

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-14

A Resolution of Radnor Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, encouraging the Pennsylvania General Assembly to Pass a Statewide Lost or Stolen Handgun Reporting Law

WHEREAS, gun violence is an increasing public health concern in our municipality and across the Commonwealth – taking the lives of more than 1,200 Pennsylvanians each year and reducing the appeal of communities to homeowners and businesses alike; and

WHEREAS, 22 police officers have been shot and killed in the line of duty in Pennsylvania in the last ten years, including 7 in the last year; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of crimes committed with guns are committed by individuals who are already prohibited from bearing arms because of a previous felony conviction or other exclusion – who obtain handguns illegally through straw purchases, traffickers, or theft; and

WHEREAS, in Pennsylvania there is no legal duty for handgun owners to report missing firearms to the police; and

WHEREAS, requiring that lost or stolen handguns be reported to the police within a reasonable time after their absence is discovered may help law enforcement offices identify and prosecute criminals who use and traffic illegal handguns, while encouraging responsible practices among law abiding handgun owners; and

WHEREAS, seven states including: Michigan, Ohio, New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New Jersey, and the District of Columbia have already adopted lost or stolen handgun reporting laws; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania State Police, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association, and the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Association have considered lost or stolen handgun reporting requirement and determined that it would be a valuable tool to identify and bring to justice criminals who use and traffic illegal handguns; and

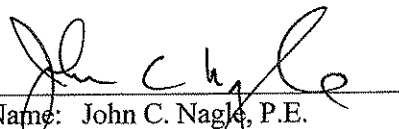
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Radnor Township Board of Commissioners calls upon the General Assembly, particularly State Representatives Bryan Lentz, William Adolph, and Greg Vitali and our State Senator Daylin Leach to follow the example set by 32 Pennsylvania communities, seven states, and the advice of every major law enforcement organization in the state- by adopting a statewide law requiring lost or stolen handguns to be reported to the police within a reasonable period of time in order to help police crack down on illegal handgun trafficking and to reduce accessibility to illegal guns in Pennsylvania

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted immediately to the Pennsylvania General Assembly and to the Governor of Pennsylvania with a request that the Legislature and Governor take prompt action to address the epidemic of illegal handgun trafficking in our Commonwealth by passing a statewide lost or stolen handgun reporting requirement law.

RESOLVED, at a duly convened meeting of the Board of Commissioners conducted on this 12th day of April, A.D., 2010.

RADNOR TOWNSHIP

By:


Name: John C. Nagle, P.E.
Title: President

ATTEST:


Matthew S. Baumann, Secretary