

Where Do the Candidates Stand on Gun Violence Prevention?

**A Voters' Guide To The 2014
Gubernatorial Election**



Introduction

CeaseFire Pennsylvania¹ is the advocacy arm of CeaseFirePA, Pennsylvania's leading gun violence prevention organization. We seek commonsense legislative reforms to reduce gun violence, stop the flow of illegal guns into our communities, and keep guns out of the hands of those who should not have them. We proudly work with mayors, police chiefs, and local, state and federal elected officials along with more than 40,000 citizen activists in cities and towns across Pennsylvania. For more information about our mission and accomplishments, please visit www.ceasefirepa.org.

CeaseFire Pennsylvania wants the public to know where the candidates for Governor stand on the issue of gun violence prevention. We sent a questionnaire to each official candidate in the gubernatorial primary to be held May 20. The questionnaire was designed to assess the candidate's position on commonsense gun violence prevention measures and the level of importance each candidate attributes to reducing gun violence. Nineteen specific proposals were presented to the candidates. These proposals are based on judicial rulings about permissible regulation of firearms and ammunition and laws that other states have enacted in working to stem the flow of illegal guns and reduce gun violence. We analyzed the responses, and have prepared this Voters Guide, just as we did during the 2010 gubernatorial campaign.

Four candidates² – all Democrats -- submitted responses – Rob McCord, Katie McGinty, Allyson Schwartz, and Tom Wolf. Their responses are provided and analyzed in this report.

Significantly, each of the responding candidates expressed strong support for important gun violence prevention measures. Schwartz and McGinty unequivocally supported every proposed measure; McCord supported 84% of the proposed measures, and Wolf supported 79%. Neither McCord nor Wolf opposed any of the measures.

Two candidates³, both Republicans, declined to respond: Governor Tom Corbett and challenger Bob Guzzardi. Each of these candidates received the questionnaire and directly informed us that no response would be filed. In the charts and analysis that follows, they are listed as NR (No Response). CeaseFire Pennsylvania is disappointed that these candidates chose not to inform the public about their positions on this critical public policy issue.

Gun Violence in Pennsylvania

According to the Centers for Disease Control, from 2001-2010, there were 12,941 gun deaths in Pennsylvania, the fourth-most in the nation. Since that time, Pennsylvania has averaged over 1300 gun deaths (including more than 500 murders and between 700 and 800 suicides) each year. Pennsylvania also suffers a devastating number of gun deaths among children and teens 19 and younger: in 2010, Pennsylvania had the fifth-highest rate of gun homicides among children in this age group. This tremendous toll of gun violence affects towns and municipalities throughout the Commonwealth.

¹ CeaseFire Pennsylvania is organized under the nonprofit corporation laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and has been recognized as exempt from income tax under 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Service Code.

² Democrats John Hanger and Jack Wagner also submitted responses but Hanger withdrew from the race on March 13, 2013, and Wagner withdrew on March 26, so their responses are not included.

³ Democrat Jo Ellen Litz also declined to respond, but she did not file a petition for the ballot by March 11, 2013, effectively withdrawing from the race.

About the Proposals Presented

In 2008, the United States Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. 570 (2008), for the first time held that the Second Amendment grants an individual right to keep a handgun in the home for the purpose of self-defense. But the Court's decision clearly indicates that this is not an absolute or unlimited right. Writing for the majority, Justice Scalia said, "[N]othing in our opinion should be taken to cast doubt on longstanding prohibitions on the possession of firearms by felons and the mentally ill, or laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government buildings, or laws imposing conditions and qualifications on the commercial sale of arms." 554 U.S. at 626-27.

The proposals presented in the questionnaire fall within the sphere of reasonable regulation or limitation, and have been upheld by courts in many jurisdictions and are in effect in many other states. CeaseFire Pennsylvania therefore believes that neither the Second Amendment nor the Pennsylvania Constitution would bar the lawful enactment of these proposals. Moreover, the proposals presented will not cost the taxpayers for their enactment and enforcement; indeed, reducing gun violence will save millions of dollars in health care costs, first responder costs, lost wages, and the other economic costs that result from gun violence. Nor should these proposals be viewed as mutually exclusive to other measures that can reduce gun violence and make our communities and neighborhoods safer.

