



CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION
OF NEW YORK CITY

RICHARD M. ABORN, PRESIDENT

For Immediate Release: March 30, 2011

Contact: Crime Commission: Ashley Cannon, 212-608-4700 or cannon@caasny.com

Arlington PD: Tiara Richard, 817-459-5624

**TEXAS MOMENTUM:
ARLINGTON POLICE CHIEF CALLS ON CONGRESS TO
PASS BAN ON LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION MAGAZINES**

30th Anniversary of Jim Brady's shooting sparks onslaught of support from law enforcement to reinstate the ban, over 100 co-sponsors in Congress

ARLINGTON, TX– Arlington Police Chief Theron Bowman today joined a growing momentum of law enforcement organizations, calling on Congress to pass the ban on large capacity ammunition magazines (H.R. 308/S. 32), the type used in the January 8th, 2011 shooting in Tucson, AZ, which left 6 dead and 13 wounded. March 30th marks the 30th anniversary of the assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan. The shooting critically wounded Reagan's press secretary, Jim Brady, and sparked historic gun control reforms in the United States. *Jim and Sarah Brady are in Washington, DC today to lobby Congress.*

“It is important for us to take steps toward removing large capacity ammunition magazines from the hands of criminals,” said Chief Bowman. “There is no need for the offenders to have more fire power than law enforcement.”

Large capacity ammunition magazines were made illegal as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, commonly known as the federal assault weapons ban, but Congress failed to renew the ban when it expired in 2004. A large capacity ammunition magazine was used to carry out the recent shooting in Tucson, allowing the gunman to fire more than 30 bullets in 15 seconds.

“30 years later and we're still having the same debate. There is absolutely no reason for a civilian to own one of these weapons, the sheer purpose of which is to inflict carnage. This isn't about Republicans or Democrats, it's about protecting cops and keeping the public safe,” said Richard Aborn, President of the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City, and the former President of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence (1993-1996).

Since 2004, lethal large capacity ammunition magazines have been used in every mass shooting in the United States. Examples include: 2007 Virginia Tech: 32 dead, 17 wounded, 15-round magazines, hundreds of shots fired; 2009 Binghamton, NY: 13 dead, 4 wounded, 30-round magazine, 99 rounds fired; 2010 Hartford Beer Distributor, CT: 8 dead, 2 wounded, 17-round magazines.

The Arlington, TX Police Department joins a growing list of supporters including:

- Los Angeles Police Chief Charlie Beck (CA)
- Major Cities Chiefs Association
- Minneapolis Police Chief Timothy J. Dolan (MN)
- Philadelphia Police Chief Charles Ramsey (PA)
- Providence Police Chief Colonel Dean Esserman (RI)
- New York State Association of Chiefs of Police (NY)
- Former Vice President Dick Cheney
- Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa (CA)
- Los Angeles City Council (CA)
- Los Angeles City Attorney Carmen Trutanich (CA)
- NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg (NY)
- Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter (PA)
- U.S. Conference of Mayors
- New York City Councilwoman Gale Brewer (NY)
- Vincent D'Onofrio, actor
- Colin Goddard, VA Tech shooting victim
- Kelly O'Brien, fiancée of Tucson shooting victim Gabe Zimmerman
- Citizens Crime Commission of New York City
- Faiths United to Prevent Gun Violence
- New Yorkers Against Gun Violence
- Violence Policy Center
- Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence
- States United to Prevent Gun Violence
- Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence

The Citizens Crime Commission of New York City is an independent nonprofit organization working to make criminal justice and public safety policies and practices more effective through innovation, research, and education. In the last three decades, the Crime Commission has been a leader on key issues such as: expanding the use of DNA evidence in crime fighting, creating innovations that reduce juvenile crime, developing interventions against gun violence and illegal gun crime, and highlighting the changing nature of the threat of terrorism.

###