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COUNCILMEMBER MARNI VON WILPERT RECEIVES UNANIMOUS COMMITTEE SUPPORT TO BRING FORWARD "GHOST GUN" ORDINANCE

San Diego City Council Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee Votes in Support of Drafting Ordinance to Curb "GHOST GUN" Proliferation

SAN DIEGO – In response to the San Diego Police Department's report showing the rise of gun violence fueled by "ghost guns" in San Diego, the City Council's Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee voted unanimously to support Councilmember Marni von Wilpert and the City Attorney's office to bring forward an ordinance to protect our communities.

"Ghost guns," sometimes referred to as "do-it-yourself-guns," are guns that can be built at home absent a manufacturer's license. "Ghost guns" do not have traceable serial numbers, and therefore, generally evade all the regulations which apply to the regulated firearms industry.

This action occurs nearly three months after a "ghost gun" was allegedly used in a deadly shooting in the Gaslamp Quarter of Downtown San Diego, perpetrated by an individual who was barred from legally purchasing a firearm due to a prior criminal conviction.

"We must do everything in our power to prevent the startling rise in gun violence fueled by 'ghost guns' in our communities. Allowing the sale of untraceable guns to go unchecked in our City is unacceptable. Unregulated "ghost guns" undermine federal and state laws that would normally block access to guns by people who pose danger to our communities —including violent criminals, domestic abusers, individuals suffering from mental illness, and terrorists," said Councilmember von Wilpert.

She continued, "Now is the time to act to protect our communities from the spread of 'ghost guns' and I am thankful for the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee for their unanimous support to bring forward an ordinance to close this loophole and keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals".

The completed ordinance will come to the full City Council at a future determined date.

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