
LEGAL
COMMUNITY
AGAINST
VIOLENCE

2011
ANNUAL
REPORT



Legal Community Against Violence
expertise, information & advocacy
to end gun violence

A MESSAGE
FROM THE
BOARD
PRESIDENT AND
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

For the past 18 years, Legal Community Against Violence, with your generous support, has worked tirelessly to reduce gun violence in America. For nearly two decades we have forged strong relationships with other advocates, legislators, and concerned citizens to stem the flow of illegal firearms and improve the safety of our communities through smart gun regulation.

With that work in mind, we want to thank you once again for standing with us in our mission to reduce gun violence and save lives.

LCAV's work in 2011 was comprehensive and successfully met greater challenges than in past years. We are now the premier clearinghouse for all gun regulation and Second Amendment civil litigation nationally. Each year we respond to over one hundred requests for assistance from city and state representatives working to improve our quality of life and public safety, advocates working to educate and make their communities safer, and journalists seeking to understand and clarify the truth about America's gun laws. We are also a primary resource for coordinating pro bono assistance to cities facing legal challenges to their existing gun regulations.

Since the 2008 US Supreme Court decision in *Heller*, we have increased our efforts to provide *amicus curiae* support in challenges to existing regulations. In 2011, we launched a new project: a Second Amendment brief bank, to track all Second Amendment litigation nationally and offer a central location for briefs, analysis, and research to support state and local governments facing litigation. Appropriately, courts across the country are standing by commonsense gun regulations and are rejecting the vast majority of these challenges.

LCAV, with the strong support of our Board of Directors, committed foundations, courageous legislators, and our many, many private donors, has stepped up to meet these challenges and defend the right of all Americans to live in safe communities free from the fear of gun violence.

We are pleased to submit our 2011 Annual Report. We hope you will take a moment and review the impressive overview of work we have been able to accomplish with your support. We also hope you'll continue along this journey with us as we approach the milestone of our 20th Anniversary next year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robyn Thomas".

Robyn Thomas
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William I. Edlund".

William I. Edlund
Board President

YEAR IN REVIEW

LCAV is proud of the extensive body of work we completed in 2011. Our legal team continued to focus on the core program areas of legislation, litigation, and education, and became increasingly involved in national gun violence prevention issues. As in years past, we helped state and local governments adopt sensible, legally sound gun laws, filed *amicus curiae* (“friend of the court”) briefs in Second Amendment cases nationwide, and released several publications to educate elected officials, activists, and the media about timely firearm-related topics. A summary of our 2011 program work follows.

LEGISLATION

State Activities

California continues to have the strongest gun regulatory system in the country. In 2011, we built on this success by supporting the work of advocates and elected representatives offering commonsense gun violence prevention legislation. The legislature adopted laws to require the retention of long gun sales records, to ban the open carrying of unloaded handguns, and to enable the use of firearm sales fees to fund programs to disarm convicted criminals and the mentally ill. We were proud to have played an important role in this success and continue our ongoing effort to support legislation that improves public safety in California.

LCAV also continued to support activists and the gun violence prevention movement in other states across the country by tracking and analyzing all state firearm-related legislation, identifying over 700 state-level bills, and responding to over 70 requests for assistance. Activists in 15 states helped defeat legislation that would have allowed gun possession on campus and activists in 10 states helped defeat legislation that would have allowed for the carrying of concealed weapons without a permit. Only two states succeeded in actually adopting legislation that allows for guns on campus (Mississippi and Wisconsin) and only one enacted a no-permit law (Wyoming). Illinois remains the only state in the nation that does not allow carrying of a concealed weapon in public, even with a permit.

Federal Activities

Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy introduced a bill to ban large capacity magazines in response to the tragic shoot-

ing of U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords and 18 others in Tucson. While the Arizona tragedy spurred the introduction of many bills to improve background checks and ban large capacity ammunition magazines at the state level, McCarthy’s bill was the only Congressional response and remains dormant in the House. Outside the beltway, LCAV successfully collaborated with national gun violence prevention coalition partners in many arenas. We supported Mayors Against Illegal Guns in its efforts to educate mayors and the public about the flow of illegal guns in our country. We also worked with a large coalition of gun violence prevention advocates nationwide to alert the public about dangerous federal legislation that would force states to recognize concealed weapons licenses across state lines.

On the regulatory front, LCAV was pleased to support the Obama Administration’s adoption of a rule requiring firearms dealers in California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas to report any individual who purchases multiple semiautomatic rifles within a five-day period. We submitted comments in support of the rule, which will help identify gun traffickers who buy firearms for use by Mexican drug cartels.

Local Activities

LCAV has a deep-rooted history of providing legal expertise and support to cities and counties, particularly in California. In 2011, we worked with many California communities, including Campbell, Los Angeles, Pleasant Hill, and Sunnyvale, as they considered adopting or adopted ordinances regulating, among other things, firearms dealers and ammunition sellers.



LITIGATION

LCAV has increasingly focused our efforts on litigation-related work since the U.S. Supreme Court held, in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008), that the Second Amendment protects the right of a responsible, law-abiding citizen to possess a handgun in the home for self-defense. In 2011, LCAV tracked and analyzed significant Second Amendment decisions nationwide and regularly reported on those decisions in our “Post-*Heller* Litigation Summary.” LCAV also launched a Brief Bank of pleadings and other materials from cases across the coun-

try to assist government attorneys defending federal, state, and local gun laws.

