



CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION
OF NEW YORK CITY

RICHARD M. ABORN, PRESIDENT

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Effort to Ban Large Capacity Ammunition Magazines Gains Momentum

Major Cities Chiefs Association joins growing list of law enforcement, including LAPD

Rep. McCarthy and Sen. Lautenberg offer praise

NEW YORK-On the heels of the LAPD Chief's call to ban large capacity ammunition magazines, the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCC) today added their support to HR308/S32. Joining the growing list of law enforcement and civilian advocates alike, the Major Cities Chiefs Association's announcement marks the largest organization representing law enforcement to support the legislation.

In a public statement today, Charles H. Ramsey, Police Commissioner of Philadelphia, and President of the Major Cities Chiefs Association said:

"The Major Cities Chiefs Association urges Congress to pass legislation to ban large capacity ammunition magazines in order to protect our officers and keep the public safe. Law enforcement officers shouldn't have to confront that much firepower on the street, it's not fair. Gun related violence is the leading cause of officer fatalities but common sense restrictions can help us do our jobs and keep our cities safe. Half a million brave men and women risk their lives every day to keep Americans free and safe: the issue is simple, they *deserve* our protection."

Major Cities Chiefs Association is a professional association of Chiefs and Sheriffs representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada. MCC membership is comprised of Chiefs and Sheriffs of the 63 largest law enforcement agencies in the United States and 7 largest in Canada. They serve over 76.5 million people (68 US; 8.5 Canada) with a sworn workforce of 177,150 (159,300 US; 17,850 Canada) officers and non-sworn personnel.

"We cannot expect our police officers to keep us safe if we're not willing to protect them with the full power of the law. Common sense restrictions provide law enforcement with a tactical advantage over criminals, making us *all* safer," said Richard Aborn, President of the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City.

As the former President of the Brady Campaign, Aborn is credited as the principle

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strategist behind the improbable and successful passage of the Brady Bill, the Federal Ban on Assault Weapons, which included the ban on large capacity ammunition magazines.

“No one knows more about the effects of gun policy in our communities than our police, who are laying their lives on the line for us to fight gun violence in our streets every day. The Major Cities Chiefs' endorsement of our bill to ban large capacity ammunition magazines is the latest in a long string of important endorsements for this common sense proposal. I thank the Association and Mr. Aborn for their courageous and tireless work to save lives in America,” said Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy, sponsor of HR308.

From 1994 – 2004, large capacity ammunition magazines were illegal as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, commonly known as the federal ban on assault weapons. When the ban expired in 2004, Congress failed to renew it. Since that time, large capacity ammunition magazines (more than 10 rounds at a time) have been legal to manufacture and sell. A large capacity ammunition magazine was used to carry out the recent shooting spree in Tucson, allowing the gunman to fire off more than 30 bullets in 15 seconds.

"The only reason to have 30+ bullets loaded in a handgun is to kill a lot of people very quickly. Police officers risk their lives to protect our communities, and we have a responsibility to protect them from unnecessary danger and violence. I am pleased that the Major Cities Chiefs Association is supporting this common sense effort to reinstate the ban on large capacity ammunition magazines and reduce deaths from gun violence," said U.S. Senator Frank R. Lautenberg, sponsor of S32.

The Major Cities Chiefs Association joins a growing list of supporters including:

- Los Angeles Police Chief Charlie Beck (CA)
- Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa (CA)
- Los Angeles City Attorney Carmen Trutanich (CA)
- Los Angeles City Council (CA)
- New York City Councilwoman Gale Brewer (NY)
- Former Vice President Dick Cheney
- U.S. Conference of Mayors
- Vincent D’Onofrio, actor
- Colin Goddard, VA Tech shooting victim
- Kelly O’Brien, fiancée of Tucson shooting victim Gabe Zimmerman
- Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence
- Faiths United to Prevent Gun Violence
- New Yorkers Against Gun Violence
- Violence Policy Center
- Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence

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- States United 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.

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