



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

November 9, 2023

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson:

Highland Park. Uvalde. El Paso. Parkland. Sutherland Springs. Midland-Odessa. Aurora. Sandy Hook. Now, Lewiston. And so many more. These cities are now bound forever by the scars they bear from mass shootings perpetrated using assault rifles. And they will never fully heal from those scars.

As yet another American community has been traumatized by a mass shooting, we demand more than thoughts and prayers. We know that at least 18 people have been killed and 13 more have been wounded after a gunman, armed with a weapon of war, opened fire in Lewiston while people were bowling and enjoying a meal. As the new Speaker of the House, we need you to lead your colleagues and save lives from gun violence by prohibiting assault weapons.

Of the 10 deadliest mass shootings that have taken place since 2015, eight involved an assault weapon. There is a reason mass shooters choose to use assault weapons, time and again, to commit mass shootings: assault weapons are military-style firearms designed to shoot and kill as many people as possible as quickly as possible. The tragedy in Lewiston is no different: This shooting was able to turn as deadly as it was because the shooter had access to an assault weapon. Research shows that mass shooting deaths were 70 percent less likely to occur when the federal prohibition on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines was in effect. Some of our states have strong gun laws—including laws that prohibit assault weapons. But without strong national legislation, it's far too easy for someone to go to a state with worse gun laws and bring death and destruction back home.

Mayors across this country are the first ones called when a shooting happens in our city—whether one person is shot or dozens are—and we cannot leave when the cameras do. We will always put the safety of our communities first, and as gun violence continues to terrorize every corner of this country, we are asking you to do the same. Our communities were never meant to be war zones. But with unfettered access to assault weapons on our streets, that is what so many have become,

with all the same bloodshed and carnage. As we continue to work in our cities to prevent gun violence and protect our constituents, we need Congress to do the same. Congress must act to get weapons of war off our streets.

Sincerely,



**Mayor Eric Adams, New York, New York**

**Mayor Mark Huguley, Arcadia Lakes, South Carolina**

**Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Alameda, California**

**Mayor Kelly Girtz, Athens, Georgia**

**Mayor William B. Judge, Barberton, Ohio**

**Mayor Melanie Kebler, Bend, Oregon**

**Mayor Byron W. Brown, Buffalo, New York**

**Mayor Elizabeth B. Kautz, Burnsville, Minnesota**

**Mayor Stephen W. Rideout, Cambridge, Maryland**

**Mayor James Brainard, Carmel, Indiana**

**Mayor Maria Rivera, Central Falls, Rhode Island**

**Mayor Pam Hemminger, Chapel Hill, North Carolina**

**Mayor Justin M. Bibb, Cleveland, Ohio**

**Mayor Elaine O'Neal, Durham, North Carolina**

**Mayor Nicole LaChapelle, Easthampton, Massachusetts**

**Mayor Becky Daggett, Flagstaff, Arizona**

**Mayor Dean J. Trantalis, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida**

**Mayor Emmett V. Jordan, Greenbelt, Maryland**

**Mayor Carolyn McAdams, Greenwood, Mississippi**

**Mayor Luke Bronin, Hartford, Connecticut**

**Mayor Nancy Rotering, Highland Park, Illinois**

**Mayor Sylvester Turner, Houston, Texas**

**Mayor Quinton Lucas, Kansas City, Missouri**

**Mayor Nigel Herbig, Kenmore, Washington**

**Mayor Steve Noble, Kingston, New York**

**Mayor Dontario Hardy, Kinston, North Carolina**

**Mayor Andy Schor, Lansing, Michigan**  
**Mayor Linda G. Swan, Los Altos Hills, California**  
**Mayor Jared Nicholson, Lynn, Massachusetts**  
**Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway, Madison, Wisconsin**  
**Mayor Annette M. Blackwell, Maple Heights, Ohio**  
**Mayor Steve Little, Marion, North Carolina**  
**Mayor Paul Brodeur, Melrose, Massachusetts**  
**Mayor Cavalier Johnson, Milwaukee, Wisconsin**  
**Mayor Jose Sanchez, Monterey Park, California**  
**Mayor Steven L. Reed, Montgomery, Alabama**  
**Mayor T.J. Cawley, Morrisville, North Carolina**  
**Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard, Mount Vernon, New York**  
**Mayor Justin Elicker, New Haven, Connecticut**  
**Mayor Timothy Rogers, New Paltz, New York**  
**Mayor Ras J. Baraka, Newark, New Jersey**  
**Mayor Kathy Mulcahy, Orange Village, Ohio**  
**Mayor Buddy Dyer, Orlando, Florida**  
**Mayor Adrian O. Mapp, Plainfield, New Jersey**  
**Mayor Thurman Bill Bartie, Port Arthur, Texas**  
**Mayor Jim Thomson, Richmond Heights, Missouri**  
**Mayor Chris Duncan, San Clemente, California**  
**Mayor Kate Colin, San Rafael, California**  
**Mayor Lisa M. Gillmor, Santa Clara, California**  
**Mayor Van R. Johnson, II, Savannah, Georgia**  
**Mayor Bruce A. Harrell, Seattle, Washington**  
**Mayor Stephan K. Pickett, Sleepy Hollow, Illinois**  
**Mayor Georgine Welo, South Euclid, Ohio**  
**Mayor Tishaura O. Jones, St. Louis, Missouri**  
**Mayor Timothy L. Ragland, Talladega, Alabama**  
**Mayor Jane Castor, Tampa, Florida**  
**Mayor Heidi Lueb, Tigard, Oregon**

**Mayor Marvin Natiss, Village of North Hills, New York**

**Mayor Brian P. Stack, Union City, New Jersey**

**Mayor Martha Guerrero, West Sacramento, California**

**Mayor Michael R. Helfrich, York, Pennsylvania**

**Mayor Tito Brown, Youngstown, Ohio**