

Here's the Evidence:

In a December 20, 2009 *Inquirer* article, columnist Monica Yant Kinney reported on her interview with 'Jerome', who had been convicted and imprisoned for illegally selling guns from the trunk of his car to persons who could not pass required background checks.

Jerome told Kinney he shopped "twice a week at stores such as **Mike & Kate's** on Oxford Avenue..."

He also told Kinney about "sellers who accepted his small bills, knowing that he bought weapons favored by criminals, not collectors."

He said: "There was no way I could be buying five, six, seven guns a week and not be reselling."

Read the entire Kinney article, 'Gun Trafficking – Spread the Blame' at:
<http://tinyurl.com/3jclrr5>

It Doesn't Have to Be This Way What to Do About It

The retailer who sells the most guns nationally, Wal-Mart, signed an agreement with the Mayors Against Illegal Guns Coalition (MAIG), intended to make straw purchasing far less likely. MAIG is made up of mayors from cities across the country, including Mayor Nutter.

The agreement is a Code of Conduct that Wal-Mart has followed for all gun sales. Analysts believe it will go far to severely diminish the trafficking of guns from Wal-Mart stores.

If Wal-Mart can act as a good corporate citizen, so can gun shops in Philadelphia, including Mike & Kate's. **Read the Code of Conduct on the facing page.**

A new initiative

Your neighbors, under the banner of *Heeding God's Call*, the faith-based campaign to prevent gun violence, have **reached out** to the owners of **Mike & Kate's** to seek a meeting to discuss the Code of Conduct.

Mike & Kate's owners demanded to be paid \$520 –JUST TO MEET.

Your neighbors and *Heeding* believe it is unconscionable for Mike & Kate's to seek to profit from what they should do for free – seek to save lives by being good citizens!

Please join us on Wednesday, May 25 from 4:30 to 5:30pm as we vigil at Mike & Kate's and seek to persuade the owners to adopt the Code.

Gun Dealer Code of Conduct

- 1. Videotaping the Point of Sale for All Firearms Transactions**
- 2. Computerized Crime Gun Trace Log and Alert System.**
- 3. Purchaser Declaration.**
- 4. Deterring Fake IDs.**
- 5. Consistent Visible Signage.**
- 6. Employee Background Checks**
- 7. Employee Responsibility Training**
- 8. Inventory Checking**
- 9. No Sales Without Background Check Results**
- 10. Securing Firearms.**

For details of each point please go to our website:

**[www.heedinggodscall.org/
content/code-conduct](http://www.heedinggodscall.org/content/code-conduct)**

How Guns Reach the Street

If you read about a shooting in the newspaper, or see a report on

TV or hear a gunshot in your neighborhood, it is almost always the case that the 'shooter,' is prohibited by state and federal law from possessing any gun, due to a criminal conviction, a domestic violence issue or a mental health adjudication or, as is often the case, he or she is too young.

So, how do 'shooters' get guns?

They are supplied through an efficient illegal distribution system that begins with gun stores that look the other way or knowingly sell to those, like Jerome, who supply guns to those who cannot pass required background checks at gun stores.

Corrupt or irresponsible dealers sell guns in bulk to straw buyers, who can pass background checks and purchase on behalf of gun traffickers, who sell the guns on the street.

Philadelphia area gun dealers who profit from selling to straw buyers or traffickers like Jerome are the main source of guns used in crime (according to ATF).



Heeding God's Call

*Join us as we mobilize,
pray and act to stop
illegal guns from
reaching our city
streets.*

**4th Wednesdays,
4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at**

**Mike and Kate's Gun
Shoppe
7492 Oxford Avenue,
Philadelphia**

You are encouraged to bring your congregational banner. We welcome the presence and solidarity of people of all faiths at this event.

www.heedinggodscall.org

Do You Know?

There is a **gun dealer** in **your neighborhood** that has been publicly **identified** by a convicted former illegal gun trafficker as a willing **source of guns** he **sold on the street**.

Illegally trafficked guns are those used to threaten, wound, maim and kill!

Mike & Kate's Sports Shoppe at 7492 Oxford Avenue in Burholme/Fox Chase/Rockledge was identified by a former gun trafficker as a place where he repeatedly bought numbers of guns using small bills.

He then sold those guns on Philadelphia's streets.

He said: "Almost from the beginning, they knew what I was up to."

Read more inside about the business of illegal gun trafficking and how you can join a faith-based campaign to persuade Mike & Kate's to adopt business practices to avoid gun trafficking.

