



CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION
OF NEW YORK CITY

For Immediate Release: January 12th, 2016

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Mayor de Blasio, Commissioner Bratton Unveil Initiative with Crime Commission to Reduce Gun Violence

"Project Fast Track" will unite law enforcement, prosecutors and courts in historic effort to get illegal guns and violent criminals off the streets

NEW YORK - Richard Aborn, President of the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City, joined Mayor Bill de Blasio and NYPD Commissioner William Bratton today to announce an historic anti-violence initiative aimed at reducing shootings. "Project Fast Track" will combine the efforts and resources of police, prosecutors and the courts to catch gun criminals and swiftly sentence them.

"New York has the toughest gun laws in the country-but the lax laws in other states allow a steady flow of illegal guns into our city, wreaking mayhem and misery," Aborn said. "Much has been done under Commissioner Bratton's watch and in recent years to reduce gun violence, but there is still a persistent threat to our public safety from trafficking and a relatively small number of criminals intent on committing gun violence. "Project Fast Track" is the first initiative of its kind, coordinating the resources and efforts of law enforcement, prosecutors and the courts so that all levels of the criminal justice system can work in concert to root out illegal guns and violent criminals, and get them off our streets.

"The Crime Commission is honored to have worked together with partners across government to develop and launch this system-wide, far-reaching initiative. With new gun courts in all five boroughs, expedited cases, and significant new law enforcement resources and government coordination, "Project Fast Track" will target gun crime with unprecedented precision."

About "Project Fast Track"

- **A Gun Violence Suppression Division.** All police investigations related to illegal firearms, as well as shootings and gangs, will be consolidated within the new division.

- **Federal agencies coordinating with NYPD.** Detectives and analysts from the NYPD's Gang Unit will work with federal agencies to crack down on illegal gun trafficking.
- **Officers follow gun cases.** For the first time in New York City history, the NYPD will assign a dedicated officer to each gun case from start to finish.
- **New NYPD Prosecution Unit.** To ensure that illegal gun prosecutions are successful, the NYPD's new Prosecution Unit will track illegal gun case outcomes, obtain feedback from District Attorneys' officers about why cases succeeded or failed, and utilize this feedback to improve evidence gathering and inform police training.
- **Enhanced DA/NYPD partnership.** Prosecutors from each District Attorney's office will work with the NYPD to enhance and expedite the prosecution of illegal gun cases.
- **Resources for DNA testing.** The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will have \$2,030,878 in additional funding and 21 new staff dedicated to quickly testing DNA from all guns swabbed for DNA by the NYPD.
- **Dedicated judicial teams.** For the first time, the court system will match Judicial Hearing Officers with designated trial judges who will work together as a team to adjudicate all cases charging unlawful gun possession.
- **Expedited adjudication of gun cases.** A team approach within the court system will allow for cases to be fully and finally resolved within six months of their inception while ensuring due process.

About the Citizens Crime Commission:

The Crime Commission is a non-partisan non-profit organization working to make New York City's criminal justice and public safety policies and practices more effective through innovation, research, and education. For more information on the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City, please visit our website: www.nycrimecommission.org

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