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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CM010

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JULY 14, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: DR. JIM VICKREY

SUBJECT: JOINS MRS. JAMES BRADY IN APPRECIATION FOR
THE STATEMENT ON GUN PURCHASE WAITING PERIOD
AND URGES PROPOSING THE ENACTMENT OF SAME BY
STATUE, STATE OR FEDERAL

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
CHUCK DONOVAN	ORG	88/07/14	AHA	88/08/22
REFERRAL NOTE: 199 Twa/BATF	D	88/08/01	TR	88/08/11
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
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REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY OF MONTEVALLO

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

- ~ACTION CODES: ~DISPOSITION ~OUTGOING ~
- ~A-APPROPRIATE ACTION ~A-ANSWERED ~CORRESPONDENCE: ~
- ~C-COMMENT/RECOM ~B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL ~TYPE RESP=INITIALS ~
- ~D-DRAFT RESPONSE ~C-COMPLETED ~ OF SIGNER ~
- ~F-FURNISH FACT SHEET ~S-SUSPENDED ~ CODE = A ~
- ~I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC ~ ~COMPLETED = DATE OF ~
- ~R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY ~ ~ OUTGOING ~
- ~S-FOR-SIGNATURE ~ ~ ~
- ~X-INTERIM REPLY ~ ~ ~

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

August 22, 1988

Dear Dr. Vickrey:

On behalf of President Reagan, I would like to thank you for your recent letter concerning a mandatory waiting period for firearms purchases. He was pleased to learn that you share his views on this issue.

Thank you also for your kind words of support for the President. He is determined to make these final months of his Administration productive and successful.

With the President's appreciation and best wishes,

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins
Special Assistant to the President
and Director of Correspondence

Dr. Jim Vickrey
2701 F Scott Court
Montgomery, AL 36106

AVH/TREASURY/AVH/CAD/ckb (8AVH)

CK

Turemy / ASST / 020 /

Dear Dr. Vickrey:

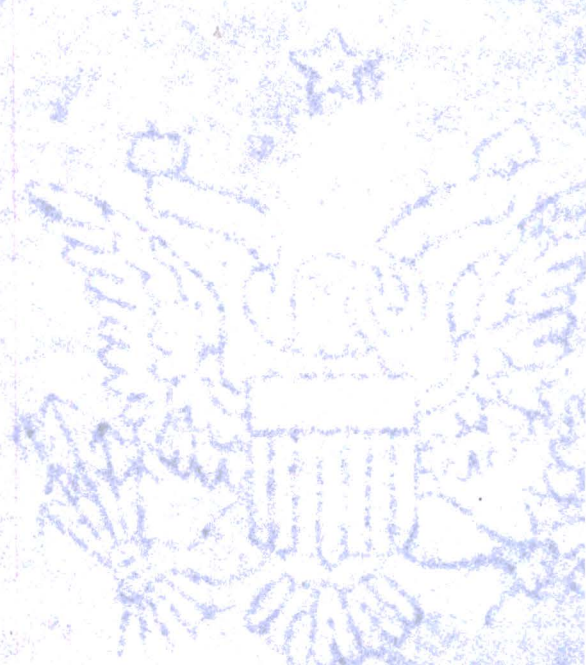
On behalf of President Reagan, I would like to thank you for your recent letter concerning a mandatory waiting period for firearms purchases. We were pleased to learn that you share our views on this issue.

Thank you also for your kind words of support for the President. It is our hope as well that the final months of this Administration will be productive and ^{success} meaningful. To borrow your theater metaphor, we look forward to a "curtain call" marked by "encores" for four more years of Republicans in the White House.

With the President's appreciation and best wishes,
Sincerely,

Anne Higgins

Dr. Jim Vickrey
2701 F. Scott Court
Montgomery, AL 36106





DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

CODOND

August 11, 1988

Te typing

MEMORANDUM FOR SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR
CORRESPONDENCE AGENCY LIAISON

FROM:

MA Sour
Jennifer A. Sour
Acting Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Constituent Letter on Firearm Waiting Period
(White House ID: 584624)

Per your request, I have attached a draft reply to Jim Vickrey's letter to the President concerning a mandatory waiting period for firearms purchases.

