prevent self-harm, accidental injuries, and death.

WHAT: Gun Safety Awareness Month proclamation

WHEN: Thursday, August 31 at 9:15AM

WHERE: Austin City Hall

In Texas, the impacts of unsafe gun storage are evidenced by sobering statistics: in 2018, at least 32 Texas children died in unintentional shootings, and a recent study by the University of Texas indicates that about 200,000 children in our state live with unlocked, loaded firearms. Three out of four children know where the firearms are kept in their house.

[Lock Arms for Life](#), a Texas-based nonprofit that works every day to get all guns locked when not in use, is a partner in Gun Safety Awareness Month. District Attorney Jose Garza will also speak at the event in support of Gun Safety Awareness Month.

“A national conversation about safety and harm reduction through safe gun storage is both practical and urgent,” said Leesa Ross, founder of Lock Arms for Life. Ross shared that her son died in a tragic gun-related accident and has dedicated her life to ensuring communities are doing everything they can to eliminate the chance of accidental injury or death.

“Local leaders are instrumental in educating children and families about the risks unlocked guns pose in the home,” Ross added. “We’re grateful for the support Austin elected officials like Mayor Pro Tem Ellis have shown on this issue.”

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About Lock Arms for Life

Our mission at Lock Arms for Life is to inspire all gun owners to use firearms safely — for our families, our friends, and our neighbors. While we support the 2nd Amendment rights of all

Americans to own guns, we also call for that power to be balanced with the responsibility to eliminate the chance of accidental injury or death.

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