

## A letter from Bank of America Vice Chairman, Anne Finucane

We operate in and support communities throughout the United States. Our employees and clients have been touched directly and indirectly by mass shootings from military style firearms in many of those communities.

We know there is a limited role we can play as a company to make a direct contribution to reaching a day we all want, when we no longer have to suffer a mass shooting tragedy in our country.

Firearms with military characteristics have been used in many of these recent tragedies, including at schools in Florida and Connecticut.

We have firearms industry clients who do not manufacture this type of firearm. But we are engaging the limited number of clients who do, to learn their plans to keep this type of firearm from being used in mass shootings. In those discussions, we have indicated it is our intent that we will not finance the manufacture of this type of firearm for non-law enforcement, non-military use. We want to understand what those clients are doing to end mass shootings, and what we can do to help them.

Our policy is not a perfect solution to the challenge we face in the communities where we operate and where our employees and clients live. But we feel we cannot stand idly by as these mass shootings continue to devastate the communities we serve. We feel we are taking a balanced and respectful approach to address these challenges. Other public companies are trying to do the same thing.

Some believe the sale of firearms should be restricted. We think it would not be effective or appropriate for us to attempt to restrict the purchase of firearms. That is a matter of public policy, and of the policy of merchants and others to decide what products they choose to sell.

Some merchants, including Walmart and Dick's Sporting Goods, have stopped selling the type of firearm that has been used in recent mass shootings, and which are illegal for sale to civilians in several states where we operate.

That is their decision. We have not taken a position on that. We also understand there are many who support tougher background checks and other ways to ensure the responsible use of these firearms. Because these are not matters we can directly affect, we have not taken a position on them, either.

The individual right to bear arms is in our Constitution and has been sustained by Supreme Court decisions. Our discussions with clients to learn what they are doing to end the tragedy of mass shootings have nothing to do with that right. But there are many steps that can be taken.

The one step we are taking as a company is to work with our clients to better understand what they are doing to keep these firearms out of the hands of people who are using them in mass shootings.

What we are doing will not solve the problem. We know that. Doing so will take collective action, including public and private cooperation. Together we can make the communities we serve safer and, hopefully, help avoid future tragedies.

Regards,



Anne Finucane  
Vice Chairman  
Bank of America

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