



## MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

June 15, 2022

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The Honorable Jerrold Nadler  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Nadler and Ranking Member Jordan,

I write on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to thank you for including H.R. 5768, the *VICTIM Act of 2021*, and H.R. 6538, the *Active Shooter Alert Act of 2022*, in today's markup. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

Violent crime is on the rise in major cities across the country. According to the latest MCCA Violent Crime Survey, homicides in the first quarter of 2022 are up approximately 56% compared to the first quarter of 2019. The *VICTIM Act* will provide grants to law enforcement agencies to help address staffing challenges, enhance forensics capabilities, further deploy investigative resources, and bolster victims' services. These resources will help law enforcement improve clearance rates and ensure those committing these violent crimes are held accountable.

Active shooter incidents are also on the rise. According to the FBI, there were 61 active shooter incidents in 2021, a roughly 53% increase from 2020. The *Active Shooter Alert Act* will establish an AMBER Alert-like network to disseminate alerts regarding active shooter incidents. This network will allow law enforcement to easily share information that can help keep the public safe. H.R. 6538 is particularly timely given the recent active shooter incidents in Buffalo, Laguna Woods, Uvalde, and Tulsa.

The MCCA strongly encourages all Members of the Committee to support these bills and report them favorably during tomorrow's markup.

Sincerely,

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

Calgary, Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta  
Montreal, Québec  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Peel Region, Ontario  
Toronto, Ontario  
Vancouver, B.C.  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
York Region, Ontario