



## MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

August 12, 2019

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear President Trump, Speaker Pelosi, and Senator McConnell:

I write to you, not only as the Chief of the Houston Police Department and the President of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA), but most importantly as a parent urging you to take action to combat mass shootings and gun violence. I submit this plea to you on behalf of MCCA member agencies, the brave law enforcement officers we lead, and the communities we serve. We urge you, in no uncertain terms, to immediately act by enacting commonsense legislation to reduce the scourge of everyday gun violence and the slaughter of innocent people during what feels like never-ending mass shooting events in our schools, entertainment venues, places of worship, businesses, and homes. These tragic incidents are profoundly plaguing our Nation, cutting short precious human lives, and tearing out the hearts and souls of countless families.

The MCCA and the American people have looked to the White House and the Congress for many years to take a leadership role in passing commonsense measures to keep firearms in the hands of law-abiding Americans and out of the hands of those who would do our families, friends, and neighbors harm. We have supported and fought for legislative initiatives that would help us keep our communities safe. Sadly, for too long, politics and special interests have stood in the way of achieving life-saving legislative action.

Once again, the MCCA is calling on Congress to move forward with a broad legislative response and we call upon the President to support this effort. The MCCA joins the collective voices of millions of Americans who are demanding universal background checks, red flag / extreme risk measures, an assault weapons ban, a ban on high capacity magazines, and a host of other commonsense legislation that will render our Nation's residents and the officers that serve them, safer from gun violence.

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- Baltimore Co.
- Boston
- Buffalo
- Calgary, Canada
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg
- Chicago
- Cincinnati
- Cleveland
- Columbus
- Dallas
- DeKalb Co.
- Denver
- Detroit
- Edmonton, Canada
- El Paso
- Fairfax County
- Fort Worth
- Fresno
- Honolulu
- Houston
- Indianapolis
- Jacksonville
- Kansas City
- Las Vegas Metro
- Long Beach
- Los Angeles
- Los Angeles Co.
- Louisville
- Memphis
- Mesa
- Miami
- Miami-Dade
- Milwaukee
- Minneapolis
- Montgomery Co.
- Montreal, Canada
- Nashville
- Nassau Co.
- New Orleans
- New York City
- Newark
- Oakland
- Oklahoma City
- Omaha
- Orlando
- Ottawa, Canada
- Peel Region, Canada
- Philadelphia
- Phoenix
- Pittsburgh
- Portland
- Prince George's Co.
- Raleigh
- Sacramento
- Salt Lake City
- San Antonio
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- San Jose
- Seattle
- St. Louis
- Suffolk Co.
- Tampa
- Toronto, Canada
- Tucson
- Tulsa
- Vancouver, Canada
- Virginia Beach
- Washington
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- Winnipeg, Canada
- York, Canada



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Honolulu  
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Jacksonville  
Kansas City  
Las Vegas Metro  
Long Beach  
Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Co.  
Louisville  
Memphis  
Mesa  
Miami  
Miami-Dade  
Milwaukee  
Minneapolis  
Montgomery Co.  
Montreal, Canada  
Nashville  
Nassau Co.  
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You are the Nation's most senior elected leaders and you have the opportunity to make impactful, thoughtful, and pragmatic decisions that will surely save lives and restore a sense of safety and security to the American people. We call on you to exercise the political VALOR required to make these changes, which would still pale in comparison to the VALOR demonstrated by our first responders during their brave and selfless response to active shooter and other violent situations. Just as it is not easy for them, it will not be easy for you. However, just as selfless action is required of them, it is also required of you. Failure to act boldly will undoubtedly result in more preventable and senseless deaths.

The nearly 800,000 men and women in law enforcement in the United States don a badge each day placed over their heart representing their dedication and commitment to run toward danger whenever and wherever called upon to do so. They are doing their part every day, every shift, and on every call for help. Will you do your part? We trust and pray that you will. We stand ready to work with you to help keep our officers, our communities, and our loved ones safe.

Sincerely,

Art Acevedo  
Chief of Police / Houston, Texas  
President / Major Cities Chiefs Association