



CT Against Gun Violence

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Testimony to the Judiciary Committee
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CT Against Gun Violence (CAGV) supports SB 1094

CAGV supports SB 1094 which would ban large capacity ammunition magazines for the following reasons:

1) A ban on these LCAM's would reduce the capacity, and thus the potential lethality, of any firearm that can accept a large capacity ammunition magazine.

This legislation would ban the type of magazine that was used in the Tucson, AZ shooting in which Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and nineteen others were shot with six killed, including a nine year old girl. Magazines with a capacity of more than 10 rounds are generally considered to be "large capacity" magazines.

In addition to the Tucson shooting, this type of magazine was used in the Fort Hood shooting (13 killed, 34 wounded), Virginia Tech (32 killed, 17 wounded), Columbine High School (13 killed, 23 wounded), last year's workplace shooting in Manchester CT (9 killed, 2 wounded), and many, many others. (See attached Violence Policy Center list of high profile shootings where LCAM's were used. Incidents listed represent 285 killed and 295 wounded).

There is no question that large capacity magazines facilitated these mass shootings. According to Tucson law enforcement, "There's absolutely no doubt the magazines increased the lethality and body count of this attack." In just 30 seconds the killer was able to fire thirty shots, hitting 20 people. The damage was limited to the fire power of his magazine; when it was empty, he was stopped. These magazines are useful for criminals but not for hunting or self defense.

According to research commissioned by the U.S. Department of Justice to analyze the effect of the 1994 federal ban on assault weapons and LCAM's, "attacks with semiautomatics including AW's and other semiautomatics equipped with LCM's

result in more shots fired, more persons hit, and more wounds inflicted per victim than do attacks with other firearms.”¹

2) Connecticut is the only one of the seven states with an assault weapons ban that did not also ban these LCAM's.

The other six states that ban assault weapons are Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, California, and Hawaii. But we are the only one of the seven that did not include a ban on these LCAM's.

A ban on these LCAM's was also included as part of the Federal Assault Weapons ban enacted in 1994.

3) Over 70% of Americans support a ban on these LCAM's.

Results of a poll taken when the Federal Assault Weapons Ban (including the ban on LCAM's) was up for renewal in 1994 showed that over 70% of Americans supported the ban on LCAM's.²

4) Connecticut has the fourth lowest rate of gun deaths per 100,000 population among the states.

In no small part because we have enlightened gun violence prevention laws, CT has the fourth lowest rate of gun deaths per 100,000 population among all the states (see attached rankings). We want to see our ranking improved, not lessened, for this statistic.

5). These magazines are useful for criminals but not for hunting or self defense.

Dallas Green, former professional baseball pitcher and manager of the New York Yankees, New York Mets, and Philadelphia Phillies, who was also the grandfather of nine-year-old Christina Taylor Green who was killed in the Tucson mass shooting, said in an interview with the New York Post: “I guess the one thing that I can't get through my mind, even though I'm a hunter and I love to shoot a gun, I love to have my guns, I don't have a Glock or whatever it is,” Green said.

“I don't have a magazine with 33 bullets in it. That doesn't make sense for me, to be able to sell those kinds of things. I guess I never thought about it until this happened. What reason is there to have those kinds of guns, other than to kill people? I just don't understand that.”³

¹ Christopher S. Koper, *An Updated Assessment of the Federal Assault Weapons Ban: Impacts on Gun Markets and Gun Violence, 1994-2003*, Report to the National Institute of Justice, United States Department of Justice 3 (June 2004).

² Over 70% favor the ban on large-capacity magazines and assault weapons. The Harris Poll, Sept. 9-13, 2004.

³ http://www.nypost.com/p/sports/more_sports/baseball_john_wayne_sheds_tear_for_BkRqhCa6Tqn8zfwT7enbrl#ixzz1EJvicdh2



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**Mass Shootings in the United States Involving
 High-Capacity Ammunition Magazines**

Location/Date	Casualties	Weapon(s)	High-Capacity Ammunition Magazine(s)
Safeway parking lot Tucson, Arizona January 8, 2011 Shooter: Jared Loughner	6 dead, 13 wounded	Glock 19 pistol	33-round magazine
Shreveport, Louisiana August 16, 2010 Shooter: Marcus Donte Reed	3 dead	Assault weapon	30-round magazine
Hartford Distributors Manchester, Connecticut August 3, 2010 Shooter: Omar Thornton	9 dead (including shooter), 2 wounded	Sturm, Ruger SR9 pistol	High-capacity magazine (capacity unstated)
ABB, Inc. St. Louis, Missouri January 7, 2010 Shooter: Timothy Hendron	4 dead (including shooter), 5 wounded	Romarm AK-47 assault rifle, Tristar 12 gauge shotgun, Hi-Point .40 pistol	2 "banana-style" high-capacity magazines (capacity not stated)
Fort Hood Fort Hood, Texas November 5, 2009 Shooter: Nidal Hasan	13 dead, 34 wounded	FN Five-seven 5.7mm pistol	30- and 20-round magazines
LA Fitness Center Collier, Pennsylvania August 4, 2009 Shooter: George Sodini	4 dead (including shooter), nine wounded	Two 9mm pistols, .45 pistol, .32 pistol	30-round magazines
American Civic Association Binghamton, New York April 3, 2009 Shooter: Jiverly Wong	14 dead (including shooter), 4 wounded	9mm Beretta handgun, .45 handgun	30-round magazine
Alabama, multiple locations March 10, 2009 Shooter: Michael McLendon	11 dead (including shooter)	Two assault rifles	High-capacity magazines taped together

