



San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott

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## **City Attorney Mara W. Elliott and Other Prosecutors Oppose Bill to Lift Regulations on Gun Silencers**

City Attorney Mara W. Elliott has joined criminal prosecutors from around the nation in opposing efforts in Congress to remove gun silencer safety regulations from federal law.

The effort to allow widespread use of silencers, which are most commonly associated with movie gangsters, is a feature of the Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) Act.

Elliott joined with Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer, Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr. and 26 other members of Prosecutors Against Gun Violence to declare their strong opposition to the provision.

Elliott noted that the sound of gunfire, while alarming, benefits public safety.

**“Wherever there have been mass shootings, the sound of gunshots has alerted people to danger, allowing them to flee, take cover or call for help, and has directed law enforcement to the shooter’s location,”** City Attorney Mara W. Elliott said. **“In light of the tragedy in Las Vegas and in other communities, it is clear that SHARE Act promotes gun violence and unnecessarily increases the risk of serious harm to our nation.”**

Prosecutors Against Gun Violence believes the SHARE Act would jeopardize not only the safety of the public, but also the safety of the front-line law enforcement officers who place their lives in danger every day to keep communities safe.

Current federal law requires all buyers of silencers to pass a background check and comply with other common-sense safety provisions. Because of these successful regulations under the National Firearms Act, silencers have been rarely used in connection with criminal activity.

“As prosecutors, we are sworn to uphold public safety in our communities,” Prosecutors Against Gun Violence co-chairs Feuer and Vance wrote in a letter regarding the legislation. “The SHARE Act would threaten that safety by removing gun silencers from regulation under the National Firearms Act, which for decades has prevented felons, domestic abusers, and other people with dangerous histories from obtaining silencers.”

Founded by District Attorney Vance and City Attorney Feuer in 2014, Prosecutors Against Gun Violence is a nonpartisan coalition of leading prosecutors, from every region of the United States, committed to advancing prosecutorial and policy solutions to the national public health and safety crisis of gun violence. Elliott is a member of Prosecutors Against Gun Violence.

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