

# **NEW YORKERS AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE**

## **Education Fund**

Working to Reduce Gun-Related Violence Since 1993

**For Immediate Release**

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### **Advocates Commend Mayor Bloomberg's On-Going Commitment to Rid Streets of Illegal Guns**

**Brooklyn, New York**, New Yorkers Against Gun Violence (NYAGV), New York's leading state-wide grassroots gun violence prevention organization enthusiastically supports Mayor Bloomberg's continued commitment to rid New York City's streets of illegal guns. The Mayor's State of the City remarks note he is stepping up efforts to ensure the City is using all available tools to prevent gun deaths and injuries, including asking Congress to eliminate the Tiahrt provisions in the ATF appropriations bill that prevent full law enforcement access to crime gun trace data.

Jackie Kuhls, Executive Director of NYAGV, said, "Mayor Bloomberg has demonstrated once again that he will continue his battle against illegal guns. While New York City ranks as one of our nation's safest urban area, we still have neighborhoods shattered by the fear and harm caused by illegal guns. The Mayor is a leader in the effort to protect all New Yorkers, and is an example to members of Congress who have allowed the gun lobby to impede access to vital tools such as ballistic tracing reports".

The Mayor plans to address the source of illegal guns by continuing his leadership role in the Mayors Against Illegal Guns coalition. He has found that Mayors across the country support calls for Congress to ensure ballistic imaging technology is used and that the trace results are available to identify and bring gun traffickers to justice. He also plans to ensure strategic use of law enforcement resources by working across jurisdictional lines and using analytic tools such as debriefing databases that will guide police efforts to root out the source of illegal guns.

Kuhls closed, "Today, Mayor Bloomberg made it clear that he plans to continue his role as a national leader in the area of gun violence prevention."

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