A Summary of the Results

The responding candidates each support most of the measures presented in the questionnaire. Their support for gun violence prevention policies transcends geography, personal background and experience.

Among the responding candidates, there was unanimous support for expanding background checks, mandating reporting of lost and stolen firearms, strong child access prevention policies, banning assault weapons at the state and federal levels and imposing a limit on high capacity magazines. This report will first discuss the areas of strong agreement and then provide the candidates' responses to each proposed measure.

A chart is included that details each candidate's response, followed by the actual questions and answers in narrative form.

Strong Support for Expanding the Background Check System to Cover the Private Sale of Long Guns

Each of the responding candidates expressed support for expanding Pennsylvania's background check system to cover the private sale of long guns. Currently, Pennsylvania law requires a background check for every gun sold by a federally licensed firearms dealer and for every handgun, regardless of the seller. However, private sales of long guns – rifles, shotguns and semi-automatic rifles – are exempt from the background check system. Data shows that although long guns are used less frequently in crimes than handguns, long guns are used disproportionately by abusers against women and by criminals against law enforcement officials.

Background checks prohibit gun sales to those who are legally barred from buying or possessing firearms because of a criminal background, serious mental illness resulting in involuntary commitment or an

adjudication of incompetence, or an active protection from abuse order. Expanding background checks to cover virtually all sales (with the exception of close family transfers) makes sense and will reduce the chance of long guns getting into the wrong hands.

Strong Support for Maintaining the Pennsylvania Instant Criminal Background Check System

Pennsylvania is a “*point of contact*” state, which means that Pennsylvania utilizes its own state background check system *in addition* to the federal background check system. The background check systems contain records of people who are legally prohibited from purchasing firearms.

The gun lobby wants to eliminate the Pennsylvania Instant Criminal Background Check System ("PICS") and have Pennsylvania use only the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. The Pennsylvania State Police believe Pennsylvania's background check system not only works to block gun sales to prohibited purchasers but has more data than the federal system and has additional benefits to law enforcement agents. In short, the two systems are not redundant but complement each other in protecting Pennsylvanians. All responding candidates supported maintaining this system.

Strong Support for Statewide Lost or Stolen Reporting Requirement

Each of the responding candidates supports a **statewide** lost or stolen reporting requirement. Lost or stolen reporting is designed to crack down on the major sources of crime guns: loss, theft, and straw purchasers (people who buy guns and then sell them illegally to people who can't legally buy them on their own).

By requiring missing firearms to be reported, police can begin looking for a lost or stolen gun before it winds up at the scene of a crime. In addition, if a gun that was already reported as lost or stolen is later used in a crime, the police do not need to waste valuable time questioning the original owner about the whereabouts of his gun. Finally, when police repeatedly trace crime guns back to an owner who claims each gun was “lost” but never reported, police may be able to flag a potential trafficker or straw purchaser. This measure provides additional support for law enforcement without jeopardizing gun owners' lawful rights to own firearms.

No Support For the Gun Lobby's Top Priority -- Special Standing for Gun Owners and the NRA

None of the responding candidates supports what the gun lobby has made clear is its top legislative priority -- changing the law to create special legal standing for gun owners or the NRA itself to challenge municipal ordinances. The proposed legislation would allow any gun owner or organization of gun owners to sue a town that had enacted a local ordinance regulating firearms, even if that ordinance had not been enforced against that gun owner or organization and even in the absence of any likelihood of such enforcement. Various iterations of the proposal allow the plaintiffs to collect significant damages from the town if successful, and permit lawsuits to proceed and damages to be awarded even if a town were to rescind the challenged ordinance voluntarily. There was no support among the responding candidate for this unprecedented change in the laws regarding standing and this effort to punish towns and municipalities for taking steps to keep the public safe. Importantly, changing the law in the way the gun lobby advocates would establish a precedent to create a special class of

plaintiffs despite the fact that they have not been – and cannot show they are likely to be – directly impacted by the legislation.

