



Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence

Joint PA & NJ Effort Brings Down Gun Trafficking Gang



Law enforcers from the adjoining states of Pennsylvania and New Jersey announced Friday January 31, 2020 they have in custody the kingpin of a gun trafficking gang operating in both states, along many of his compatriots, including people who acted as straw buyers for the gang. (FYI: A straw buyer is someone who buys guns for someone who can't pass a background check - normally a gun trafficker. It's the main way illegal guns reach the street.) You can read about the arrests at:

<https://www.inquirer.com/news/operation-zombie-detention-hearings-camden-robert-crosley-yuri-lyubinskiy-20200131.html>

Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence has led the way in PA toward blocking the movement of guns from gun retailers to the criminal market, so we applaud PA and NJ law enforcers for this success. It is akin to *Heeding's* success in '09, in causing federal authorities to shutter Philadelphia's most notorious gun retailer, Colosimo's Gun Center, one of the top five gun shops in the country in numbers of guns sold and then recovered from crime.

While we applaud last week's success, there are distinct limits to how much law enforcement is able to impact the illegal distribution of guns. That is why *Heeding* is beginning a campaign to educate the faith community and general public about the efficacy of One Handgun A Month limitations on handgun purchases by individuals. One Handgun A Month works. More on it soon.

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Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence (Heeding) is a faith-based and grassroots organization devoted solely to saving lives from the uniquely American scourge of gun violence. *Heeding* is headquartered in Philadelphia, with volunteer chapters in the Mid-Atlantic. *Heeding's* activities include using faithful public pressure to persuade gun retailers to eschew sales to those who would resell guns on the street, public interfaith Murder Site Witnesses in effected neighborhoods, installations of Memorials to the Lost™, portable tee-shirt memorials honoring local victims of gun violence and more.

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