

Greetings! I am a member of the Board of Directors for the Eighth Utilities District of Manchester, CT. Our volunteer fire department members were part of the first responders for the beer distributorship mass murder in 2010. I also have a Master's Degree in Public Administration from UConn and have worked in the former Ct Dept. of Community Affairs. I was liaison with Newtown for their CDAP plan. I have also worked on a mayor's staff and with a governor's staff. I also sold health insurance for over 20 years. Both my wife and I have valid Ct carry permits for pistols and revolvers.

First of all, all gun sales transactions regardless of the location or people involved, should have a background check. This can be implemented and enforced by stipulating that if there isn't a proper transfer and registration of said weapon, you might be held liable for any subsequent misuse of said weapon. If a buyer passes a back ground check, the seller would not be held liable for subsequent possible misuse of said weapon.

One lesson we learned from our situation of having to respond to a mass murder situation is that it is not just the first responders who need a proper support system for emotional trauma etc. , but their spouses, significant others, friends and even some acquaintances. The problem is that there may be volunteers for a short time but the need may be of longer duration. The bottom line is who pays for what. The public and private sectors need to work this out. I know how hard it can be to deal with such a situation. I played a major role in making sure veterans from Desert Storm were able to re-access their private insurance without any questions about pre-existing conditions. We were successful.

All school resource officers who carry guns on school grounds should go through the regular process to become a police officer as long as those requirements include psychological screening too.

Whether you have a ban on assault weapon sales and transfers or not, there are many of said weapons in homes and on the streets. I suggest that these weapons (along with their existing large capacity clips) should be stored at gun ranges and/or gun clubs. Gun owners can get a permit to transfer the guns for competition shooting on a per use basis. For smaller communities without reasonable access to gun ranges and or gun clubs, the guns could be kept in gun lockers at the local police department or office. The bottom line is these types of guns have no real legitimate place in homes and/or on the street. This gets them out of said locations and into legitimate places of use. You can have other forms of guns for protection in your homes etc..

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