

CeaseFirePA

Taking a Stand Against Gun Violence in Pennsylvania

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CeaseFirePA Applauds Attorney General Kathleen Kane for Closing "The Florida Loophole"

Philadelphia, Feb. 8, 2013 – CeaseFirePA proudly stood with Pennsylvania Attorney General Kathleen Kane and Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter as the Attorney General took decisive action to fight gun violence and make Pennsylvania safer by closing "the Florida loophole." Kane satisfied the long-standing requests of CeaseFirePA and local and state law enforcement agencies to ensure that the judgment of local law enforcement authorities will determine, based on Pennsylvania standards, whether Pennsylvanians are granted permission to carry concealed firearms in Pennsylvania.

CeaseFirePA and partners like Mayor Nutter, Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey, District Attorney Seth Williams, former state legislator Bryan Lentz, state Senator Larry Farnese, Philadelphia City Council President Darrell Clarke and Pennsylvania members of Mayors Against Illegal Guns in concert with law enforcement agencies across Pennsylvania have been advocating for this simple yet critical action for years. CeaseFirePA Executive Director Shira Goodman explained, "Today's action ensures that when our local authorities determine that someone does not meet the eligibility requirements for a concealed carry permit, that person will not be carrying a concealed firearm in Pennsylvania."

CeaseFirePA also noted the significance of today's announcement being made not far from where Marqus Hill killed teenager Irving Santana in 2010. Hill had obtained a concealed carry permit in Florida after having his Pennsylvania permit revoked and losing an appeal of that revocation.

Since the tragedy in Newtown, CT, the issue of gun violence has gripped Pennsylvania and the nation. Recent polls demonstrate that Pennsylvanians overwhelmingly favor common sense reforms that reduce gun violence, stop the flow of illegal guns into our communities and keep guns out of the hands of people who should not have them. "The Attorney General today made clear that under her watch, Pennsylvania will be finding common sense solutions to our gun violence problem," said Goodman, "and we look forward to partnering with her administration in this critical effort."

The closing of this loophole just a few weeks after Pennsylvania finally sent more than 600,000 mental health record to the national background check system marks the accomplishment of two key pieces of the CeaseFirePA common sense agenda for reform. "Pennsylvanians are making their voices heard, and we will continue to demand action to fight gun violence and make Pennsylvania safer," said Goodman.