



CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION  
OF NEW YORK CITY

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## **Richard Aborn's Statement on New Data Showing Increase in Percentage of Out-of-State Guns Used to Commit Crimes in New York City**

NEW YORK-In response to Mayor Bloomberg's release of new data new data showing increase in percentage of out-of-state guns used to commit crimes in New York City, Richard M. Aborn, President of the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City, issued the following statement:

“The startling statistics on illegal gun trafficking underscore two critical and immediate needs: first, the U.S. Congress must act to stop the carnage that flows from illegal guns. Every day delayed is another day Congress abdicates its responsibility to protect the public. Second, the critical need for states to work together to stop the follow of illegal guns. While national legislation requiring background checks is critically important to keep guns out of the hands of felons and the mentally-ill, we don't need to wait for legislative action to mobilize law enforcement agencies across states to share data and jointly investigate, arrest and prosecute illegal gun traffickers. The technology and information is there to crack down on illegal gun trafficking. Using the innovative data collection techniques conceived to battle terrorism, states along I-95 that are chief suppliers of illegal guns used in crimes could easily band together, and once and for all do away with the shamefully dubbed Iron Pipeline.”

### **Background**

This morning Mayor Bloomberg, New York City with Police Commissioner Kelly, and Criminal Justice Coordinator Feinblatt continued the fight against illegal guns by releasing new statistics on states that are responsible for the large number of illegal guns used in crimes in New York City. The numbers show the majority of illegal guns are trafficked from Virginia, the Carolina's, and Pennsylvania. The new crime gun trace data shows an increase in the percentage of out-of-state guns used to commit crimes in New York City, which has increased from 85 percent in 2009 to 90 percent in 2011. The increase in proportion of out-of-state guns used to commit crimes occurs even as the total number of guns recovered in the city has decreased by more than 44 percent.

Mayor Bloomberg urged state and federal legislators to pass commonsense measures, such as background checks for private gun sales, in order to protect all Americans. Currently Federal law only requires licensed gun dealers to conduct criminal background checks. Since the National

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Instant Criminal Background Check System was established in 1998, it has blocked more than two million attempted purchases by people prohibited by law from buying or possessing guns.

### **About the Crime Commission**

The Citizens Crime Commission of New York City is a non-partisan non-profit organization working to make criminal justice and public safety policies and practices more effective through innovation, research, and education. In the last three decades, the Crime Commission has been a leader on key issues such as: increasing the size of the NYPD, expanding the use of DNA evidence in crime fighting, creating innovations that reduce juvenile crime, developing interventions against gun violence and illegal gun crime, and highlighting the changing nature of the threat of terrorism.

For more information please visit our website at: [www.nycrimecommission.org](http://www.nycrimecommission.org)

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