Strong Support for Banning Assault Weapons and Limiting High Capacity Magazines

Assault weapons are semi-automatic firearms designed with military features to allow rapid and accurate spray firing. They are not designed for sport; they are designed to kill humans quickly and efficiently. Features such as pistol grips and the ability to accept a detachable magazine clearly distinguish assault weapons from standard sporting firearms by enabling assault weapons to spray large amounts of fire quickly and accurately. A study analyzing FBI data shows that 20% of the law enforcement officers killed nationally in the line of duty from 1998 to 2001 were killed with an assault weapon. Pennsylvania is not immune from the threat to public safety posed by assault weapons.

All of the responding candidates supported renewing the federal ban on assault weapons and imposing a ban under Pennsylvania law as well.

Automatic and semi-automatic firearms often use a detachable magazine or feeding device to store cartridges (which hold ammunition). Although the statutory definitions vary, magazines with a capacity of more than 10 rounds of ammunition are generally considered to be “large capacity” magazines. Because of their ability to hold so many rounds of ammunition, large capacity magazines significantly increase the lethality of the firearms with which they are used. All of the responding candidates support imposing a limit on high capacity magazines.

All Responding Candidates Support Gun Violence Prevention; Two Unequivocally Supported Every Proposal Presented.

The responding candidates each supported at least 79% of the gun violence prevention measures presented for their consideration. By unequivocally supporting every proposal, Katie McGinty and Allyson Schwartz demonstrated broader support for a comprehensive attack on gun violence.⁴

Significantly, Rob McCord and Tom Wolf unequivocally supported many of the presented policy measures and, while raising questions about some of the proposals, did not oppose any. McCord supported 16 out of 19 (84%) proposed policy measures, and Wolf supported 15 out of 19 (79%). McCord and Wolf each raised questions or hesitated to give full support for a few important policy proposals, but each still demonstrated strong support for measures to prevent gun violence.

In short, the candidates’ responses reflect significant support for a broad, commonsense agenda of policy reforms that will make Pennsylvania safer. We believe this level of support – from candidates across the Commonwealth and with different backgrounds and professional experiences – reflects the consistent support of the people of Pennsylvania for commonsense gun violence prevention policies and the belief that such policies are compatible with respect for the rights of law abiding gun owners.

⁴ It should be noted that Schwartz also provided a report entitled “Keeping Our Communities Safe,” detailing her record in Congress and the Pennsylvania Senate on the issue of gun violence prevention. This is not included as part of this Report.

A chart outlining each candidate's response to each question, and a narrative providing the verbatim responses of each candidate, follow this summary.

Conclusion

Pennsylvania voters have important decisions to make this year. We are pleased that the responding candidates agree that Pennsylvania needs significant measures to reduce gun violence. We are disappointed, however, that two candidates chose not to respond. We believe the public would be better served if they had answered the questionnaire, even if they disagree with the proposals presented. By articulating their concerns or reservations or suggesting their own proposals, they would have contributed to a more robust debate and informed citizenry.

What follows is a detailed presentation of the answers of each candidate to the proposals presented.

