



# CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION

## OF NEW YORK CITY

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### **Aborn Praises President Obama's Proposed Gun Reforms**

NEW YORK-In response to President Obama's proposed package of gun reforms, Richard Aborn, President of the Citizens Crime Commission issued the following statement:

"President Barack Obama today proposed the most comprehensive and sweeping gun reforms in a generation. Gun owners and non-gun owners understand that the time has come to unite against the scourge of gun violence which all Americans deplore. As this President once famously said: "we are not as divided as our politics suggest". The winds of change are sweeping throughout the land, from the big cities to the quiet towns, uniting this country in an effort to protect our children and guarantee one of the most fundamental rights of our democracy: freedom from fear. Twenty children are dead because we could not muster the political will to protect them. For Tucson, Aurora, and Newtown Mr. President, we urge you forward and vow to fight on until Congress catches up. No more excuses; now is the time for action."

#### **Resources**

The Crime Commission manages a database of significant mass shootings in America (defined by the FBI as at least 4 victims killed), all of which involve previously banned weapons. The database catalogues 30 major recent incidents, with detailed information about the weapons, magazine capacity, and circumstances of the shooting itself. Data also indicates that mass shootings occur consistently throughout regions of the United States, further underscoring the need for federal legislation. The increased lethality of such incidents is made possible by the use of assault weapons and assault clips which enable a shooter to rapidly fire off as many as 100-rounds without having to reload the firearm, often shooting at police. Since the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) does not require police departments to report data on magazine capacity, the Crime Commission's database is a valuable resource.

View the database here: <http://www.nycrimecommission.org/initiative1-shootings.php>

#### **Background**

As the former President of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence (1993-1996), Richard Aborn was the principle strategist behind the original Federal Assault Weapons Ban in 1994. Congress failed to renew the ban when it expired in 2004.

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)