

NEWS



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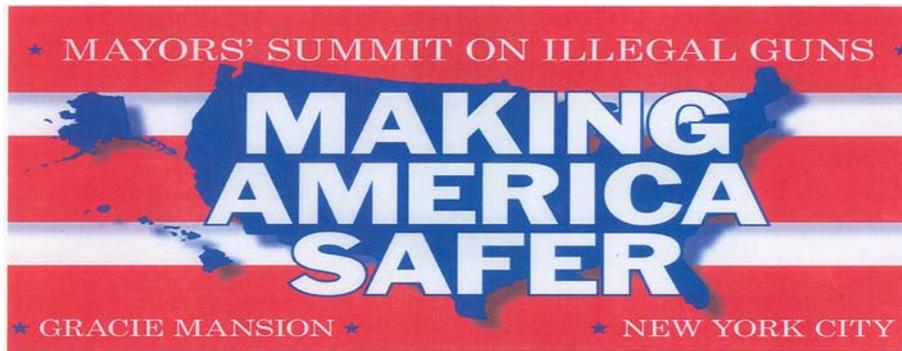
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Mayor Street and Mayors from around the Country Sign Statement of Principles during National Summit on Illegal Guns

New York City - Philadelphia Mayor John F. Street joined Mayor Bloomberg and 13 other mayors from across the country Tuesday at a national summit designed to focus attention on the issues of illegal guns and violence in American cities. At the summit's conclusion, the Mayors signed a joint Statement of Principles expressing their intent to target "irresponsible gun dealers who break the law by knowingly selling guns to straw purchasers." The Mayors also said they would oppose any efforts in Congress to limit cities' right to access and use gun tracing data, a valuable tool for law enforcement.

"Crime in all major categories is down in Philadelphia, but homicides are up," Mayor Street said. "And Philadelphia is not alone. There are more than 30,000 homicides in the United States each year because of handguns. It's clear the proliferation of illegal guns and lax gun laws that are fueling this violence. We need tougher gun laws. We need greater support and resources from the Federal government to help cities protect their citizens. This group of Mayors is going to continue working together and share successful initiatives to reduce gun violence."





STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

Whereas: 30,000 Americans across the country are killed every year as a result of gun violence, destroying families and communities in big cities and small towns; and

Whereas: As Mayors, we are duty-bound to do everything in our power to protect our residents, especially our children, from harm and there is no greater threat to public safety than the threat of illegal guns;

Now, therefore, we resolve to work together to find innovative new ways to advance the following principles:

- Punish – to the maximum extent of the law – criminals who possess, use, and traffic in illegal guns.
- Target and hold accountable irresponsible gun dealers who break the law by knowingly selling guns to straw purchasers.
- Oppose all federal efforts to restrict cities' right to access, use, and share trace data that is so essential to effective enforcement, or to interfere with the ability of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms to combat illegal gun trafficking.
- Work to develop and use technologies that aid in the detection and tracing of illegal guns.
- Support all local, state, and federal legislation that targets illegal guns; coordinate legislative, enforcement, and litigation strategies; and share information and best practices.
- Invite other cities to join us in this new national effort.

New York City Mayor Bloomberg, Boston Mayor Menino, Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown; Dallas Mayor Laura Miller, Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez, Jackson Mayor Frank Melton, Jersey City Mayor Jerramiah Healy, Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, Philadelphia Mayor John Street, Providence Mayor David Cicilline, Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, Trenton Mayor Douglas Palmer, Tulsa Mayor Kathy Taylor, Washington, DC Mayor Anthony Williams and Yonkers Mayor Phil Amicone.