

## FAITHS UNITED TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE IN OHIO

### WHEREAS:

- ▲ Each of our faiths teaches us that all human life is sacred and must be protected;
- ▲ Clergy, laity, and religious representatives of all faiths and denominations are called upon to comfort friends and families of victims of gun violence and see firsthand the loss and pain caused by firearms;
- ▲ In an average year, Ohio loses 1080 people to gun violence, (991 in 2009, including 90 youth), destroying families across the state; *Center for Disease Control*
- ▲ While the U. S. Supreme Court has held that the Second Amendment guarantees an individual right to “keep and bear arms,” they have also made it clear that this right is “not unlimited.”

### THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the undersigned faith leader/ organization believes it is a moral imperative to reduce death and injury from gunfire; resolves to educate our communities about the risks of gun violence; and endorses effective public policy measures including:

- ▲ Encouraging local efforts to prevent and reduce gun violence;
- ▲ Decreasing the number of public places loaded guns are carried;
- ▲ Keeping guns out of sensitive areas, such as schools, day care centers, college campuses and places of worship;
- ▲ Keeping guns out of the hands of prohibited persons by closing gaps in the background check system, including requiring criminal background checks for all private gun sales including those at gun shows;
- ▲ Urging firearms retailers to implement protocols aimed at preventing the sales of firearms to prohibited purchasers and preventing straw purchases;
- ▲ Supporting new technologies to help law enforcement more effectively trace crime guns;
- ▲ Improving the National Violent Death Reporting System Data, and restoring firearms research funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

PLEASE PRINT

Faith Leader \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization \_\_\_\_\_ # Members \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please retain a copy and mail or fax 419.244.7440 to:

Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence / Faiths United To Prevent Gun Violence in Ohio

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