Attachment

88-67896

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

AUGUST 1, 1988

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
ATTN: BATF

ACTION REQUESTED:
DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF:
WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 584624
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED JULY 7, 1988
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN
FROM: DR. JIM VICKREY
2701 F. SCOTT COURT
MONTGOMERY AL 36106

SUBJECT: JOINS MRS. JAMES BRADY IN APPRECIATION FOR
THE STATEMENT ON GUN PURCHASE WAITING PERIOD
AND URGES PROPOSING THE ENACTMENT OF SAME BY
STATUE, STATE OR FEDERAL

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

The Gun Control Debate

Reagan Statement Buys Opponents of Rifle Group

By BARBARA GAMAREKIAN

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 6 — A prestigious American who holds a life membership in the National Rifle Association made a suggestion recently that set off reverberations here.

At a news conference at the economic summit meeting in Toronto late last month, President Reagan, who has been a staunch opponent of gun control as well as a longtime member of the rifle association, proposed that a mandatory waiting period be required before the delivery of a gun to a purchaser. He said such a period would give law-enforcement agencies an opportunity to examine the would-be buyer's background.

"And then they come back after that investigation," Mr. Reagan said, "and if they don't have a record of any crimes or mental problems, or anything of that kind, they are allowed to take their gun home."

An 'Infringement' on Rights

Reaction from the N.R.A. was swift. "We oppose a waiting period both in principle and pragmatically," said David Conover, the association's Federal liaison. "It represents an infringement on the rights of law-abiding citizens."

Furthermore, he asserted, the President said that all the states should look at the system used in California when he was Governor, in which a 15-day waiting period was required. "Many of the states have," Mr. Conover added, "and a majority have rejected the idea."

Twenty-two states now require a waiting period of some kind.

Marlin Fitzwater, the chief White House spokesman, said Mr. Reagan's remarks should not be interpreted as a call for Federal legislation.

"He thinks a cooling-off period is a good opportunity to check out the background of the applicant," Mr. Fitzwater said, "but he really felt it should be a state law, as opposed to a Federal law."

Sign of Declining Influence

Even so, for the 2.8 million-member N.R.A., still one of the most feared lobbies in town, the President's statement was most unwelcome news and an indication of what many see as the association's declining influence in Washington.

The association's hard-line position in opposing a ban on the sale of armor-piercing ammunition and plastic pistols that can elude airport security, as well as its espousal of the private purchase of machine guns, has won the enmity of many law-enforcement officials and angered many members of Congress.

"The momentum is turning in our direction," said Pete Shields, an organizer of Handgun Control Inc., a



The New York Times/Michael Geissinger

Sarah Brady, wife of James S. Brady, with Representative Edward F. Feighan, left, sponsor of a measure to establish a mandatory waiting period for gun purchases, and Peter Shields of Handgun Control Inc.

clubbings lobby, pointing to the growing national concern over the connection between guns and drugs.

Mr. Shields, a former marketing manager for the Du Pont Company, helped organize Handgun Control in 1974 after his son was shot and killed at random in San Francisco.

"Nancy Reagan has been leading the fight against drugs in this country," Mr. Shields said, "and people are beginning to be aware of the enormous number of drug guns that are being purchased in states without waiting periods."

Also elated at Mr. Reagan's comment were other groups that have advocated a waiting period. The Law Enforcement Steering Committee, a coalition of national police organizations, and the Police Executive Research Forum, an organization of big-city police chiefs, greeted the President's remarks with elation.

They immediately circulated his words among members of Congress. And last Thursday an amendment was added to the House drug enforcement bill that would establish a national seven-day waiting period in the sale of pistols, the first time such a measure has cleared the House Judiciary Committee.

On hearing of his call for a waiting period, Sarah Brady, whose husband, James, the White House press secretary, was shot and seriously wounded in an attempt on the President's life in March 1981, wrote Mr. Reagan a "thank you" letter.

The remark is seen as a sign of the N.R.A.'s declining influence.

"I was just thrilled," she said of the President's remarks. "It was something I felt deep in my heart that he believed in, but I had never heard him express it before."

Mrs. Brady, whose husband was left partly disabled by the shooting, has been an active supporter of Handgun Control. She has also been working the halls of the House in behalf of the amendment, which was introduced by Representative Edward F. Feighan, an Ohio Democrat, but was renamed in committee as "the Brady amendment."

"We are not sure as yet just what our strategy will be in the Senate since their bill is being written by committee chairmen behind closed doors," Mrs. Brady said. "But we have a lot of things we will be working on over the next couple of weeks."

Pro-gun lobbying groups are gearing up to kill the proposal on the House floor.

