



#### CHICAGO OFFICE

222 South Morgan Street  
Suite 4A

Chicago, Illinois 60607

312.243.1CHV (4248)

312.243.4258 (fax)

[www.ichv.org](http://www.ichv.org)

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September 3, 2015

Honorable Toni Preckwinkle

President

Cook County Board of Commissioners

118 N. Clark Street, Room 537

Chicago, IL 60602

Dear President Preckwinkle:

We are writing in support of Commissioner Boykin's proposed ordinance that would appoint a Gun Violence Czar and create a Gun Violence Task Force in Cook County.

Gun violence is one of the most pressing issues confronting our country. Since January 1<sup>st</sup> of this year more than 1,900 people have been shot and over 344 people killed from gun violence in Cook County. In the month of August alone 336 people were shot and 44 people killed in the City of Chicago. This represents a 12% increase over last year. These numbers are nothing short of staggering and require a coordinated effort and response to combat gun violence.

There are over 1,000 people killed by guns in Illinois every year, and over 30,000 nationally. We must do everything we can to stop the carnage that is taking place on our streets and we a Gun Violence Czar could bring much needed attention and focus to this issue.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Colleen Daley

Executive Director