

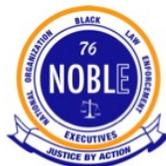
NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERSHIP TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 13, 2013

CONTACT

info@lepartnership.org



STATEMENT BY BALTIMORE COUNTY CHIEF JIM JOHNSON, CHAIR, NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERSHIP TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE ON THE ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE SANDY HOOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MASSACRE

A year ago, the nation was shocked by one of the most horrifying and tragic acts of gun violence we have ever witnessed, as 20 first-grade students and six adults were gunned-down at Sandy Hook Elementary School.

At this difficult time, our thoughts are with those whose lives were forever altered by this event, especially the families and friends of the twenty-six whose lives were taken, and all those who survived this senseless act. Tragically, they have been left to cope with the grief and devastation that none should have to bear.

Though the nation was deeply traumatized by this cruel and horrific loss of life, not enough has been done in the year since to protect others from the dangers of firearms in the wrong hands and excessive firepower in our communities. Since that fateful day last December, gun violence has claimed more than 32,000 lives in the United States.

Americans should not have to fear being gunned down in classrooms, work places, movie theaters and other public venues. This nation has no higher priority than the protection of its citizens from the rampant scourge of gun violence that affects all of our communities -- large and small, urban, rural, and suburban.

While we cannot bring back those 26 lost at Sandy Hook, we must do more to save others and prevent such needless suffering. We owe it to those we lost, to their survivors and to all generations to come.

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)

www.lepartnership.org