

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, an estimated 80,000 men, women, and children have been killed in Mexico, almost 11,000 of them in our sister city of Ciudad Juárez, during the past five years; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of El Paso and the surrounding region recognize our personal, practical, and economic connections with Ciudad Juárez and the country of Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, it is strongly in our interest to reduce death, violence, and human rights violations on both sides of the border; and

**WHEREAS**, trafficked arms and munitions from the United States to Mexico is deeply involved in killings; and

**WHEREAS**, the trade in illegalized drugs is a driver of criminal profits, corruption, impunity, and violence, with negative effects on the border region; and

**WHEREAS**, money is the lifeblood of the criminal system in both countries and causes corruption in our home region; and

**WHEREAS**, human rights and human security in Mexican law enforcement and the military are key to building and sustain a peaceful and secure society in Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, accountability, civil and human rights, and security from death, harm, and exploitation are fundamental U.S. values that provide an enduring basis for a safe and prosperous border region, in particular when applied to migration enforcement and immigration policy:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:**

That the City Council endorses the following five principles for members of the U.S. public and U.S. public policy:

- (1) Adhere to existing U.S. laws regulating gun and munitions sales, particularly with respect to trafficking to Mexico, and endorse the attached Code of Conduct for the Responsible Firearms Retailer Partnership;
- (2) Spur discussion about current drug policy and alternatives to it;
- (3) Improve tools against money laundering;
- (4) Prioritize human rights and human security in U.S. cooperation with and assistance to Mexican law enforcement and the military; and
- (5) Prioritize accountability, civil and human rights, and security from death, harm, and exploitation in U.S. migration enforcement and immigration policy.

[SIGNATURES ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

THE CITY OF EL PASO

---

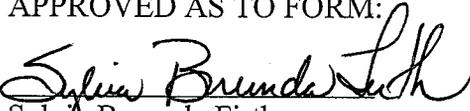
John F. Cook  
Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Richarda Duffy Momsen  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Sylvia Borunda Firth  
City Attorney

**RESPONSIBLE FIREARMS RETAILER PARTNERSHIP:  
A 10-POINT VOLUNTARY CODE**

The 10 points of the Responsible Firearms Retailer Partnership are:

1. **Videotaping the Point of Sale for All Firearms Transactions.** Participating retailers will videotape the point-of-sale of all firearms transactions and maintain videos for 6 months to deter illegal purchases and monitor employees.
2. **Computerized Prime Gun Trace Log and Alert System.** Mayors Against Illegal Guns will develop a computerized system that participating retailers will implement over time to log crime gun traces relating to the retailer. Once the program is in place, if a customer who has a prior trace at that retailer attempts to purchase a firearm, the sale will be electronically flagged. The retailer would have discretion to proceed with the sale or stop the sale.
3. **Purchaser Declaration.** For sales flagged by the trace alert system, participating retailers will ask purchasers to fill out a declaration indicating that they meet the legal requirement to purchase the firearm.
4. **Deterring Fake IDs.** Participating retailers will only accept valid federal- or state-issued picture IDs as primary identification. Retailers will utilize additional ID checking mechanisms.
5. **Consistent Visible Signage.** Participating retailers will post signage created by the Responsible Firearms Retailer Partnership to alert customers of their legal responsibilities at the point-of-sale.
6. **Employee Background Checks.** Participating retailers will conduct criminal background checks for all employees selling or handling firearms.
7. **Employee Responsibility Training.** Participating retailers will participate in an employee responsibility training program focused on deterring illegal purchasers. The Responsible Firearms Retailer Partnership will create an online training system based on Wal-Mart's training program.
8. **Inventory Checking.** Participating retailers will conduct daily and quarterly audits. Guidelines will be based on Wal-Mart's existing audit procedures.
9. **No Sales Without Background Check Results.** Participating retailers would prohibit sales based on "default proceeds," which are permitted by law when background check has not returned a result within 3 days.
10. **Securing Firearms.** Participating retailers will maintain firearms kept in customer accessible areas in locked cases or locked racks.

JOHN COOK  
MAYOR

JOYCE WILSON  
CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL  
ANN MORGAN LILLY, DISTRICT 1  
SUSANNAH M. BYRD, DISTRICT 2  
EMMA ACOSTA, DISTRICT 3  
CARL ROBINSON, DISTRICT 4  
DR. MICHEL NOE, DISTRICT 5  
EDDIE HOLGUIN JR., DISTRICT 6  
STEVE ORTEGA, DISTRICT 7  
CORTNEY NILAND, DISTRICT 8

## MAYOR AND COUNCIL

# MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Susie Byrd, City Representative, District #2 

**DATE:** August 20, 2012

**RE:** Javier Sicilia and Caravan for Peace

Dear Mayor and Council:

On Tuesday, August 21, Javier Sicilia and members of the Caravan for Peace with Justice and Dignity will be at City Council to request that we pass the attached resolution calling for public policy change in the United States that will reduce the violence in Mexico.

Javier Sicilia is a poet, novelist, and columnist of *Proceso* (one of the most influential political journals in Mexico). He laid down his pen after his 24-year-old son was murdered by drug traffickers in Cuernavaca, Mexico. In his son's memory, Sicilia created the Movement for Peace with Justice and Dignity to urge an end to the drug violence in Mexico. The Caravan, with members of the Movement for Peace with Justice and Dignity, is comprised of family and friends of some of the thousands of victims whose lives were taken away in the last four years since the launching of the so-called war on drugs in México.

The Caravan will start on August 12 in San Diego and will head east along the US-Mexico border, traveling over 5,000 miles through 25 cities - including Los Angeles, Santa Fe, El Paso, Houston, Montgomery, New Orleans, Chicago, and New York -- before arriving in Washington DC on September 10. The goal of month-long Caravan is to become citizen-diplomats -- to reach out to citizens in the United States and seek their help in building a true, bi-national movement for peace and justice.

I've included some of the local members of the coordinating committee in this email. They will be contacting you to discuss the resolution. I would also encourage you to contact them if you have any questions. Given what has happened and is happening in our sister city, it is very important that we add our voice the thousands asking for change that will create a sustainable and just peace for our region.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Susie