



June 17, 2026

Democratic Leadership
Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2191

Dear Leaders:

Pennsylvania is seeing significant progress. Since 2022, gun homicides have declined by 46 statewide according to an analysis of the Gun Violence Archives. This isn't a return to pre-pandemic levels of violence, it's a historic drop that has made many communities safer than they've been in decades.

A key driver of this progress has been the Commonwealth's investment in the Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) program administered by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). Over the past three years, PCCD has provided millions in funding through grants supporting community organizations, local governments, and law enforcement partners working to prevent violence across Pennsylvania.

These data-driven, community-centered programs provide resources to local governments and nonprofits for law enforcement and community group violence intervention programs, hospital-based and street outreach efforts, and other programs that work with those most at risk for being involved in violence. These programs prevent shootings before they occur. Research shows that each dollar invested returns at least 5 times the value to the state in health care, criminal justice, community safety, and economic value.

Building on this commitment, we urge the General Assembly to increase funding to \$90 million for community violence intervention and prevention programs in this year's budget. This investment would strengthen the VIP program administered through PCCD and ensure that community organizations, local governments, and law enforcement partners have the resources needed to continue reducing violence and improving public safety.

Now is the time to double down on a proven strategy that is saving lives, strengthening communities, and making Pennsylvania safer.

Sincerely,

Malcolm J. Yates
Sr. Director of Government Relations

In Solidarity with

Lisa Boscola
State Senator, 18th District

Maria Collett
State Senator, 12th District

John Kane
State Senator, 9th District

Timothy P. Kearney
State Senator, 26th District

Nick Miller
State Senator, 14th District

Katie Muth
State Senator, 44th District

Nick Pisciotano
State Senator, 45th District

Steve Santarsiero
State Senator, 10th District

Christine Tartaglione
State Senator, 2nd District

Heather Boyd
State Representative, 163rd District

Ben Waxman
State Representative, 182nd District

Jennifer O'Mara
State Representative | 165th district

Jose Giral
State Representative, 180th District

Mary Jo Daley
State Representative, 148th District

Melissa Shusterman
State Representative, 157th District

Chris Pielli
State Representative, 156th District

Abigail Salisbury
State Representative, 34th District

Mandy Steele
State Representative, 33rd District

Gina Curry
State Representative, 164th District

Tim Briggs
State Representative, 149th District

Johanny Cepeda - Freytiz
State Representative, 129th District

Lisa Borowski
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Anthony Bellmon
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Amen Brown
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Lindsay Powell
State Representative, 21st District

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Justin Fleming
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Danielle Friel Otten
State Representative, 155th District

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State Representative, 175th District

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Dave Deloso
State Representative, 162nd District

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State Representative, 172nd District

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Nikki Rivera
State Representative, 96th District

Ben Sanchez
State Representative, 153rd District

Joe Webster
State Representative, 150th District