

# National Weekly Gun Violence Prevention Coalition Conference Call

February 22, 2017

**Observer:** Barbara Griffin

**Note:** The League of Women Voters - Charleston Area neither supports nor endorses political candidates or political parties. It is committed to civic awareness and education and will advocate for carefully selected and studied issues.

Through its Observer Corps, the League collects and provides reports covering a wide range of government and community organizations as a service to its members and the public. The League nether endorses nor sanctions the organizations sponsoring the meetings nor the views of those speaking or attending. Rather, the League seeks to provide fair-minded fact-based summaries in support of expanding public knowledge and awareness, and civil discourse.

Below is an abbreviated summary of the remarks and comments made during a national conference call held on February 22nd. This report does not attempt to reflect verbatim comments or responses and should not be interpreted as such. Further, areas that were identified as specifically political or electoral have been particularly noted. Again, the League of Women Voters - Charleston Area neither endorses nor sanctions the organizations sponsoring the conference call nor the views of those speaking.

## ***Agenda***

Note that the Gun Violence Political Table will convene immediately following the broader Gun Violence Meeting for organizations that can legally engage in electoral activity. This meeting will consider political goals for 2017.

### Introductions

National Events and Actions - No major reports  
Congressional Actions - Discussion regarding change in law regarding those who have been adjudicated as mentally unable to self-manage  
Executive Actions - No major updates  
Cabinet Appointments - No new updates  
Supreme Court - No new updates  
Community Engagement Meetings - No major updates  
Social Media - Routinely distributed

### General Updates from some organizations on the call:

#### Other Organizational Updates

CAP	Generation Progress	Everytown	ARS
Moms Demand Action		States United	Brady
Guns on Campus – Gun Free Kids		Coalition to Stop Gun Violence	

OFA	VPC	Criminal Justice Reform Coalition	
Media Matters	MoveOn	Avaaz	Cathedral
National Network to End Domestic Violence		Every Child Matters	Guns Down
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence		Newtown	WOLA
Domestic Violence Hotline		Sandy Hook	
National Physicians Alliance		Joint Action Committee	
Prosecutors Against Gun Violenc		Say it to our faces	
Gays Against Guns		American Constitution Society	
Americans State Legislators		Children's Firearm Safety Alliance	
One Pulse for America		Campaign to Unload	
Legal Update – Law Center		Other	

Local State Action Update – Legislation, Elections and Referenda

Ohio	Arkansas	Connecticut	California
Florida - Florida discuss court decision allowing doctors to discuss guns with patients			
Michigan	Pennsylvania	Georgia	Vermont
Colorado	Wisconsin	Virginia	Washington
Delaware	New Hampshire	Missouri	Nevada
Idaho	Rhode Island	Oregon	New Jersey
South Carolina - On the Call but no update provided			
Louisiana	Minnesota	Other	

Next Meeting – Wed, March 1– Monthly In Person Meeting – CAP 1333 H Street, NW

Other Business - None

Adjourn

**Note:** *The discussion below and goals/plans listed are considered largely partisan, although not exclusively so and is reported for information purposes only.*

**Additional Discussion of Some Participants**

**Draft Movement Goals for 2017**

**Policy/Advocacy Goals**

Successfully fending off as many attacks as possible in Congress and in State Legislatures – especially a Federal “reciprocity” bill and a new law legalizing silencers.

Preventing the successful nomination of anti-gun violence judges and administrative officials – especially a Justice on the Supreme Court.  
Passing positive legislation and initiatives at the state level wherever opportunities present themselves.  
Successfully limiting the impact of Executive Actions by the Trump Administration.  
Supporting battles in the courts– and publicizing victories.  
Mobilizing the gun violence prevention community to pressure Congressional Members and legislators to achieve these results.  
Develop a common national legislative agenda that can be promoted by the entire GVP community once an opportunity for offensive action again presents itself.

## **Messaging**

Rapid Response and Control of National Dialogue in the gun violence space –  
Repetition of the Message Frame – Building capacity among reporters and writers.  
Marginalizing the NRA and other Extremist Groups (especially those using violence to promote political goals).  
Marginalizing Reckless Actors in Gun Industry --Victories in Gun Industry Campaigns –  
Divestiture and Retail.  
Pushing back on media inaccuracy.  
]Educating the American people that gun ownership does not make someone safer.

## **Organizational**

More fully engaging local community organizations – especially those that include people of color – in the planning and activities of the gun violence community.  
Creating a process to explore additional means of integrating various groups in the gun violence community in common campaigns and more heavily integrated organizational structures.  
In general to take advantage of the new level of overall mobilization among progressives to build excitement and participation in the anti-gun-violence movement.  
Conducting in a robust, coordinated effort to engage other progressive organizations in the GVP movement, and developing mutually supportive relationships for organizations engaged in related or interconnected campaign objectives. (e.g.: Drug law reform and community gun violence; police violence and gun violence; judicial nominees and gun violence, etc.)  
Intensified work to develop financial resources for the GVP community.

***Gun Violence Political Table – 2/22/17 (For GVP Organizations That Are Legally Able to Engage in Electoral Activity)***

## **Draft Electoral Goals for 201**

Electing pro-gun violence prevention candidates in 2017 Virginia and New Jersey Legislative and Governor's races, special elections to Congress and elections for Mayor.

Defining anti-gun violence prevention candidates for Congress and state legislatures who can be defeated in 2018.

Recruiting and supporting pro GVP candidates to run in key races.

Building infrastructure that can help defeat anti-gun Congressional, legislative and gubernatorial candidates in 2018.

To facilitate conversations among GVP groups regarding electoral strategy and candidates before organizations take action to endorse.