MEDIA RELEASE

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Gun Safety Advocates Support a Ten-Point Plan for Firearm Reform

Australia's leading public-health, community-safety, and firearm-harm prevention organisations today issued a joint call for urgent reform of the nation's firearm laws following the fatal attack at Bondi, in which 15 people were killed while attending a Jewish community celebration.

We extend our deepest condolences to the victims and their families and loved ones. This act of terror – in which people were specifically targeted – is a devastating reminder that Australians should be able to gather, celebrate and practise their faith without fear of gun violence.

Australia's world-renowned firearm framework, established after the Port Arthur tragedy in 1996, has saved countless lives and demonstrated that strong, evidence-based gun laws work. However, nearly three decades on, Australia's gun laws have not kept pace with changes in firearm technology, shifts in ownership patterns and contemporary risk factors. Firearm ownership in Australia is a privilege, not a right, and it must be justified by genuine public-interest need.

Authorities have confirmed that the weapons used in the Bondi attack were legally owned, exposing serious gaps in licensing, firearm categorisation, storage, oversight and national coordination. It is clear that we must reduce the number of firearms circulating in the community and rigorously tighten regulatory safeguards.

We welcome National Cabinet's agreement that strong and focused action is needed on gun-law reform – including renegotiating the National Firearms Agreement (NFA) to ensure it remains as robust as possible. Building on the original lifesaving framework and addressing current shortcomings, we are calling for the following reforms:

A Plan of Action to Reduce Firearm Harm

1. Remove the recreational hunting licence category
2. Further restrict high-capability firearms
3. End metropolitan home storage for non-occupational firearms
4. Limit the number of firearms per individual
5. Explicitly prohibit the use of firearms by children
6. Introduce robust, renewable licensing
7. Establish national reporting and oversight
8. End unlicensed shooting
9. Ban political donations from the firearms industry
10. Establish a National Firearms Safety Council

To view the detailed Plan of Action to Reduce Firearm Harm visit xxxx

Honouring those killed at Bondi requires more than words of sympathy – it requires renewed political courage and a recommitment to the principle that public safety must always come before private access to lethal weapons.

Australia has led the world before. We can, and must, do so again.

"The National Firearms Agreement is 30 years old – there have been changes to firearm technology, to ownership patterns, to community expectations. It is time to renew the Agreement and re-prioritise public safety. The Bondi horrors reveal the need for reform."
– *Professor Joel Negin, School of Public Health, University of Sydney*

"This is a horrific reminder of the need to stay vigilant against violence, and of the importance of ensuring our gun laws continue to protect the safety of all Australians."
– *Walter Mikac AM, Founding Patron, Alannah & Madeline Foundation*

"Firearms licensing has to be tightened to stem the flood of guns hiding in our suburbs. With sometimes tens or even hundreds of guns under one license holder's legal genuine reason, we have to question the law's ability to keep the Australian public safe from gun violence."
– *Tim Quinn, President, Gun Control Australia*

"There are now over 4 million guns in Australia, more than before Port Arthur. We know how to reduce gun numbers in Australia and we know it works. It's time for state and federal governments to prioritise public safety, reduce the number of guns in Australia and reform our gun laws."
– *Rod Campbell, Research Director, The Australia Institute*

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