



Essex County Bar Foundation

"With Honor and Dignity"

November 2018

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Dear Friends and Colleagues:

In the last two weeks, this country again witnessed several multiple-victim shootings, including eleven people murdered in a mass shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue. It is believed to be the most deadly attack against the Jewish community in U.S. history.

In a high school in North Carolina, a student died after being shot by another student, the 22nd school shooting in 2018 which resulted in injuries or death. In Kentucky, two victims died after being shot while grocery shopping in apparent race-driven attack. As recently as this past weekend, a gunman opened fire in a yoga studio, killing two and wounding five others.

First and foremost, we offer our deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of the victims of these shootings. While it is extraordinarily difficult to make any sense of these tragedies, as attorneys and leaders, it is our responsibility to initiate the changes necessary to prevent such senseless acts of violence.

As you know, Essex County Bar Foundation, in cooperation with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, is organizing a Gun Buyback initiative. In the past five years, similar initiatives removed nearly 2,000 guns from the streets in Essex County. However, an undertaking of this size and reach requires substantial funding. Keeping with the Foundation's longstanding commitment to public service, we have committed to raise these funds. To date, we have received generous contributions from local law firms, attorneys and other businesses in the legal community totaling just over \$50,000 – half of the necessary amount of \$100,000.00. ***Our appeal is a simple one -- we need your immediate financial support to make this initiative a success.***

We ask that you consider supporting this important public health and safety initiative today. Your donation will take a firearm off the street and potentially avoid yet another gun-related tragedy. Further information regarding our program can be found at www.essexbar.com. Donations can be made online or by check to:

Essex County Bar Foundation
470 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Room B01
Newark, New Jersey 07102

As a friend of this organization and the Essex County legal community, I sincerely hope you will consider joining us in this critical initiative. **We need your help more than ever and thank you for your support.**

Very truly yours,

Raj Gadhok

Raj Gadhok, Esq.
ECBA/F President