<p>Where do the candidates stand?</p> <p>✓=Support X=Oppose ?=Position unclear *=Didn't select Y/N but provided commentary NR=Did not respond</p>						
	Tom Corbett	Bob Guzzardi	Rob McCord	Katie McGinty	Allyson Schwartz	Tom Wolf

Background Checks for Private Sale of Long Guns	NR	NR	✓ *	✓	✓	✓ *
Background Checks for Ammunition	NR	NR	*	✓	✓	*
Maintain PA Background Check System	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓
Notify Law Enforcement of Failed Background Checks	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓ *
Surrendering Firearms	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓ *
Background Checks for Employees of Gun Dealers	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dealer Inventory Reporting	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	*
Licensure for Ammunition Sales	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	*
Lost or Stolen Reporting	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stronger Penalties	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓ *

<p>Where do the candidates stand?</p> <p>✓=Support X=Oppose ?=Position unclear *=Didn't select Y/N but provided commentary NR=Did not respond</p>						
	Tom Corbett	Bob Guzzardi	Rob McCord	Katie McGinty	Allyson Schwartz	Tom Wolf

Local Authority	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓ *
Oppose Special Standing to Sue Municipalities	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓
Require Use of Locking Devices	NR	NR	*	✓	✓	✓ *
Child Access Prevention	NR	NR	*	✓	✓	✓ *
Assault Weapons Ban -- Federal	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓
Assault Weapons Ban -- State	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓
Limit High Capacity Magazines	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oppose National Reciprocity for Concealed Carry	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓ *
Banning Guns on Campus	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	*
Support for Proposed Measures	?	?	84%	100%	100%	79%

2014 CeaseFire Pennsylvania Questionnaire and Candidate Responses

Keeping Firearms and Ammunition Out of the Hands of Those Defined by Law As Prohibited Purchasers

1. Expand the Background Check System to Cover the Private Sale of Long Guns.

Background checks are a good idea and an effective policy. The data shows that background checks work to keep guns out of the hands of those who are not allowed to have them because of their criminal records or mental health histories. But loopholes in the law enable some of these people to buy guns. This is because current law requires background checks for all sales at federally licensed dealers, and for all sales of handguns in PA, regardless of the seller. However, private sales of long guns – rifles, shotguns and semi-automatic rifles – are exempt from the background check system. **Do you support or oppose legislation expanding the PA background check system to cover the private sale of long guns in the same manner as the private sale of handguns?**

Rob McCord: Support. “In order to ensure consistency and clarity in the law, I would support updating Pennsylvania law to be consistent with the federal law.”

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: Support. “I support background checks that keep guns out of the hands of criminals while preserving the rights of law abiding gun owners.”

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

2. Require background checks for the sale of ammunition and prohibit the sale of ammunition to individuals who are prohibited from possessing firearms.

Certain categories of people are prohibited by state or federal law from possessing firearms. Currently, no federal or Pennsylvania law requires ammunition purchasers to demonstrate eligibility to own firearms or proof of age in order to purchase ammunition. **Do you support or oppose requiring background checks for ammunition sales and prohibiting the sale of ammunition to individuals who are prohibited from possessing firearms?**

Rob McCord: “I am concerned about the possibility of unintended consequences, such as creating a black market for ammunition, that may occur if we require background checks for the purchase of ammunition. While I support a ban on the sale of high-capacity magazines, I would like to evaluate the results of New York state’s SAFE Act before committing Pennsylvania to background checks on all ammunition purchases.”

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: “As governor, I will look into the issue of ammunition sales and investigate how to address the problem without putting an unfair burden on retailers.”

Tom Corbett: No Response.
Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

3. Maintain the Pennsylvania Instant Criminal Background Check System

Pennsylvania is a “*point of contact*” state, which means we utilize our own state background check system in addition to the federal background check system. Neither system is a registry of people who own guns. The background check systems are only a record of people who are legally prohibited from purchasing firearms. The gun lobby wants to eliminate the Pennsylvania Instant Criminal Background Check System and have Pennsylvania use only the National Background Check System. The Pennsylvania State Police believe Pennsylvania's background check system not only works to block gun sales to prohibited purchasers but has more data than the federal system and has additional benefits to law enforcement agents. **Do you support or oppose the elimination of the Pennsylvania Instant Criminal Background Check System?**

Rob McCord: Oppose.
Katie McGinty: Oppose.
Allyson Schwartz: Oppose.
Tom Wolf: Oppose.

