



# CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION

## OF NEW YORK CITY

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### Crime Commission Response to NRA Statement

*Richard Aborn, former President of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, condemns self-victimizing press conference*

NEW YORK-In response to the National Rifle Association's (NRA) press conference to address the mass shooting in Newtown, Connecticut, Richard Aborn, President of the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City issued the following statement:

"The NRA's shameful self-victimization is both tone deaf and shocking in the face of 20 dead children. Their response to this tragedy is to delay, distract, and deny the problem. Responsible gun owning and non-gun owning Americans understand that the lax regulation of firearms must be addressed now. We need to reduce the firepower by banning assault weapons and large capacity ammunition magazines, closing the gun show loop-hole, and making sure that the mentally ill do not have access to firearms. These are real solutions to a real problem. The solution is not to engage in an arms race."

### **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 24 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)