



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

June 1, 2022

Albuquerque
Arlington TX
Atlanta
Aurora
Austin
Baltimore
Baltimore Co.
Boston
Buffalo
Charlotte-Mecklenburg
Chicago
Cincinnati
Cleveland
Columbus
Dallas
DeKalb Co.
Denver
Detroit
El Paso
Fairfax Co.
Fort Worth
Fresno
Honolulu
Houston
Indianapolis
Jacksonville
Kansas City
Las Vegas
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Los Angeles Co.
Louisville
Memphis
Mesa
Miami
Miami-Dade
Milwaukee
Minneapolis
Montgomery Co.
Nashville
Nassau Co.
New Orleans
New York City
Newark
Oakland
Oklahoma City
Omaha
Orlando
Philadelphia
Phoenix
Pittsburgh
Portland
Prince George's Co.
Raleigh
Sacramento
Salt Lake City
San Antonio
San Diego
San Francisco
San Jose
Seattle
St. Louis
St. Louis Co.
Suffolk Co.
Tampa
Tucson
Tulsa
Virginia Beach
Washington DC
Wichita

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

I write on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) regarding the gun violence epidemic plaguing communities across America. The MCCA is a professional association of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

According to the FBI, there were 61 active shooter incidents in 2021, a roughly 53% increase from 2020, and twelve of these incidents met the federal definition of a mass killing.¹ This disturbing trend has continued in 2022. In the last month alone, active shooter incidents have devastated communities in Buffalo, New York, Laguna Woods California, and Uvalde, Texas.

The scourge of gun violence goes well beyond the tragedies that become national news. Violent crime in many jurisdictions has risen steadily over the past few years. For example, homicides and aggravated assaults in MCCA member cities during the first quarter of 2022 are up approximately 56% and 30%, respectively, compared to the first quarter of 2019.² Increased gun violence is driving this trend, and the grim reality is that shootings have become a daily occurrence in America's major cities. In some MCCA member cities, it's common for there to be multiple instances of gun violence a day. The nature of many of these shootings is also extremely concerning. Mass shootings have become disturbingly commonplace, and many jurisdictions are seeing an increase in the number of juveniles perpetrating these violent acts.

The MCCA has long been an advocate for sensible firearms policy. In 2018, the MCCA membership adopted a Firearms Violence Policy.³ This policy includes common-sense

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Ottawa, Ontario
Peel Region, Ontario
Toronto, Ontario
Vancouver, B.C.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
York Region, Ontario

¹ "Active Shooter Incidents in the United States in 2021," *Federal Bureau of Investigation*, May 2022.

<<https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/active-shooter-incidents-in-the-us-2021-052422.pdf/view>>

² This data is from the MCCA's Violent Crime Reports, which can be found here:

<<https://majorcitieschiefs.com/resources/>>

³ The MCCA's Firearms Violence Policy can be found here:

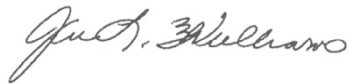
<https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/mcca_gun_policy_revised_2018_copy.pdf>

reforms that will help save lives while protecting Constitutional rights and due process. The MCCA is a leader in the law enforcement profession, and the Firearms Violence Policy is one of only a few such policy documents drafted by a law enforcement organization.

Your Administration must engage with the MCCA as it continues its work to address gun violence in our communities. As the chief law enforcement executives charged with protecting and serving the communities suffering the most from ongoing gun violence, MCCA members have a unique perspective and intricate understanding of these communities' needs that must be incorporated into any executive action.

The MCCA implores all our elected representatives to eschew politics and work together in a bipartisan manner to mitigate the threat of gun violence. Your leadership is needed now more than ever. The MCCA stands ready to work with your Administration, Congress, and all other stakeholders to institute the reforms that are required in order to provide for a more safe and secure America.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeri Williams".

Jeri Williams
Chief, Phoenix Police Department
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association



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San Jose
Seattle
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St. Louis Co.
Suffolk Co.
Tampa
Tucson
Tulsa
Virginia Beach
Washington DC
Wichita

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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

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

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy,

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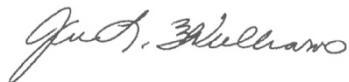
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Sincerely,



Jeri Williams
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