Tom Corbett: No Response.
Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

4. Require gun dealers to notify law enforcement when a potential customer fails a background check.

All gun purchases at federally licensed dealers are subject to background checks. In addition, any time a handgun is transferred in Pennsylvania, a gun dealer (Federally Licensed Firearms dealer) is required to run a background check in the National Instant Background Check System (NICS). When a prospective buyer fails a check, the firearm dealer should be required to report the results to local and state law enforcement agencies for further investigation. **Do you support or oppose requiring firearms dealers to notify law enforcement when a background check is failed?**

Rob McCord: Support.
Katie McGinty: Support.
Allyson Schwartz: Support.
Tom Wolf: Support. "I agree with both Mayors Against Illegal Guns and the NRA that current laws should be enforced, and that there should be consequences when a person who is not legally allowed to own guns tries to purchase one."

Tom Corbett: No Response.
Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

5. Strengthen the requirement that individuals who become prohibited by law from possessing firearms surrender their firearms.

With the exception of persons subject to an active protection from abuse order, Pennsylvania law gives persons prohibited from possessing firearms a “reasonable period of time, not to exceed 60 days from the date of the imposition” of the firearm prohibition, in which to sell or transfer his or her firearms to another eligible person who is not a member of the prohibited person’s household. However, Pennsylvania has no law requiring persons who have become prohibited from possessing firearms to provide proof to a court that he or she has sold or transferred his or her firearms or ammunition. Pennsylvania should require persons prohibited from possessing firearms to provide proof to a court that he or she has sold or transferred his or her firearms and ammunition to law enforcement, a licensed dealer, or an approved third party. **Do you support or oppose strengthening the requirement that individuals who become prohibited by law from possessing firearms surrender their firearms?**

Rob McCord: Support.

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: Support. “Additionally, I believe we need to streamline and simplify our legislation so that there is a uniformed, state-level policy addressing the time period for surrendering firearms and ammunition, and the method for providing proof that this has been done.”

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

6. Require background checks for gun dealer employees.

No federal or Pennsylvania law requires employees of gun dealers or ammunition sellers to undergo background checks – a requirement in a number of other states. State law already requires background checks for certain sensitive employers that include reviews of civil and criminal proceedings, as well as personal, family/social, military, education, past employment and a signed statement of truth. **Do you support or oppose requiring firearms dealers to perform employee background checks?**

Rob McCord: Support.

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: Support.

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

7. Require gun dealers to provide inventory reports to law enforcement.

Neither federal nor Pennsylvania law requires dealers to provide inventory reports to law enforcement. Federal law requires firearms dealers to maintain records of the acquisition and sale of firearms, and to report the loss or theft of any firearm within 48 hours of discovery to ATF and the appropriate local

authorities. Pennsylvania law requires dealers to keep a record in triplicate of every firearm sold and retain the records for 20 years, and to report sales (but not acquisitions) of handguns to the Firearms Division of the Pennsylvania State Police, which maintains a permanent database of handgun sales.

This piecemeal reporting of the inventory of firearms dealers makes the federal requirements that dealers report lost or stolen firearms, as well as the federal and state requirements of a background check, difficult to enforce. As a result, illegal trafficking by firearms dealers to persons ineligible to possess firearms is difficult to detect. Pennsylvania should require firearms dealers to provide periodic inventory reports to law enforcement. **Do you support or oppose requiring gun dealers to provide periodic inventory reports to law enforcement?**

Rob McCord: Support.

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: “I believe that we need to fully enforce our current law, and, as governor, I will further investigate the need for gun dealers to provide regular inventory reports to law enforcement officials.”

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

8. Require ammunition sellers to obtain a license.

A licensing requirement is necessary to allow state and local law enforcement to enforce any other laws regulating the sale or transfer of ammunition, and provides a vehicle for the prosecution of unlicensed persons selling ammunition to criminals. It could also require ammunition sellers to conduct background checks on employees who have access to ammunition and impose on ammunition sellers requirements similar to those imposed on firearms dealers. **Do you support or oppose requiring ammunition sellers to obtain a license?**

Rob McCord: Support.

