



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### MEDIA CONTACTS

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#### *Illinois members of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America Saddened to Learn of Another Community Activist Killed by Gun Violence*

(Chicago, IL) – On Thursday, May 29th in Chicago, 59-year-old high school teacher Betty Howard was working at her second job inside a real estate office when gunfire between rival gangs erupted outside. She was struck in the head by a stray bullet that entered the real estate office, and died at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Two others were wounded; none were the intended targets.

Howard's brother, a Chicago police officer, is shocked -- as are the community of faculty and students at Howard's school, Gwendolyn Brooks' Preparatory Academy, and teachers across the metro area.

"People talk about the resources that kids need in order to end the violence, but people like Betty Howard are the resources, and they keep getting taken away," said Camiella Williams, a spokeswoman for U.S. Representative Robin Kelly's violence prevention task force in Chicago. "It is heartbreaking that young people experiencing this violence want to have a voice and the public needs to start listening to the real pain that it's causing." Camiella is also a member of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense In America.

"Moms across the country are calling for 'Not One More' life to be cut short by senseless gun violence and we are asking our elected officials to do more to curb the epidemic of gun violence we have in this country," said Nicole Chen, Illinois chapter leader of Moms Demand Action. "In Chicago, a city with complex gun laws, guns make their way into the hands of dangerous individuals through illegal trafficking channels. It's time we asked our leaders to close this loophole to keep guns out of the wrong hands."

#### ***About Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America***

Much like Mothers Against Drunk Driving was created to change laws regarding drunk driving, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America was created to build support for common-sense gun reforms. The nonpartisan grassroots movement of American mothers is demanding new and stronger solutions to lax gun laws and loopholes that jeopardize the safety of our children and families. Since its inception after the Sandy Hook Elementary mass shooting, Moms Demand Action has established a chapter in every state of the country and is part of Everytown for Gun

Safety along with Mayors Against Illegal Guns. Everytown is the largest gun violence prevention organization in the country with more than 1.5 million supporters including moms, mayors, survivors, and everyday Americans who are fighting for reforms that respect the Second Amendment and protect people. For more information or to get involved visit [www.momsdemandaction.org](http://www.momsdemandaction.org). Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MomsDemandAction](https://www.facebook.com/MomsDemandAction) or on Twitter at @MomsDemand

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