In recent years a number of law-enforcement groups have joined the fight for gun control, banding with

lobbying groups and the Justice Department in supporting legislation that passed last year banning armor-piercing bullets, a measure that was initially fought by the rifle association. Law-enforcement officials say criminals use this type of ammunition to kill police officers wearing bulletproof vests.

In an advertisement that ran in a number of newspapers, Robert Scully, vice president of the Detroit Police Officers Association and president of the National Association of Police Organizations, was pictured asking: "Cop-killer bullets, mail-order handguns, machine guns — has the N.R.A. gone off the deep end?"

"The cop-killer bill brought the law-enforcement community out of the closet," said Mr. Shields, the Handgun Control organizer.

The debate over gun control has waxed and waned for 25 years, propelled by cycles of tragedy. The assassinations of President Kennedy, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy were the catalyst for passage of the Gun Control Act of 1968, which, among other things, imposed controls on imported guns, banned interstate gun sales and required better record-keeping of all gun sales.

The N.R.A. has led several unsuccessful efforts to weaken that law.

Response to Rowan Incident

The assassination attempts against President Ford in 1975 and President Reagan in 1981 again fueled the controversy. And in recent weeks political leaders and the news media have debated the action of Carl T. Rowan, a syndicated columnist and a long-time advocate of more stringent gun controls, who shot and wounded, with an unregistered gun, a teen-ager who had climbed over his fence to take a nighttime swim.

Mr. Reagan's news conference remarks came in response to a question about that shooting.

Jules Bernstein, legislative counsel for the National Association of Police Organizations, was among those who monitored the House Judiciary Committee's action on the waiting period amendment last week. "We are delighted the President has come out in support of this measure," he said. "From our point of view this is just critical."

Edward L. Murphy, legislative counsel for the International Brotherhood of Police Officers, said he believed Mr. Reagan's remarks gave members of Congress "a cover" making it more politically acceptable for those who have to deal with N.R.A. members back home.

"We think this seven-day waiting proposal is very appropriately placed in the drug bill," Mr. Murphy said, "because there is a very close connection between drugs and guns."

CAD

7/7/89

Dear Mr. President —

This is to join Sarah B. in thanking you for the statement on gun-purchase waiting periods and to urge you to propose the enactment of some via statute, state or federal.

As you'll recall from previous letters to me, you and I also are in agreement about birthdays: February 6 is THE day for us both — not to mention Tom Brokaw!

Best wishes to you as you bring down the curtain on the last (and last?) act of your remarkable presidency.

With admiration and affection —

Jim Vickrey

Dr. Jim Vickrey
2701 F Scott Court
Montgomery, AL 36106

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CM010

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JULY 19, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. JERALD R. VAUGHN

SUBJECT: REQUESTS SUPPORT IN GETTING THE U.S. CONGRESS
TO PASS THE BRADY AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4916, THE
ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACT OF 1988, ESTABLISHING
A NATIONAL 7-DAY WAITING PERIOD FOR ~

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
ROGER BOLTON		ORG	88/07/19		C 88/07/19
<i>J. Duggan</i>	REFERRAL NOTE: _____	A	88/07/21		C 88/8/12
<i>Dept. of Justice</i>	REFERRAL NOTE: _____	D	88/8/16	NANC	88/12/23 <i>Summarized</i>
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____				

COMMENTS: ~ HANDGUN PURCHASERS
ENCLOSES COPY OF RESOLUTION, SAME SUBJECT

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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~ACTION CODES:          ~DISPOSITION          ~OUTGOING          ~
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~A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  ~A-ANSWERED          ~TYPE RESP=INITIALS ~
~C-COMMENT/RECOM       ~B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL ~                      ~
~D-DRAFT RESPONSE      ~C-COMPLETED        ~                      ~
~F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  ~S-SUSPENDED        ~COMPLETED = DATE OF ~
~I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC~                      ~                      ~
~R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY ~                      ~                      ~
~S-FOR-SIGNATURE       ~                      ~                      ~
~X-INTERIM REPLY       ~                      ~                      ~
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(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
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MANAGEMENT.



U.S. Department of Justice
Office of the Deputy Attorney General
Executive Secretariat

December 23, 1988

NOTE TO: Sally Kelley, Agency Liaison, WH

FROM: Geraldine Jennings, DOJ/Exec. Sec./633-2063

RE: White House Correspondence

Based on the recommendation(s) from the office(s)
best suited to respond to the following corres-
pondence; please transmit.