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: “As governor, I will work with key stakeholders, like law enforcement officials and ammunition sellers, to assess the feasibility, cost, and benefits of such legislation.”

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

Expanding the Tools Available to Law Enforcement to Stop Trafficking and Illegal Possession

9. Reporting lost or stolen firearms to the police. Lost or stolen reporting is a reform designed to crack down on the major sources of crime guns: loss, theft, and straw purchasers – people who buy guns

and then sell them illegally to people who can't buy them on their own. By requiring missing firearms to be reported, police can begin looking for a lost or stolen gun before it winds up at the scene of a crime. In addition, if a gun that was already reported as lost or stolen is later used in a crime, the police do not need to waste valuable time questioning the original owner about the whereabouts of his gun. Finally, when police repeatedly trace crime guns back to an owner who claims each gun was "lost" but never reported, police may be able to flag a potential trafficker or straw purchaser. **Do you support or oppose statewide legislation requiring that gun owners report lost or stolen firearms to the police?**

Rob McCord: Support.

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: Support.

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

10. Stronger penalties for individuals found guilty of illegal possession and trafficking.

Many crimes committed with guns are committed by individuals who are prohibited from possessing guns, including: individuals convicted of a felony, juveniles, people restricted under a protection from abuse order, or people suffering a mental illness. Too often, gun charges are dropped or not taken fully into account during sentencing. Stronger penalties for illegal possession and trafficking will help deter these crimes and send a strong message that even when the gun is not fired, gun crimes are crimes of violence worthy of serious punishment. **Do you support or oppose strengthening penalties for individuals guilty of illegal possession and trafficking?**

Rob McCord: Support.

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: Support. "As governor, I will support policies aimed at keeping guns out of the hands of criminals."

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

11. Allow PA municipalities to enact local laws to reduce gun violence based on local needs.

Local municipalities face the brunt of gun violence and are in the best position to know what type of additional legislation is needed to address gun violence in their communities. What works in a big city may not always be necessary in a smaller town. While commonsense, responsible statewide gun laws are essential to effectively protect public safety, cities and towns need the authority to enact specific, local gun violence prevention laws in order to suit local needs. Pennsylvania could authorize certain, local jurisdictions within the state to regulate firearms and ammunition.

(a) Support for Local Authority

Do you support or oppose giving municipalities in Pennsylvania the authority to regulate firearms and ammunition?

Rob McCord: Support.

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: Support. “While I support giving local municipalities that right to address gun violence, I believe that we need to enact laws at the state level, which are focused on keeping guns out of the hands of criminals.”

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

(b) Punishing Local Authorities

The gun lobby supports legislation that would allow gun owners and gun organizations to sue towns and cities that enact such local ordinances, even if those ordinances have not been enforced against that gun owner or organization. **Do you support or oppose giving special standing to gun owners and organizations to sue town and cities?**

Rob McCord: Oppose.

Katie McGinty: Oppose.

Allyson Schwartz: Oppose.

Tom Wolf: Oppose.

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

Measures to Ensure Safe Storage and Security of Firearms

12. Strengthen standards for firearms locking devices, and require that they be used.

Every year, firearms cause thousands of unintentional deaths and injuries. Children and young adults are the most frequent victims of such accidents. The presence of unlocked guns in the home increases the risk of intentional shootings as well. At least two studies have found that the risk of suicide increases in homes where guns are kept loaded and/or unlocked. By contrast, keeping firearms locked, unloaded, and storing ammunition in a locked location separate from firearms assist in reducing youth suicide and unintentional injury in homes with children and teenagers where guns are stored.

Pennsylvania law prohibits a licensed dealer from transferring a handgun unless he or she provides the transferee with a locking device, the transferee purchases a locking device, or the design of the handgun incorporates a locking device. However, there is no law requiring that the provided locking device be utilized, or that a gun be stored in a secure location.

