



## MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

August 15, 2022

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The Honorable Donald Beyer  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Christopher Van Hollen  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Representative Beyer and Senator Van Hollen,

I write on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to express our support for H.R. 8460/S. 4582, the *ATF Improvement and Modernization (AIM) Act of 2022*. The MCCA is a professional organization of law enforcement executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

Violent crime, especially gun violence, has continued to rise steadily in major cities. According to MCCA data, 2022 midyear homicides are up approximately 50%, and aggravated assaults are up roughly 36% compared to 2019 data. The ATF is a critical partner for local law enforcement, and MCCA members work closely with their ATF counterparts to address the gun violence plaguing communities throughout the United States. However, Congress has enacted several policies over the years that have impacted the ATF's ability to help local law enforcement combat violent crime and gun violence.

The *AIM Act* will address this challenge by repealing many of the misguided restrictions Congress has placed on the ATF. For example, this legislation will improve the ATF's ability to trace crime guns and allow them to conduct these traces more efficiently, which will help bolster local law enforcement efforts and investigations. The *AIM Act* will also improve the ATF's ability to address firearms trafficking, thereby reducing the number of crime guns flooding into our communities.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue and continued support of law enforcement. Please do not hesitate to contact me if we can be of further assistance.

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  
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