FROM

Jerald Vaughn
ID# 584733

REFER TO:

*Per Grace Mastuffi,
Deputy Attorney General,
No response is
necessary, bill has
been passed.*

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

AUGUST 16, 1988

TO: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF:
WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 584733

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED JULY 15, 1988

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. JERALD R. VAUGHN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS
OF POLICE, INC.
POST OFFICE BOX 6010
GAITHERSBURG MD 20878

SUBJECT: REQUESTS SUPPORT IN GETTING THE U.S. CONGRESS
TO PASS THE BRADY AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4916, THE
ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACT OF 1988, ESTABLISHING
A NATIONAL 7-DAY WAITING PERIOD FOR
HANDGUN PURCHASERS

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

8
Roger Bottom



Thirteen Firstfield Road
P.O. Box 6010
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878
Phone (301) 948-0922
Cable Address IACPOLICE

President
Joe D. Casey
Chief of Police
Nashville, TN

Immediate Past President
Robert W. Landon
Chief
Montana Highway Patrol
Helena, MT

First Vice-President
Charles D. Reynolds
Chief of Police
Dover, NH

Second Vice-President
Charles A. Gruber
Chief of Police
Shreveport, LA

Third Vice-President
Lee P. Brown
Chief of Police
Houston, TX

Fourth Vice-President
Richard L. Dotson
Chief of Police
Louisville, KY

Fifth Vice-President
C. Roland Vaughn III
Chief of Police
Conyers, GA

Sixth Vice-President
Robert L. Suthard
Superintendent
Virginia Department of
State Police
Richmond, VA

Treasurer
Russell L. Dwyer
Chief of Police (Ret.)
Middletown, OH

584733

Division of State and
Provincial Police
General Chairman
Morgan T. Elkins
Kentucky State Police
Frankfort, KY

Division of State
Associations of
Chiefs of Police
Jan P. Deveny
Chief of Police
Mercer Island, WA

Past President and
Parliamentarian
Francis B. Looney
Farmingdale, NY

Jerald R. Vaughn
Executive Director

July 15, 1988

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The International Association of Chiefs of Police is the world's largest and oldest association of police executives, with over 15,000 members in the United States and 68 nations. IACP members lead and manage our nation's largest city, county, and state police agencies, as well as our suburban and rural police departments. The vast majority of America's police officers are under the direct supervision of IACP members.

You last addressed the IACP membership in 1981 at our annual conference in New Orleans. In your remarks at that time, you made very strong commitments to public safety and voiced a high level of support for law enforcement. Now, more than ever, law enforcement needs your help. America has turned into the world's largest shooting gallery. Every day on average, 63 American citizens are killed in criminal homicide events and over 2,700 are victims of armed robberies. Thousands are injured in criminal assaults by armed assailants and the number of suicides and accidental shootings are staggering. It does not have to happen. We have made it so easy for people to obtain handguns that we are literally stripping many of our citizens of a decent quality of life, free from senseless violence. Many of the victims of the events I referred to knew the assailant. In fact, most were friends, relatives or acquaintances who legally obtained firearms, but never should have.

The police in this nation are not anti-gun. We would never support a ban on all weapons or confiscation of any law-abiding citizen's guns. We only seek to have reasonable measures enacted that increase the likelihood that guns will not, fall into the hands of people who should not have them. At the same New Orleans conference in 1981, the chiefs, through formal resolution, asked Congress to adopt a strong, national handgun purchaser screening program to help deal with the growing level of violence--a 181% increase in violent crime in the last 20 years! I have attached a summary of that resolution for your review. One of the main features of the resolution was a mandatory waiting period of at least 15 days to allow police to conduct a background check of the purchaser. We have been unsuccessful up to this point in having a handgun purchaser screening program enacted.

President Ronald Reagan
Page Two
July 15, 1988

On June 21, 1988, you responded to questions from Sam Donaldson wherein you voiced your support for waiting periods, background checks and mandatory training--the very things police chiefs have been calling for. We could not have been more pleased or encouraged when we read your verbatim comments. We hoped with the support of the President of the United States we could restore some sanity and common sense to the gun issue. For that reason, we are calling on you, counting on you, to help us get Congress to pass the Brady Amendment to HR 4916, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988. This amendment, named after the wife of your press secretary who was gunned down senselessly on the same day you were, would establish a national seven-day waiting period for handgun purchasers. The drug-gun relationship is indisputable. We can't deal with the drug problem and ignore the guns that protect their trade. A national law is necessary because people simply go to states where it is easy to buy guns and transport them back to states with strict laws, thus rendering the law ineffective. This bill is a start--a step in the right direction. It is also strongly opposed by the National Rifle Association and other pro gun groups. They have announced that they are going to pull out all the stops to have the amendment defeated. We know the dilemma this creates, particularly in an election year. The bottom line is that it is not possible to be for law enforcement and the NRA both on this issue. Our positions are diametrically opposed. We hope you will come to our aid on this measure. We have not had the administration's support on other firearms matters, but we hope we can count on you this time.

