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Date:

February 17, 2009

To:

The Public Safety Committee, Long Beach City Council

From:

Women Against Gun Violence

Subject:

Support for Ordinance Requiring Ammunition Sales Recordkeeping

On behalf of Women Against Gun Violence (WAGV), we would like to express our support for an ordinance that would require the recording of information regarding ammunition sales. WAGV is a 15-year-old organization whose mission is to prevent gun violence by educating the public, policymakers and the media about the human, financial and public health consequences of this epidemic, and to mobilize communities to take decisive action against the dangers of firearms. In short, we are committed to ending gun violence.

Our supporters and gun-violence survivors live across Southern California, many in the city of Long Beach.

We know from similar ordinances now in place in the City of Los Angeles that these types of ordinances deter ammunition purchases by persons prohibited by law from purchasing or possessing ammunition. In addition, ammunition sales records can help identify and prosecute illegal purchasers who have already purchased ammunition. However, it is still easy to simply cross the border of another city to make ammunition purchases. Until there is a state law, we support passage of these requirements in as many local cities as possible. Therefore, we are very supportive of the measure before you today that would require ammunition dealers to keep a record of their sales.

Thank you for your consideration.