

WNDC

TASK FORCE
TO PREVENT
GUN VIOLENCE



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BIDEN’S 100 DAYS: New President—New Direction with GVP

President Joe Biden is the **first** American President to make *Gun Violence Prevention a “priority” for his Administration.*

The Biden–Harris Administration announced on April 8, 2021, six Executive Orders to address gun violence as the “public health epidemic” it is. Biden is committed to taking action to reduce all forms of gun violence—*community violence, mass shootings, domestic violence, and suicide by firearm.*

At the same time, President Biden is *calling for Congress to pass legislation* to reduce gun violence! Executive Orders get the country headed in the right direction, but Congressional legislation is an absolute must for permanency.

Last month, a bipartisan coalition in the House passed two bills to close loopholes in the gun background check system. Biden says that the Congress should close those loopholes. Biden also calls for banning assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, repealing gun manufacturers’ immunity from liability, and investing in evidence-based community violence interventions. Congress should also pass an appropriate national Extreme Risk Protective Order (ERPO) law, as well as legislation encouraging states to pass the ERPO laws of their own.

However, the Biden Administration is not waiting for Congress to act; it is taking its own steps—fully within the Administration’s authority and the Second Amendment—to save lives. The Administration announced the following six initial actions:

- Asking the Justice Department (DOJ) to propose a regulation, within 30 days, to stop the proliferation of “ghost guns”: homemade guns lacking serial numbers for tracing;
- Modifying many federal grant programs to increase funding for community violence intervention programs;
- Publishing a model ERPO within 60 days;
- Asking DOJ to issue a new, annual comprehensive report on firearms trafficking;
- Requesting DOJ to propose a regulation assuring the stabilizing arm braces that turn a pistol into a short-barreled rifle are subject to the National Firearms Act;
- Nominating David Chipman, a former special agent for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), to be the director of the ATF. A “bold” nomination for the job!

The Biden Administration is investing in evidence-based community violence strategies. Community violence strategies are tested interventions for reducing gun violence in urban communities through tools other than incarceration. Cities are seeing an historic uptick in homicides, so the Biden–Harris Administration is taking steps to prioritize investments in those impacted communities.

Also, the “American Jobs Plan” proposes a **\$5 billion investment** over eight years to support *community violence intervention programs*. A focus is to help individuals connect with job training and job opportunities.

We, together with the Moms Demand Action, Giffords, Brady, Newtown Action Alliance, Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, March For Our Lives, Community Justice Action Fund, and other GVP groups, salute President Biden for his strong leadership. These Executive Orders are a huge step toward gun safety! However, these actions are just the beginning of the President’s plan to address gun violence in America.

—Ellen McGovern, Chair, GVP Task Force