

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LONG BEACH TO SUPPORT PRESIDENT
OBAMA'S EXECUTIVE ACTIONS TO REDUCE GUN
VIOLENCE

WHEREAS, in 2014, the City of Long Beach had its lowest violent crime rate in 42 years, but there are still too many residents who are victims of gun violence. Long Beach saw an increase in violent crimes in 2015, reflecting a statewide and national trend. In 2015, the Long Beach Police Department responded to 286 reported shooting incidents involving both hit and no-hit shootings.

WHEREAS, President Obama's Executive Action to reduce gun violence includes four main actions; and

WHEREAS, the first action is to keep guns out of the wrong hands through background checks:

- The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is making clear that it doesn't matter where one conducts business: if one is in the business of selling firearms, one must get a background check and license.
- ATF is finalizing a rule to require background checks for people trying to buy some of the most dangerous weapons and other items through a trust, corporation, or other legal entity.
- Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch has sent a letter to states highlighting the importance of receiving complete criminal history records and criminal dispositions, information on persons disqualified because of a mental illness, and

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qualifying crimes of domestic violence.

- The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is overhauling the background check system to make it more effective and efficient. The envisioned improvements include processing background checks 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and improving notification of local authorities when certain prohibited persons unlawfully attempt to buy a gun. The FBI will hire more than 230 additional examiners and other staff to help process these background checks; and

WHEREAS, the second action is to make our communities safer from gun violence:

- The Attorney General convened a call with U.S. Attorneys around the country to direct federal prosecutors to continue to focus on smart and effective enforcement of gun laws.
- The President's FY2017 budget will include funding for 200 new ATF agents and investigators to help enforce gun laws.
- ATF has established an Internet Investigation Center to track illegal online firearms trafficking and is dedicating \$4 million and additional personnel to enhance the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network.
- ATF is finalizing a rule to ensure that dealers who ship firearms notify law enforcement if their guns are lost or stolen in transit.
- The Attorney General issued a memorandum encouraging every U.S. Attorney's Office to renew domestic violence outreach efforts; and

WHEREAS, the third action is to increase mental health treatment and reporting to the background check systems:

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- The Administration is proposing a new \$500 million investment to increase access to mental health care.
- The Social Security Administration has indicated that it will begin the rulemaking process to include information in the background check system about beneficiaries who are prohibited from possessing a firearm for mental health reasons.
- The Department of Health and Human Services is finalizing a rule to remove unnecessary legal barriers preventing states from reporting relevant information about people prohibited from possessing a gun for specific mental health reasons; and

WHEREAS, the fourth action is to shape the future of gun safety

technology:

- The President has directed the Departments of Defense, Justice, and Homeland Security to conduct or sponsor research into gun safety technology.
- The President has also directed the departments to review the availability of smart gun technology on a regular basis, and to explore potential ways to further its use and development to more broadly improve gun safety; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Long Beach recognizes the importance to public safety and violence prevention, and that the President's executive actions will be a supplement to the current efforts to reduce crime by the Long Beach Police Department, Fire Department and other first-aid responders;

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NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as follows:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Long Beach declares support for President Barack Obama's executive action to reduce gun violence.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of February 9, 2016, by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Gonzalez, Price, Supernaw, Mungo, Andrews, Austin, Richardson.

Noes: Councilmembers: None.

Absent: Councilmembers: Lowenthal, Uranga.

Maia del Valle
City Clerk