Continuing our vigorous support of jurisdictions defending commonsense gun regulations from Second Amendment challenges, we filed four *amicus curiae* briefs in actions across the country, including in cases pending before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the Illinois Supreme Court.

EDUCATION

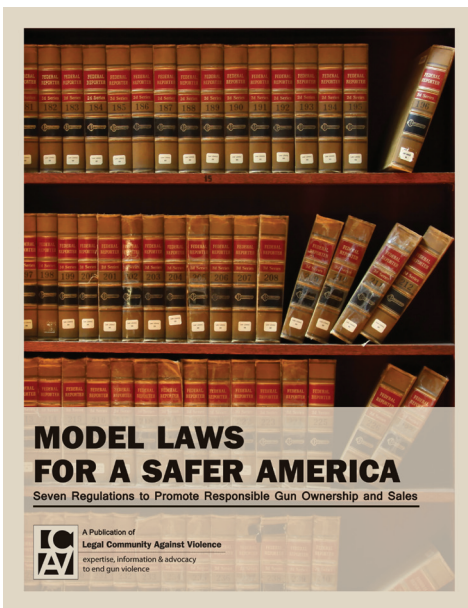
LCAV remains committed to producing tools to educate the public on gun violence prevention issues. In 2011, we released the following publications focused primarily on the possession of guns in public:

- *Guns in Public Places: The Increasing Threat of Hidden Guns in America*, which examines the dramatic changes in state laws over the past 30 years to allow the carrying of concealed, loaded handguns in public; and
- *Forced Reciprocity: Why Your Community Shouldn't be Subject to Other States' Weak Concealed Handgun Laws*, which explains why federal legislation to force states to recognize other states' permits or licenses would pose a significant risk to public safety nationwide and would trample the abilities of states to set their own permitting standards to keep citizens safe.

LCAV released *Model Laws for a Safer America: Seven Regulations to Promote Responsible Gun Ownership and Sales*, designed for use by activists and officials nationwide seeking to close loopholes in our federal regulatory system. We also added two new features to the LCAV website that highlight gun violence prevention victories and expose the gun lobby's agenda.

Finally, LCAV served as a resource to the media, providing reliable information about gun violence prevention law and policy. We responded to requests for background information and on-air interviews from, among others, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Chicago Tribune*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Washington Post*, *Arizona Republic*, *NBC News*, *CBS News*, *The Rachel Maddow Show*, *Telemundo*, *AirTalk*, *Thom Hartmann Program*, *Newsweek*, and *BusinessWeek*.

We are proud of the work we accomplished in 2011 and are deeply grateful for the generous support of the foundations, law firms, businesses, and individuals who stand with us on this important issue.



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Top: 18th Anniversary Dinner attendees Clare Foley, Declan Wyrick, and Anne Marie Bingo. Above: 18th Anniversary Dinner Keynote Speaker Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, LCAV Executive Director Robyn Thomas, and San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee.

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Below: The panel from *Gun Fight: Action and Debate* (from l to r): San Francisco District Attorney George Gascón, Emeryville Chief of Police Ken James, Virginia Tech Survivor and Activist Colin Goddard, and LCAV Executive Director Robyn Thomas. Bottom: The panel moderator: LCAV Board Member Doug Boxer.



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Gun Fight attendees (from l to r):
David Grunwald, Dr. Randi Smith,
and LCAV Managing Attorney
Ben Van Houten.



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Gun Fight attendee Clare Foley asks a question to the panel.

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Top: LCAV Board Member Randal B. Short and LCAV Member Helen Hilton Raiser. Above: Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa greets LCAV supporters at the 18th Anniversary Dinner.

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as of December 31, 2011

ASSETS

Current Assets

Petty Cash	260
Cash In Bank	483,988
Accounts Receivable	20,622
Promises to Give	11,500
Prepays	28,318
Grants Receivable	105,000
Deposits	5,000
Equipment (net)	13,584
Total Current Assets	\$668,272

Total Assets

\$668,272

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	8,490
Accrued Vacation	21,600
Total Current Liabilities	\$30,090

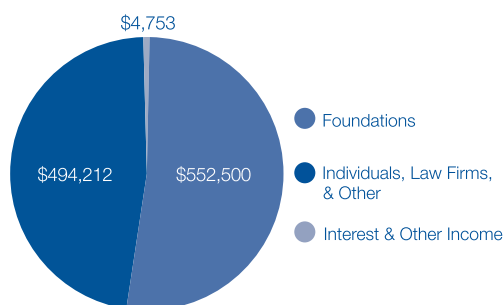
Net Assets

Unrestricted	638,182
Total Net Assets	\$638,182

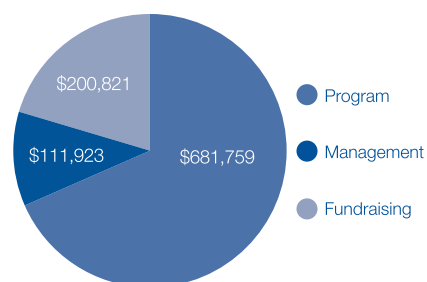
Total Liabilities and Net Assets

\$668,272

2011 REVENUES



2011 EXPENSES



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