Pennsylvania should strengthen its law regarding locking devices by: extending it to long guns, requiring testing and setting standards for locking devices, and/or requiring that all firearms be stored with a locking device in place. **Do you support or oppose strengthening standards for firearms locking devices, and/or requiring that all firearms be stored with a locking device in place?**

Rob McCord: "I support extending the law regarding locking devices to long guns and improving testing and standards for long devices, but because of enforcement limitations, I do not believe it is feasible to require legal owners to store firearms in a locked device or with a locking mechanism, although I agree that it is a wise practice. Instead, I would support public information campaigns to alert firearm owners to the danger of not locking weapons. And I would look for ways that the state can make gun locks and storage devices more affordable to gun owners, or, even, provide them for free."

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: Support. "I support the right of law abiding residents to own guns but I also believe we need to adopt commonsense gun laws, like requiring gun owners to keep firearms and ammunition in separate secure locations."

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

13. Child Access Prevention

Unlike many other states, Pennsylvania does not have any child access prevention policies that penalize adults who give children unsupervised access to firearms. Unfortunately, Pennsylvania is not immune from the tragic consequences when children get access to their parents' guns: every year there are accidents as well as criminal shootings by children who have found guns in and taken guns from their own homes. Child access prevention laws have been shown to be effective at reducing unintentional firearm deaths among children. **Do you support or oppose adopting child access prevention laws in Pennsylvania?**

Rob McCord: "I support adopting child access prevention laws in Pennsylvania, however I would want to ensure that any such laws are written in a way that does not interfere with the rights of sports shooters and hunters who responsibly teach their children how to safely and responsibly handle firearms."

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: Support. "Under no circumstance should guns be easily accessible to children. As governor, I will support legislation that holds gun owners accountable when children gain access to firearms."

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

Assault Weapons and High Capacity Magazines

14. Ban the sale and possession of assault weapons.

Assault weapons are semi-automatic firearms designed with military features to allow rapid and accurate spray firing. They are not designed for sport; they are designed to kill humans quickly and efficiently. Features such as pistol grips and the ability to accept a detachable magazine clearly distinguish assault weapons from standard sporting firearms by enabling assault weapons to spray large amounts of fire quickly and accurately. A study analyzing FBI data shows that 20% of the law enforcement officers killed nationally in the line of duty from 1998 to 2001 were killed with an assault weapon. Pennsylvania is not immune from the threat to public safety posed by assault weapons. In May 2008, **Philadelphia Police Officer Stephen Liczbinski** was murdered with an assault weapon. In April 2009, **Pittsburgh Police Officer Eric Kelly** was murdered with an assault weapon. And in December 2009, **Penn Hills Police Officer Michael Crawshaw** was murdered with an assault weapon.

(A) Renewing the federal ban on assault weapons

Do you support or oppose renewing the Federal ban on the sale and possession of assault weapons?

Rob McCord: Support.

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: Support.

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

(B) Banning assault weapons in Pennsylvania

Do you support or oppose imposing a ban under Pennsylvania law on the sale and possession of assault weapons?

Rob McCord: Support.

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: Support.

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

15. Limiting High Capacity Magazines

Automatic and semi-automatic firearms often use a detachable magazine or feeding device to store cartridges (which hold ammunition). Although the statutory definitions vary, magazines with a capacity of more than 10 rounds of ammunition are generally considered to be “large capacity” magazines. Because of their ability to hold so many rounds of ammunition, large capacity magazines significantly increase the lethality of the automatic and semi-automatic firearms with which they are used. **Do you support or oppose imposing a limit under Pennsylvania law on magazine capacity?**

Rob McCord: Support.

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: Support.

