



CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION
OF NEW YORK CITY

A Call to Action: Urge Congress to Ban Large Capacity Magazines

January 11, 2011

Good afternoon,

Saturday's tragic event is an atrocity on so many levels. We grieve for the dead and express our deepest sympathies to their families. We gather in collective hope that the injured will recover and the day will come, when defying all odds, Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords returns to the floor of the House, though such outcome is far from certain and we wonder both privately and collectively what this act says about our democracy. But, it is insufficient to stop there.

While there is much upon which to reflect from the shooting, we must also be galvanized and determined to take action. Today's *New York Daily News* features an op-ed I have written on this very point (link provided below). Below you will find specific action steps you can take.

The large capacity 31-bullet magazine that Jared Loughner used to impose chaos and catastrophe in Tucson had been banned when we passed the ban on assault weapons and large volume magazines in 1994. That bill had a 10 year sunset provision and in 2004, Congress allowed the ban to lapse, thus making the precise type of magazine that Loughner used perfectly legal. Allowing the ban to lapse was then, and continues to be now, an outrage. We must take steps to urge the White House and Congress to take these large magazines off the streets of our country. It defies any reasoned logic to support the notion that these magazines have a valid place in our society.

If one specific action results from Saturday's tragedy, let it be that Congress once again, and permanently, declares these dangerous magazines illegal. Neither our law enforcement officers, nor any of us, should ever be confronted with this sort of violence, especially when we can prevent it. This is indeed a time for us to pull together, Republicans and Democrats alike, and take this very simple, very logical step to make America a safer nation.

Thank you,

Richard M. Aborn

Take Action:

Copy and paste the below message into the message box on the following government contact websites:

Please take action to restore the ban on large capacity magazines.

Urge Our Government Leaders to Ban Large Capacity Magazines:

President Barack Obama <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>

Rep. John Boehner, Speaker of the House <http://www.speaker.gov/Contact/>

Rep. Nancy Pelosi, House Democratic Leader <http://www.democraticleader.gov/contact>

Sen. Harry Reid, Senate Majority Leader <http://reid.senate.gov/contact/index.cfm>

Sen. Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader

<http://mccconnell.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=ContactForm>

The full text of the op-ed can be found on the *Daily News* website:

[http://www.nydailynews.com/opinions/2011/01/11/2011-01-](http://www.nydailynews.com/opinions/2011/01/11/2011-01-11)

[11 in wake of the arizona massacre ban highcapacity magazines this one should be si.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/opinions/2011/01/11/2011-01-11)

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.

For more information about the Crime Commission, visit our website at:

<http://www.nycrimecommission.org>