



**For Immediate Release
December 9, 2013**

**Contact: Ron Pinciario
203-955-1009/203-895-0651
ron@cagv.org**

Connecticut Ranked Second in Nation Based on Strength of Gun Laws
Major Reforms Following Newtown Tragedy Led to Increased Ranking

Fairfield, CT –Connecticut now has the second strongest gun reform measures in the nation based on a new scorecard issued today by The Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence and the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence. Connecticut was ranked only behind California in this year's "2013 State Scorecard: Why Gun Laws Matter" produced by the organizations.

“We have always ranked high on the scorecard, usually fourth or fifth, but the response to the Sandy Hook rampage resulted in one of the most comprehensive gun violence prevention reform packages in the nation. The efforts of our legislative leadership and our Governor, an incredible grass roots reaction from the people of Connecticut, led by our March for Change program founded and organized by Nancy Lefkowitz and Meg Staunton, and our steadfast staff and team of advocates, resulted in the passage of groundbreaking legislation in April, 2013. The people of Connecticut demanded change, and they got it. And it was a truly bipartisan effort,” said Ron Pinciario, Executive Director of CT Against Gun Violence.

Major reforms in the package, entitled *An Act Concerning Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety*, include a ban on sales of assault weapons and large capacity magazines, like the one used at Sandy Hook; universal background checks on all firearm sales and transfers; permit requirements for purchases of long guns and ammunition; strengthening of firearm storage requirements; and strengthening of penalties for trafficking offenses.

Strict gun laws work. We know the seven states with the highest grades also have the lowest gun death rates nationwide. Conversely, many states with the weakest gun laws have the highest gun death rate

Connecticut Against Gun Violence is proud that Connecticut is among the states that lead the country in the effort to stop senseless gun violence. For more information about [Connecticut](#) scores and scores of other states please visit the websites of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence <http://bradycampaign.org/?q=2013-state-scorecard> and the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence <http://bit.ly/GunLawsScorecard>

###

Connecticut Against Gun Violence is a Connecticut non-profit organization dedicated to making Connecticut communities, families, and children safe from gun violence through a common sense approach to public education and legislative advocacy.