



NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERSHIP TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE

May 29, 2014



Dear Representatives King and Thompson,

The National Law Enforcement Partnership to Prevent Gun Violence (the Partnership) applauds your bipartisan amendment to the FY15 Commerce Justice and Science Appropriations bill (HR 4660) to increase funding to strengthen the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) by providing \$19.5 million so that states will submit more disqualifying records for inclusion in the NICS database.



As law enforcement professionals, our nine law enforcement leadership organizations have come together to seek practical responses to reduce the gun violence that is cutting lives short and forever altering others through physical injury and emotional grief.



Over the Memorial Day weekend, our nation once again suffered a tragic mass shooting and murder of young students. Law enforcement professionals know that while we can't stop every shooting, our nation can absolutely do more to prevent gun violence by adopting sensible policies that prevent guns from getting into the wrong hands.



Background checks have a demonstrated record of success when disqualified purchasers' information is contained in the databases being checked. Federal and state background checks stopped more than 2 million prohibited purchases from federally licensed dealers between 1994 – when the Brady Law took effect – and 2010, according to the Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics.



Many states are not currently submitting all of their disqualifying records to NICS. Your amendment will provide critical funding for states to increase the number of records entered in the NICS system and ultimately help to keep guns out of dangerous hands.



We urge all Members of Congress to support this important life-saving measure.

Sincerely,

Chief Jim Johnson, Baltimore County, MD
Chair, National Law Enforcement Partnership to Prevent Gun Violence



- 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)