We do support mandatory sentencing to deal with armed criminals. Unfortunately, mandatory sentencing has become a hollow threat to armed criminals because of our overcrowded prisons and jails. Besides, sentencing after the crime has occurred is like closing the gate after the horses are out--it does precious little to restore life after it is taken by someone who shouldn't have had a gun in the first place. We must do more to prevent the violence rather than only continue to react to it after the fact.

The law enforcement community stands united on this issue despite fraudulent claims to the contrary by the NRA. Please help us on this important public safety matter. Your public support of the Brady Amendment would be appreciated very much by the police in America.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can answer any questions or provide additional information.

Sincerely,


Jerald R. Vaughn
Executive Director



Since 1981, the International Association of Chiefs of Police has urged Congress to enact a strong national law that would establish a uniform screening program for handgun purchases. We believe this program should embody the following elements:

1. A mandatory waiting period of at least 15 days.
2. Positive verification of the identity of a prospective purchaser or permit applicant.
3. A mandatory check by local police agencies of all applicants' state and federal fingerprint and criminal records.
4. The issuance of a photo-identification card to approved handgun purchasers/permit applicants.
5. Mandatory sentencing of persons convicted of crimes involving handguns.
6. Provision for mandatory training and demonstration of proficiency in the lawful use and security of firearms by the permit holder.
7. Appropriate fees charged to each applicant to wholly support the total costs related to this system.

In addition to the uniform handgun screening program described above, IACP has passed a variety of resolutions calling for:

1. A strict uniform national law prescribing the limited circumstances under which concealed weapons may be carried and a very structured process by which a permit to carry a concealed weapon may be obtained based upon a clear demonstration of need.
2. A prohibition on the manufacture, sale, importation, distribution or possession of weapons constructed of materials or in such a fashion as to evade conventional detection devices.
3. Retaining the prohibition on the manufacture, sale, importation, distribution or possession of fully automatic "machine guns" as prescribed in Public Law 99-308.
4. Improving licensing requirements for gun dealers and enacting strict penalties for unscrupulous dealers who sell weapons to proscribed persons. Provision must also be made for transactions between private parties to ensure adequate tracing capabilities of firearms.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police is the world's oldest and largest organization of police executives, with over 15,000 members who lead and direct the nation's urban, suburban and rural police departments.

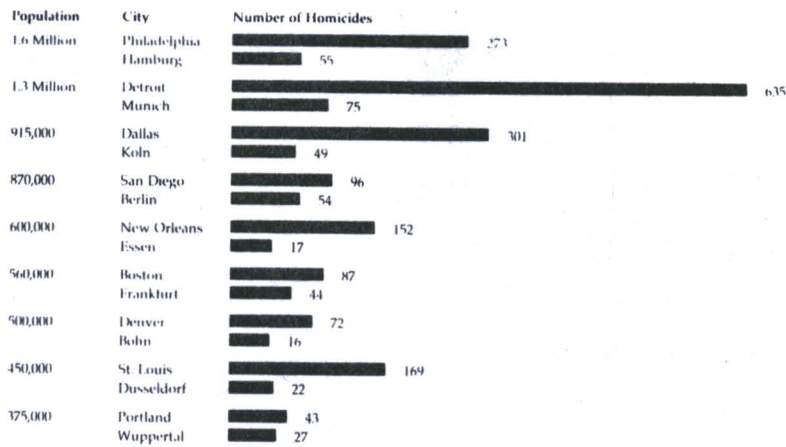
Do Gun Laws Work?

