



# Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1996

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## ON SECOND ANNIVERSARY, RUBIN AND RENO HAIL BRADY ACT'S SUCCESS IN LIMITING ILLEGAL HANDGUN SALES AND FIGHTING CRIME

### More than 60,000 Felons, Fugitives and Other Prohibited Purchasers Stopped

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Two years after the Brady Act took effect, Attorney General Janet Reno and Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said that it is working the way it should and warned against any efforts to repeal it.

The Treasury Department estimates that the Act has stopped more than 60,000 felons, fugitives and other prohibited purchasers from buying handguns over the counter in the last two years.

The Act and other crime-fighting measures, say Reno and Rubin, helped reduce national crime violent crime rates by 4 percent in 1994, and another 5 percent in the first half of 1995. Firearms were used in 6 percent fewer assaults in 1994 than in 1993.

When President Clinton signed the Act into law in November 1993, the Brady Act - named for Jim Brady, the former press secretary to President Ronald Reagan who was seriously injured in a 1981 assassination attempt -- established up to a five-business day waiting period for handgun purchases, affording local law enforcement authorities a chance to determine if the sale is prohibited by law.

"Each month the Brady Act is preventing nearly 2,500 criminals from buying guns while permitting law-abiding citizens to do so," said Rubin. "Gun dealers and their customers have now had time to adjust to the simple Brady background form as a necessary means of denying guns to criminally dangerous individuals."

Reno added, "Brady Act checks are also helping local police identify and arrest gun-buying criminals, often on other serious charges. The Brady checks have helped law enforcement arrest murderers, drug dealers, fugitives, wife-beaters and other criminals."

( MORE )

Crime -  
Gun Bans

# The White House Office of Public Liaison

Alexis M. Herman, Director

Phone (202) 456-2930

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### Facsimile Transmittal Sheet

Number of Pages (Including Cover) 4

To

Bruce Reed

Fax Number

6-7431

Office Number

Date

2/2/94

From

Amy Zisook

\*\*\*\*\* COMMENTS \*\*\*\*\*

I originally sent this  
to Kent Marcus and he  
suggested I give it to you.  
Thanks.



U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of the Deputy Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

January 26, 1994

Mr. Calvin Jay Tobin  
130 East Randolph St.  
Chicago, IL 80801

Dear Mr. Tobin:

As promised in our phone conversation last week, I've checked around regarding the possibility of getting a letter from the Attorney General indicating the view that the existing Highland Park gun ordinance should not be amended. It doesn't look good.

There is a general reluctance to have the Attorney General get on the record with respect to a municipal ordinance. There is an even greater reluctance to have her get on the record with respect to a municipal ordinance which mandates activity in an area in which the Administration has not taken a position. Since the Highland Park ordinance apparently contains various mandates which are not, at least yet, in any existing Administration proposal, I'm quite certain I wouldn't make any headway in an effort to get you the letter you had hoped for.

I'm faxing a copy of this letter over to Amy, who may want to touch base with Bruce Reed, or someone else in the White House who deals with crime policy, to see if the President might be willing to send the type of letter you've asked for. I think it unlikely for the reasons noted above.

Sorry I couldn't be of more assistance. Keep up the good fight.

Sincerely,

Kent Markus  
Counsel to the  
Deputy Attorney General

January 18, 1994

**MEMORANDUM FOR KENT MARCUS**

**FROM: AMY ZISOOK**

**SUBJECT: ENCLOSED LETTER RE: GUN CONTROL, HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS**

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This is my hometown where my family has always been very involved in local politics and government. Is there anyway that you can be helpful to them? I would really appreciate it!

As you may recall, Laurie Dann lived here. Not one of our greatest claims!

Thanks!

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01/14/94

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Loebl Schlossman and Hackl ARCHIVE

130 East Randolph Street  
Chicago, Illinois 80601  
Telephone 312 565 1800

Calvin Jay Tobin FAIA  
Principal

January 14, 1994

Miss Amy Zisook  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

VIA FAX 202-456-6218

Dear Amy,

The NRA, in the name of the Highland Park Liberty Party, is attempting again to attack Highland Park's Handgun Control Ordinance. As you may recall, we passed our ordinance in March 1989 joining five other Chicago suburban communities who previously passed similar ordinances. The City Council has agreed to hear their presentation on February 14, 1993. They are requesting the abolishment of the local registration requirement for the limited number of people who are presently permitted to own a handgun. Our ordinance requires that such persons must be members of an approved Gun Club which is legally organized and which owns a licensed target facility and which provides educational programs. They want to substitute the State of Illinois's FOID card which would require Highland Park to be dependent upon the State's Registration Statutes which allows anyone to own handguns provided they are issued a FOID card. The elimination of our own registration requirement would seriously hamper Highland Park from enforcing its own ordinance which bans ownership of handguns by the majority of people and render the ordinance almost useless.

The Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence is joining our group to convince the City Council not to amend our current ordinance. Knowing the Administration's position regarding handguns, would it be possible for The White House to send us a letter supporting our position? I'm sure you will want additional information before making a firm commitment. However, is this a reasonable request?

One more favor. Can you give me Sarah Brady's address and phone number? We hope to involve her as well.

You can reach me on my direct line which is 312-565-4502 or by Fax which is 312-565-5912.

Hope all is well with you and that you have been able to reduce the number of hours you were spending on the job when Joan and I saw you in May.

Personal regards,



Calvin Jay Tobin