

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERSHIP TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE

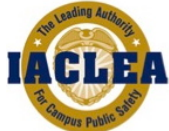


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STATEMENT BY BALTIMORE COUNTY CHIEF JIM JOHNSON, CHAIR, NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERSHIP TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE ON THE SHOOTINGS AT LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



Last Friday the nation suffered yet another tragic shooting, this time at the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). Members of the National Law Enforcement Partnership to Prevent Gun Violence (the Partnership) are saddened by the loss of Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Officer Gerardo Hernandez. Our thoughts and prayers are with his loved ones, and the others wounded in this tragic incident, including two other TSA agents.



TSA agents perform critical duties keeping airline passengers safe. Reports that they were specifically targeted are deeply disturbing, as is the recent surge in ambush shootings of our nation's law enforcement officers.



In 2012 and as of mid-year 2013, ambushes were the leading cause of officer firearm fatalities, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. In 2012, the number of officers killed by gunfire in ambushes jumped to 15, up from five in 2011. As of mid-year 2013, of the 17 officers killed by gunfire, seven were targeted in ambushes.



Those charged with our safekeeping – whether law enforcement officers, TSA agents, or other security personnel – should not have to worry about being gunned down simply because they wear a uniform or badge.



As a matter of public safety and the safety of our protectors, it is urgent that we as a nation prioritize preventing the horrific gun violence that is occurring daily across our nation.



POLICE EXECUTIVE
RESEARCH FORUM

The Partnership, www.lepartnership.org, is an alliance of the nation's law enforcement leadership organizations concerned about the unacceptable level of gun violence in the United States. The Partnership is working to address the pervasive nature of gun violence and its horrific impact on community and officer safety. The Partnership is comprised of:



Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA)
Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association (HAPCOA)
International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA)
International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)
Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA)
National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives (NAWLEE)
National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)
Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)
Police Foundation (PF)

<http://www.lepartnership.org>