

Resolution 207.7

On Reducing Gun Violence

The 207th Annual Convention enacts:

“Resolved, that in keeping with our baptismal covenant to respect the dignity of every human being, and to minimize the impact of gun violence, the 207th Annual Convention commits to urge state and federal legislators to sponsor and support the passage of laws to:

1. Require universal background checks for every gun purchase, including private sales, sales at gun shows, and ghost guns;
2. Ban possession of, sale of, transfer of and manufacture of semi-automatic, military-style assault weapons and high-capacity magazines for civilian use;
3. Require persons to provide evidence of reputable gun safety training prior to purchasing a gun;
4. Promote local and federal funding to research the causes and prevention of gun violence;
5. Promote funding for expansion of Community Violence Intervention Programs; and

Be it further resolved that the congregations of the Diocese of North Carolina be strongly urged to:

1. Include gun violence prevention regularly in conversations, educational sessions, and prayers;
2. Partner with local agencies and community groups to encourage gun dealers to adhere to all regulations and best safety practices, and share discovered resources with other congregations and convocations;
3. Ban the possession of guns on church property, excluding on-duty law enforcement officers who may be required to carry firearms;
4. Identify and support existing Community Violence Intervention Leaders and Programs; and

Be it further resolved that all members of the Diocese of North Carolina be encouraged to:

1. Commit to educating themselves on the issues of gun violence, gun violence prevention, and Community Violence Intervention;
2. Seek and share accurate information on gun violence and gun violence prevention in your community, particularly the danger of ghost guns;
3. Store guns and ammunition safely and securely at all times; and
4. Promote the importance of teaching and practicing gun safety.