Police officials in other democratic nations believe they do and have supplied the information illustrated below. In each of the nations identified, they have a strong national firearms law that requires:

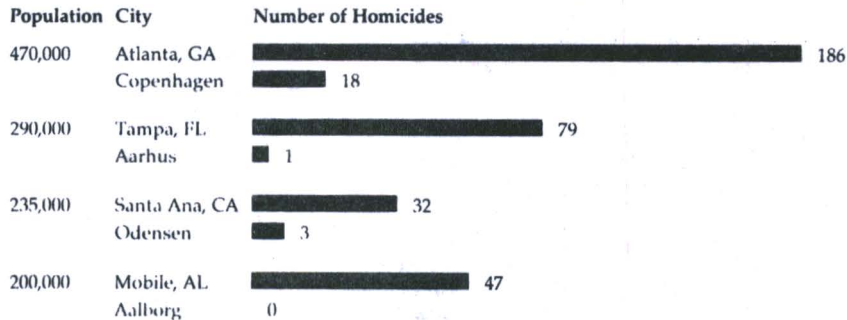
- A waiting period
- An extensive background investigation by the local police authority
- Issuance of a permit to acquire the weapon and to possess it
- Stiff penalties that are actually carried out for violation of firearms laws

Each nation has separate provisions for shotguns and long guns that allow for legitimate sporting and recreational uses.

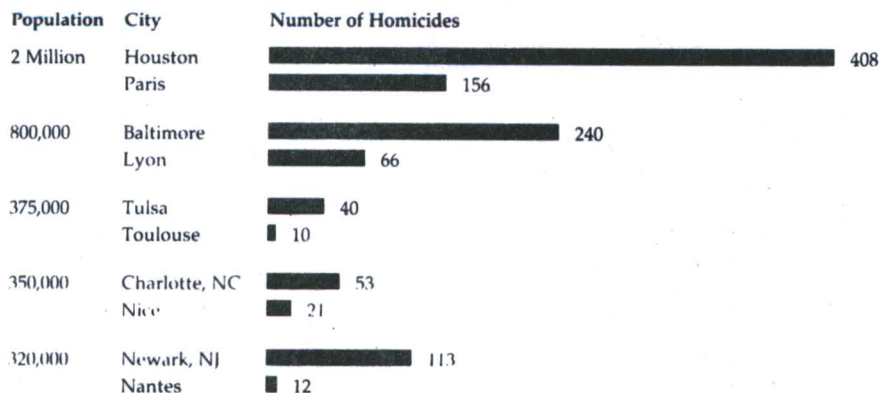
Comparison of Homicide Rates—U.S. and West Germany



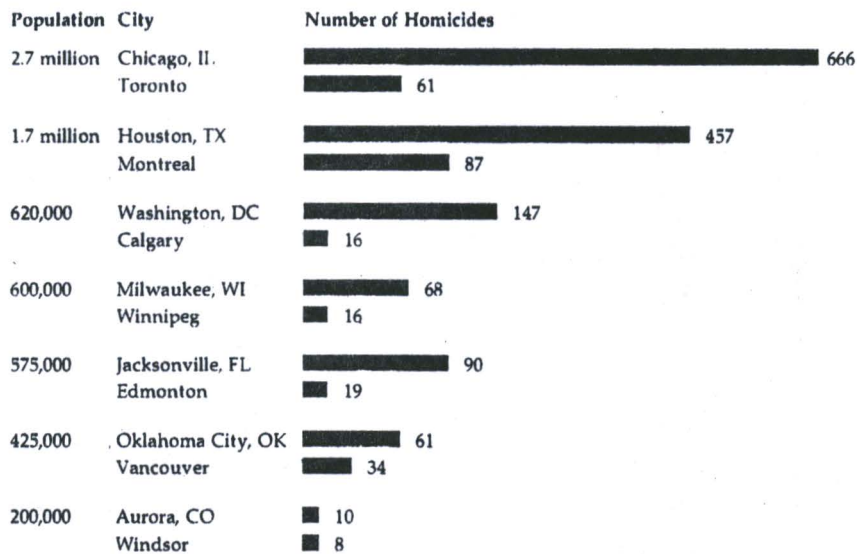
Comparison of Homicide Rates—U.S. and Denmark