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

16. National Reciprocity of Concealed Carry Laws

Under Pennsylvania law, to obtain a license to carry a concealed firearm in public, an individual must apply to the county sheriff (or in Philadelphia the Chief of Police) for a concealed carry permit. Until 2013, reciprocity agreements with other states were enabling Pennsylvanians to avoid this process by obtaining concealed carry permits from other states and using them to carry concealed here at home. In early 2013, Attorney General Kathleen Kane closed the “Florida Loophole,” by renegotiating the reciprocity agreement and making clear that Pennsylvania residents who want to carry concealed in PA must have a valid PA concealed carry permit. She has renegotiated reciprocity agreements with other states as well. However, there is an effort to pass a federal reciprocity law so that every state would be required to recognize and allow use of concealed carry permits issued in other state. This undermines state law and local authority to determine who should have the right to carry concealed. **Do you support or oppose national reciprocity for concealed carry?**

Rob McCord: Oppose.

Katie McGinty: Oppose.

Allyson Schwartz: Oppose.

Tom Wolf: Oppose. "I commend Attorney General Kane for taking action to close the Florida Loophole. As governor, I will oppose a national reciprocity for concealed carry laws as it would make it more difficult to enforce Pennsylvania laws."

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

17. Guns on college or university campuses.

Pennsylvania should prohibit the possession of firearms and ammunition on any college or university campus. In compliance with the federal Gun-Free Schools Act, Pennsylvania law *already* prohibits

anyone, even a concealed weapons license holder, from possessing firearms in the buildings or on the grounds of any private or public elementary or high school. Pennsylvania law also requires each public or private institution of higher learning to publish a statement of policy regarding the possession and use of weapons. However, the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) is now considering a policy that would allow guns to be carried on the fourteen campuses of the system, although guns would still be barred from activities, classes and buildings. **Do you support or oppose prohibiting the possession of firearms and ammunition on PA college campuses?**

Rob McCord: Support.

Katie McGinty: Support.

Allyson Schwartz: Support.

Tom Wolf: "I believe every institution serving students should be transparent in its policy about the use and presence of firearms on campus."

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.

18. Candidate's Proposed Actions to Reduce Gun Violence

Please identify any additional steps or actions you would take, promote or advocate to reduce gun violence in Pennsylvania. Please include in your response to this questionnaire any statements or press releases you have issued relating to gun violence and/or gun violence prevention.

Rob McCord: "Ultimately, the best crime prevention strategy we can adopt is to improve Pennsylvania's economy and do a better job educating our children. People who are employed and who are earning a decent, livable wage are less likely to resort to crime in order to sustain their livelihood. Additionally, children who are better educated and who can attain higher forms of education are less likely to be unemployed or to engage in criminal activity, which too often involves firearms."

Katie McGinty: "As Governor, I will bring all constituencies together to foster a rational discussion on preventing gun violence including groups like CeaseFirePA, law enforcement groups, and even sportsmen's groups. Too often, this issue is litigated in the press which only inflames the parties rather than focusing on the fact that people are needlessly dying. I want to have a frank discussion that will move us closer to solving these problems rather than just look to score political points."

Allyson Schwartz: "Parents, police officers, hunters, sportsmen, and law abiding gun owners all agree that we must act to reduce gun violence. Allyson Schwartz has been one of Pennsylvania's strongest champions for commonsense gun measures and serves on the House Democratic Gun Violence Prevention Task Force in Congress. As Governor, Schwartz will strongly enforce Pennsylvania's laws to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and the mentally ill. She will also require the reporting of lost or stolen handguns and will close the long gun loophole in our background check system."

Tom Wolf: "Pennsylvania has a long history of responsible gun ownership and hunting. My business - like those throughout York County -- used to close on the first day of hunting season. I support the Second Amendment and the right of law abiding Pennsylvanians to own guns, but I also think we need to adopt commonsense gun laws to protect our children and keep guns out of the hands of criminals. I believe gun violence is a complex issue and it will take a holistic approach -- including improving our education system and social support programs -- to make meaningful change. As governor, I will work with key stakeholders to explore legislation that protects the rights of responsible gun owners while protecting residents."

Tom Corbett: No Response.

Bob Guzzardi: No Response.