Mass Shooting Incident	Casualties	Firearm(s)	High Capacity Ammunition Magazine(s)
Thurston High School Springfield, Oregon May 21, 1998 Shooter: Kip Kinkel	4 dead, 22 wounded	9mm Glock pistol, .22 Sturm Ruger rifle, .22 Sturm Ruger pistol	50-round magazine
Westside Middle School Jonesboro, Arkansas March 24, 1998 Shooters: Andrew Golden and Mitchell Johnson	5 dead, 10 wounded	M-1 rifle, Remington .30-06 rifle, various handguns	15-round magazine
Connecticut State Lottery Headquarters Newington, Connecticut March 6, 1998 Shooter: Matthew Beck	5 dead (including shooter)	Glock 9mm pistol	19-round magazine
Caltrans Maintenance Yard Orange, California December 18, 1997 Shooter: Arturo Reyes Torres	5 dead (including shooter), 2 wounded	AK-47 assault rifle	Five 30-round magazines
DC Police Headquarters Washington, DC November 22, 1994 Shooter: Bennie Lee Lawson	4 dead (including shooter), 1 wounded	Cobray M-11 assault pistol	Extended magazine
Fairchild Air Force Base hospital Spokane, Washington June 20, 1994 Shooter: Dean Mellberg	5 dead (including shooter), 23 wounded	MAK-90 assault rifle	75-round drum magazine
Long Island Railroad Long Island, New York December 7, 1993 Shooter: Colin Ferguson	6 dead, 19 wounded	Sturm, Ruger P-89 9mm pistol	Four 15-round magazines
Pettit & Martin Law Offices San Francisco, California July 1, 1993 Shooter: Gian Luigi Ferri	9 dead (including shooter), 6 wounded	Two Intratec TEC-DC9 assault pistols, .45 pistol	40- to 50-round magazines

Mass Shooting Incident	Casualties	Weapon(s)	High Capacity Ammunition Magazine(s)
CIA Headquarters Langley, Virginia January 25, 1993 Shooter: Mir Aimal Kasi	2 dead, 3 wounded	AK-47 assault rifle	30-round magazine
Luby's Cafeteria Killeen, Texas October 16, 1991 Shooter: George Hennard	24 dead (including shooter), 20 wounded	Sturm, Ruger P-89 9mm pistol, Glock 9mm pistol	17- and 15-round magazines
General Motors Acceptance Corp. Jacksonville, Florida June 18, 1990 Shooter: James Pough	10 dead (including shooter), 4 wounded	M-1 rifle, .38 revolver	30-round magazines
Standard Gravure Corporation Louisville, Kentucky September 14, 1989 Shooter: Joseph Wesbecker	9 dead (including shooter), 12 wounded	AK-47 assault rifle, 2 MAC-11 assault pistols, .38 revolver, Sig Sauer 9mm pistol	30-round magazines
Cleveland Elementary School Stockton, California January 17, 1989 Shooter: Patrick Purdy	6 dead (including shooter), 30 wounded	AK-47 assault rifle, Taurus 9mm pistol, unidentified pistol	75-round drum magazine
Palm Bay shopping center Palm Bay, Florida April 23, 1987 Shooter: William Cruse	6 dead (including 2 police officers)	Sturm, Ruger Mini-14 assault rifle	Five 30-round magazines
McDonald's San Ysidro, California July 18, 1984 Shooter: James Huberty	22 dead (including shooter), 19 wounded	Uzi Carbine, Browning 9mm pistol, Winchester 1200 pump-action 12-gauge shotgun	25-round magazine

Gun Deaths and Gun Ownership, 2007.			
Rank	State	Household Gun Ownership*	Gun Death Rate per 100K Population **
1	Louisiana	45.0%	19.87
2	Mississippi	54.6%	18.32
3	Alaska	59.8%	17.62
4	Alabama	52.2%	17.55
5	Nevada	34.0%	16.21
6	Arkansas	58.8%	15.05
7	Tennessee	46.6%	15.03
8	New Mexico	39.7%	15.02
9	Arizona	32.3%	14.97
10	West Virginia	58.5%	14.75
11	Montana	62.6%	14.53
12	Wyoming	65.5%	14.52
13	Kentucky	47.7%	14.45
14	South Carolina	43.3%	13.44
15	Oklahoma	46.5%	13.36
16	Georgia	40.3%	13.06
17	Missouri	44.2%	12.91
18	Idaho	55.7%	12.5
19	Florida	25.2%	12.48
20	North Carolina	39.4%	12.34
21	Maryland	21.7%	12.07
22	Michigan	41.8%	10.9
23	Texas	37.1%	10.74
24	Virginia	37.5%	10.72
25	Indiana	38.5%	10.57
26	Pennsylvania	38.1%	10.57
27	Kansas	42.8%	10.51
28	Colorado	34.6%	10.43
29	Oregon	39.8%	10.36
30	Ohio	34.0%	9.63
31	Utah	44.8%	9.48
32	Delaware	26.3%	9.17
33	California	20.1%	8.98
34	North Dakota	56.2%	8.94
35	Wisconsin	43.0%	8.72
36	Washington	34.0%	8.5
37	Vermont	43.8%	8.38
38	Maine	40.3%	8.13
39	Illinois	20.7%	8.05
40	Nebraska	45.4%	8.02
41	Minnesota	41.2%	6.64
42	South Dakota	59.9%	6.54
43	New Hampshire	31.0%	5.94
44	Iowa	45.7%	5.26
45	New Jersey	11.4%	5.15
46	New York	18.5%	5.07
47	Connecticut	16.2%	4.27
48	Massachusetts	11.5%	3.63
49	Rhode Island	12.4%	3.51
50	Hawaii	10.2%	2.82
	National Average	40.5	10.34

* Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

Survey Data: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Control and Prevention.