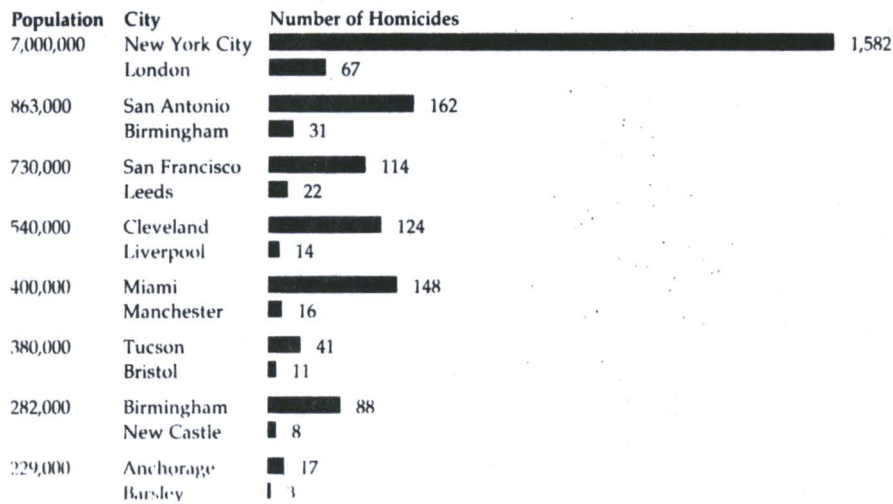
Comparison of Homicide Rates—U.S. and France



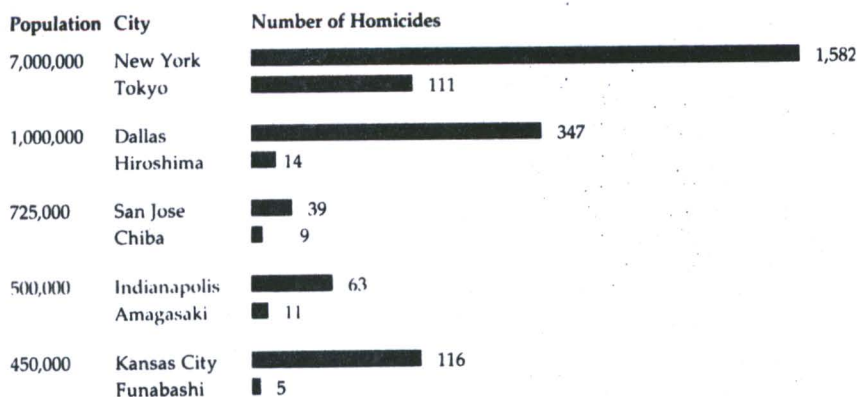
Comparison of Homicide Rates—U.S. and Canada



Comparison of Homicide Rates—U.S. and Great Britain



Comparison of Homicide Rates—U.S. and Japan



THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 584983

CM 010

11

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JULY 27, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. BENJAMIN WARD

SUBJECT: APPRECIATION FOR SUPPORT OF A MANDATORY WAITING PERIOD PRIOR TO THE PURCHASE OF A WEAPON

JUL 28 1988

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D
CRISTY BACH		ORG	88/07/27	CTB	A 88/06/19
	REFERRAL NOTE:		__/__/__		__/__/__
	REFERRAL NOTE:		__/__/__		__/__/__
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	REFERRAL NOTE:		__/__/__		__/__/__
	REFERRAL NOTE:		__/__/__		__/__/__

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2600 _____
 IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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~X-INTERIM REPLY ~ ~ ~

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 KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
 LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
 MANAGEMENT.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 11, 1988

Dear Mr. Ward:

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your recent correspondence regarding a mandatory waiting period prior to the purchase of a weapon.

A copy of your letter has been forwarded to the appropriate officials at the Department of Justice for their benefit and consideration.

I sincerely appreciate your sharing your views with the Administration.

Sincerely,

*Cristena L. Bach*

Cristena L. Bach  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Intergovernmental Affairs

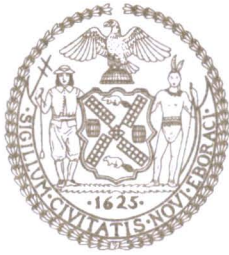
Mr. Benjamin Ward  
Police Commissioner  
for the City of New York  
One Police Plaza  
New York, New York 10038-1497

STIPPING ✓  
C.C. DOJ  
ATTN: IGA  
- 541 -



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THE POLICE COMMISSIONER  
CITY OF NEW YORK

July 22, 1988

C. Back

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

I would like to express my gratitude for your support of a mandatory waiting period prior to the purchase of a weapon.

