

February 4, 2013

Dear: Gun Violence Prevention Working Group

I retired as a Deputy Chief from the Hartford, CT Fire Department. Prior to that, I worked for the Hartford Police Department working in a special division called the "Crime Prevention Unit". Our duties and responsibilities were to educate, prepare, and implement crime prevention recommendations for schools, businesses, and residential neighborhoods. Our outreach consisted of educational presentations to children from second grade through high school. The program was very successful in getting school children to understand the dangers of firearms and the proper way to report it to their teachers or the police. This program led to the beginning of community resource officers for the schools in Hartford that has significantly reduced gun violence in the schools.

I am writing to you in regards to the proposed Bills on gun control in CT. Please review the enclosed two documents that accompany this letter. The present laws in CT are sufficient and are more stringent than federal regulations. Adam Lanza was refused the sale of rifles because of CT's two week waiting period to purchase these firearms. I do believe that there should be universal background checks for everyone across the board. I am asking that no decisions are made until all information is available from the investigation of the Newtown incident by the State Police.

Our primary focus, however, should be on actions that we can take immediately. The first priority should be on school security. The second one is reviewing our mental health rules of disclosure and treatment. I live in CT with a family of four and we all agree that any passing of any more gun laws in CT will do nothing to stop a similar tragedy of the one that occurred in Newtown, CT. As you can see from incidents that have occurred since the Newtown tragedy, the problem is far much more greater than gun control.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if I can be of any assistance in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (860) 372-1246 or at epc52@msn.com.

Respectfully yours,

Eugene P. Cieri
164 Salt Island Road
Westbrook, CT 06498