



## MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

June 4, 2018

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
437 Russell Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

Preventing crime and protecting the public are the top priorities of the Chiefs and Sheriffs across the land. On behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association, representing the largest local law enforcement agencies in the Nation, I am writing to express our support of the "Gun Tracing Bill," which would provide for electronic, searchable databases of firearm information that is essential to our mission of reducing gun crime violence throughout the Nation.

Law enforcement agencies throughout the country have forged robust and productive partnerships with ATF. Through gun crime intelligence sharing and tracing of crime guns, ATF has provided law enforcement agencies with firearms information critical in making timely arrests and keeping violent offenders off the street. ATF's ability to support local law enforcement with timely intelligence is a function of the tools by which it is empowered. The "Gun Tracing Bill," while not changing *what* information is collected and disseminated to local law enforcement, provides greater coordination among all agencies and offers real-time access that will help solve crimes and keep guns out of the hands of violent offenders.

Thank you for your continued support of law enforcement and your leadership in the fight to stop gun violence. We appreciate the opportunity to add our voice to this vital national discussion and we look forward to continued partnership in the fight against the many threats that gun violence poses to both law enforcement officers and the communities we are sworn to protect.

Sincerely,

J. Thomas Manger  
Chief of Police  
Montgomery County Police Department

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