

# Brady Campaign



## To Prevent Gun Violence

June 1, 2016

The Honorable Holly L. Wolcott  
Office of the City Clerk  
City of Los Angeles  
555 Ramirez Street, Space 300  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

### **RE: In Support of City Council Motion 16-0556 to Stop Bad Apple Gun Dealers**

Dear City Clerk Wolcott and City Councilmembers:

I write in support of Councilmember Paul Krekorian's motion of May 17, 2016, and as seconded by his fellow City Councilmembers Mike Bonin, Joe Buscaino, Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Paul Koretz and Nury Martinez, to direct the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to formally undertake and publicly release an aggregate crime gun trace data analysis report. This report would better inform the primary sources of guns that LAPD recovers and traces, otherwise referred to as "crime guns."

As you may be aware, Mayor Eric Garcetti has already publicly announced that the City of Los Angeles is pursuing an aggregate crime gun trace data analysis report as recently as a few weeks ago when he spoke to a gathering of the national Prosecutors Against Gun Violence (PAGV) organization. We understand that the Mayor's Office has been working on this issue with the LAPD and the University of Chicago since 2014, and we are pleased that the Councilmember's motion will build on that foundation to create a national model for aggregate gun trace studies.

The Brady Center and Campaign is proud to continue to work with Mayor Garcetti, Councilmember Krekorian, City Attorney Mike Feuer and many other leaders and stakeholders in Los Angeles and throughout the State of California in conjunction with our **Stopping Bad Apple Gun Dealers** initiative to significantly address the small percentage of federal firearm licensees (FFLs), i.e. gun dealers, who disproportionately provide the vast majority of crime guns that law enforcement recovers on our streets each and every day throughout the nation. Just 5% of our nation's gun dealers provide 90% of the nation's crime guns while 86% of our gun dealers do not provide a single crime gun in a given year.

When we think about this problem of guns getting into the hands of dangerous and prohibited persons in those terms, it becomes a very solvable matter to dramatically cut the flow of crime guns by simply focusing on reforming, shutting down and/or, where appropriate, prosecuting

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the small percentage of “bad apple” gun dealers. Indeed, the Brady Campaign has identified and developed the ***Brady Gun Dealer Code of Conduct*** that provides FFLs with a list of simple, straightforward best business practices that they can easily implement to dramatically reduce the chances that they will be a source of crime guns in the future. But first, the public needs to know who the current sources of crime guns are for a particular city, county, state and/or region. This is why such a trace analysis report is so critical.

In its first-in-the-nation crime gun trace data analysis report in May 2014, the City of Chicago identified four gun dealers who provided a disproportionate amount of the crime guns recovered on its streets. Since that time, one of those dealers has agreed to reforms, and there are strong, unified and ongoing efforts at the state and local levels to improve other policies, programs and practices to gain further success in reducing the flow of crime guns there. We strongly believe that the City of Los Angeles is in a great position to build and expand upon Chicago’s work in this area to become a national model for others to emulate.

According to ATF, while the State of California has some of the strongest gun laws in the country and is a progressive leader in reducing gun injuries and deaths with its many local and state policies and programs, there is still a significant number of crime guns that originate from gun dealers within the state (70%), and the state continues to be a net exporter of firearms that show up as crime guns outside of the state.

Therefore, we join with City Councilmember Krekorian and his fellow Councilmembers, Mayor Garcetti, City Attorney Feuer and many others in urging support for the City of Los Angeles and the LAPD to undertake and publicly release a comprehensive aggregate crime guns trace analysis report to better identify the sources of the crime guns recovered throughout the city, and to further efforts to address the small number of gun dealers that disproportionately provide the overwhelming majority of crime guns by reforming them, shutting them down or, where appropriate, realizing their criminal prosecutions.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our support for adoption of motion 16-0556.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Malte".

Brian Malte  
Senior National Policy Director