



Legal Community Against Violence

expertise, information & advocacy to end gun violence

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **New Publication Details Year's Developments in Gun Law and Policy Nationwide**

(San Francisco, CA) Today, Legal Community Against Violence (LCAV) announced the release of the *2010 Report: Recent Developments in Federal, State and Local Gun Laws*. The *2010 Report* recaps the year's significant firearm-related law and policy developments and is designed to educate the public about the nation's gun violence epidemic and present solutions to this preventable problem. The *2010 Report* also discusses the significance of the Supreme Court's recent decision in *McDonald v. Chicago*, which held that the Second Amendment applies to state and local governments in addition to the federal government.

"LCAV wants to ensure that legislators, law enforcement, gun violence prevention activists and the general public understand the enormity of the gun violence problem in the U.S. and that many effective solutions exist to prevent gun violence," said LCAV Executive Director Robyn Thomas. "Although the Supreme Court has altered the legal landscape by applying the Second Amendment to state and local government action, the *McDonald* case makes clear that a variety of gun regulations are permissible under the Amendment."

Expanding upon LCAV's past *California Report* publications, the *2010 Report* provides perspective on important federal firearm-related legislation as well as major state legislative trends, both beneficial (prohibiting gun possession by domestic abusers and the mentally ill) and dangerous (weakening concealed handgun permit laws). Moreover, the *2010 Report's* discussion of the *McDonald* case and the litigation challenging gun laws that the decision will likely spawn emphasizes that *McDonald* does not prevent governments from adopting many types of laws to reduce gun violence.

"It is crucial that policymakers and the public understand that strong gun laws remain constitutional, have broad public support, and save lives," noted Ms. Thomas.

The *2010 Report* uses recent gun death, injury and crime statistics to illustrate that while the nation suffers a disproportionate amount of gun violence vis-à-vis other developed nations, strong gun regulation is a viable solution to such violence. In this regard, the *2010 Report* spotlights universal background checks for gun transfers and firearms dealer laws – two policy areas where strong laws at the federal, state and local levels can help significantly reduce gun violence over the short and long-term.

The *2010 Report* is available for download on LCAV's website at [www.lcav.org/2010\\_report.pdf](http://www.lcav.org/2010_report.pdf).

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*LCAV is a national public interest law center dedicated to preventing gun violence and is the country's only organization devoted exclusively to providing free legal assistance for policy reform to reduce gun violence. Founded on July 1, 1993 in response to the tragic shooting at a San Francisco law firm, we focus on policy reform at the state and local levels, marshaling the expertise and resources of the legal community to transform America's gun policies. To learn more about our services or to request assistance, visit our website, [www.lcav.org](http://www.lcav.org), the nation's most comprehensive source for information on U.S. firearms regulation.*