It is imperative that measures be taken to reduce the flow of illegal handguns. A procedure which scrutinizes a purchaser is definitely beneficial.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

*Benjamin Ward*  
Benjamin Ward  
POLICE COMMISSIONER

BW/WC:as



THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CMO10

AUG 03 1988

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: AUGUST 02, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE LEROY MARTIN

SUBJECT: APPRECIATION FOR SUPPORT FOR A MANDATORY  
WAITING PERIOD FOR HANDGUN PURCHASERS

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY | (STAFF NAME)   | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |             |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|
|                            |                | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C<br>D      |
| CRISTY BACH                |                | ORG         | 88/08/02         | CB           | A 88/8/12   |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE: |             | ___/___/___      |              | ___/___/___ |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE: |             | ___/___/___      |              | ___/___/___ |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE: |             | ___/___/___      |              | ___/___/___ |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE: |             | ___/___/___      |              | ___/___/___ |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE: |             | ___/___/___      |              | ___/___/___ |

REC'D

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2600 \_\_\_\_\_

IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

- \*\*\*\*\*
- |                          |                      |                      |   |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION         | *OUTGOING            | * |
| *                        | *                    | *CORRESPONDENCE:     | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION    | *A-ANSWERED          | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER          | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE        | *C-COMPLETED         | * CODE = A           | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET    | *S-SUSPENDED         | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | * OUTGOING           | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      | *                    | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE *       |                      | *                    | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY *       |                      | *                    | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 12, 1988

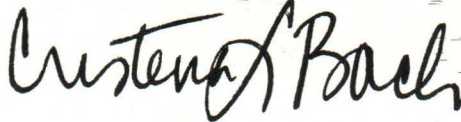
Dear Mr. Martin:

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your recent correspondence regarding a mandatory waiting period for handgun purchasers.

A copy of your letter has been forwarded to the appropriate officials at the Department of Justice for their benefit and consideration.

I sincerely appreciate your sharing your views with the Administration.

Sincerely,



Cristena L. Bach  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honorable Leroy Martin  
Superintendent  
Chicago Police Department  
1111 S State Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60605

Stripping

C.C. DOJ

ATTN: IGA

- 541 -



OFFICE OF THE  
SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE  
CHICAGO

July 27, 1988

*C. Bach*

Dear Mr. President,

We are most appreciative of your support for a mandatory waiting period for handgun purchasers. Hopefully, your support will influence the members of Congress to attach the Brady Amendment to the Omnibus Drug Bill.

We, of the Chicago Police Department, are strongly opposed to the accessibility of guns to the public because we are all too familiar with the havoc caused by gun violence.

There is no way anyone can rationalize the need to make guns available to the public or criminal element of our cities. Yet, there are thousands of guns out there. How many times during the year do we actually hear of anyone using a gun to protect his home from a burglar, home invader or other criminal? Rarely!

More likely than not, these guns will be stolen in burglaries. They will be used to kill or maim during domestic arguments, or used by children who will accidentally kill themselves or another.

Chicago Police confiscated more than 12,000 guns in arrests last year. In every drug raid, guns are found. Street gang members are found to have sophisticated and costly guns when apprehended. Most of the individuals we deal with in hostage/barricade situations suffer from mental illness.

More critical and alarming, is the recent escalation of cases in which police are confronted by armed offenders in "defense of life" situations. In the first 25 days of July, Chicago Police have been involved in seven shootings with armed offenders --- more than we have ever had before during the same period of time.

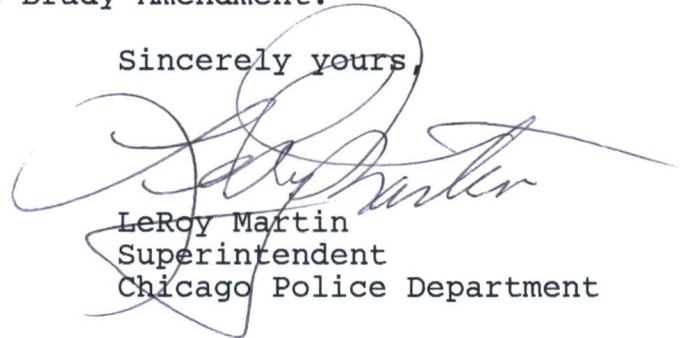
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The mandatory waiting period provided by the Brady Amendment would give law enforcement agencies the opportunity to determine whether an applicant has a criminal record or suffers from mental illness. This would help law enforcement agencies tremendously to curtail some of the handguns moving through the country.

Again, we are appreciative of your support. With your influence and leadership, perhaps we will be successful in stopping the forces who oppose the Brady Amendment.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "LeRoy Martin", is written over the typed name and title. The signature is fluid and extends to the right.

LeRoy Martin  
Superintendent  
Chicago Police Department

The President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D. C. 20005