



## EXECUTIVE ORDER

### REQUIRING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE IN ALBUQUERQUE

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Institute on Criminal Justice Reform, gun violence has significantly increased in cities throughout the country since the beginning and throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Institute on Criminal Justice Reform, there are effective gun violence reduction strategies that when implemented with fidelity, have been successful at reducing violence. The four strategies highlighted below all incorporate similar best practices such as: Identify and focusing on individuals, groups, and communities at the highest risk of being involved in violence; Employ Credible Messengers /community outreach workers to engage those individuals and groups in a positive and trusting manner; and Provide ongoing services, supports, and opportunities to high-risk individuals:

- 1) Gun Violence Reduction Strategy (also known as Ceasefire);
- 2) Hospital-Based Violence Intervention;
- 3) Office of Neighborhood Safety/Advance Peace;
- 4) and Street Outreach

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Institute on Criminal Justice Reform, gun violence is often concentrated in low-income neighborhoods, with Blacks and Latinos disproportionately experiencing the impacts. These neighborhoods experience a complex array of challenges, from high rates of poverty and incarceration to poor quality education and a lack of trust in government institutions. The effects of exposure to violence are widespread, affecting the health and development of not only those directly involved but also of their families and communities and enormous financial costs that affect all taxpayers.

**WHEREAS**, according to the *Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence*, the gun death rate in New Mexico has substantially increased over the second half of the decade. The rate increased 40% from 2014-2019 and was primarily due to a staggering rise in firearm homicides during that time period — the firearm homicide rate increased 115% from 2014 to 2019.

**WHEREAS**, according to the *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System, 2018*, NM has higher firearm death rates than the United States average. Trends over the past two decades reveal persistent annual increases in the rates and numbers of firearm deaths in NM.

**WHEREAS**, according to the *FBI UCR, Brennen Center for Justice*, Albuquerque has experienced a significant rise in crime since 2010, higher than the average of other NM cities and higher than the national average.

**WHEREAS**, according to the Albuquerque Police Department, from January 2018 to June 2020, there were 143 homicides with firearms; 2,704 non-fatal shootings; and 1,659 robberies with firearms.

**WHEREAS**, according to the Albuquerque Police Department, 1,344 guns were reported stolen in 2019.

**WHEREAS**, a number of groups currently coordinate anti-gun violence efforts, including coalitions and law enforcement specific groups, but a gap still exists with respect to identifying actions that the City can take to prevent and address gun violence;

**WHEREAS**, preventing and addressing gun violence is a top priority for the City Administration as a part of our efforts to fight violence and crime on all sides;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Timothy M. Keller, Mayor of the City of Albuquerque, by virtue of the charter of the City of Albuquerque, do hereby ORDER:

1. The City hereby establishes a Gun Violence Prevention and Intervention Taskforce.
2. The Violence Intervention Program shall provide administrative support to the Taskforce.
3. The Mayor shall appoint members of the Task Force to a term that expires a year after the dates of appointment. The Mayor shall designate the Chair of the Task Force.
4. The Task Force shall have no fewer than 10 and no more than 15 members, to include at minimum:
  - a. Two representatives from Community Based Organizations that provide services or advocacy at the local or statewide level to include Gun Violence prevention and intervention strategies, including at least one that provides services in multiple languages;
  - b. One representative from the Children, Youth and Families Department of the State of New Mexico;
  - c. One representative from Bernalillo County government;
  - d. One representative from City Council or Council staff;
  - e. One representative from each of the following City departments, ACS, APD, Family and Community Services, Adult Probation and Parole, and the Office of Equity and Inclusion;
  - f. One representative of the general public; and
  - g. Two representatives who identify as having been directly impacted by gun violence.

5. The Task Force shall develop a set of SMARTIE recommendations of actions the City can take to address gun violence as follows:
  - a. Recommendations for how to improve cooperation among city departments and outside entities with respect to gun violence issues;
  - b. Recommendations for substantive system change in City policies and ordinances aimed at reducing instances of gun violence;
  - c. Recommendations for how to ensure culturally responsive, trauma and equity informed frameworks are used to guide effective gun violence strategies;
  - d. Recommendations for how to effectively increase services through grants and programs, and other new sources of funding to ensure resources and capacity to build community strategies, aligned with the Violence Intervention Program's two-year strategic priorities.
6. The Task Force shall not discuss or request information regarding specific cases of gun violence unless such data has been de-identified.
7. The Task Force shall issue two report to the administration: semi-annually, one mid-way and the final report no later than one year after the date of this Executive Order.
8. The Task Force shall automatically dissolve on the second anniversary of the date of this Executive Order unless expressly extended.

**THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER** does not create any legal rights on the part of any person or entity and shall not be a basis for a challenge to rules or regulations or any other action or inaction of the City.

**THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER** supersedes all other previous orders, proclamations or directives to the extent they are in conflict. The Executive Order shall take effect immediately.



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Timothy M. Keller  
Mayor

10/6/21  
Date