



# Central Outreach & Advocacy Center and Presbyterians for a Better Georgia *Joining Faith, Service and Advocacy*



**We advocate for policies that will make Georgians safer, healthier and more secure.**

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## Prevent Gun Violence

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We support common sense policies that assure public safety and reduce gun violence.

### **Georgia Has Some of the Worst Rates of Gun Violence in the U.S.**

The Center for Disease Control reports Georgia's gun murder rate was 27% above the national average in 2013. Georgia gun deaths exceeded automobile accident deaths in 2015. From 2001-2010, twice as many people were killed by guns in Georgia (11,591) than were killed in combat in Iran and Afghan wars (5,187).

### **Georgia has not done all it can to support gun safety.**

Georgia has a poor gun safety record and received a rating of 8 out of a possible 100 points from the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence in 2011. Georgia was rated the 16<sup>th</sup> deadliest gun state in the U.S. because of its combination of permissive gun laws and high rate of gun deaths (2011).

### **Georgia is a favorite state for gun traffickers to illegally purchase guns.**

Georgia has one of the highest rates of crime-gun exports in the U.S. Guns are sold in Georgia that are later used in crimes in other states at more than twice the national average in a key marker of illegal gun trafficking.

### ***OUTCRY: FAITH VOICES AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE***

*An interfaith coalition of clergy of many denominations raise their voices to prevent gun violence. We believe that God commands us to love our neighbor. Therefore we believe it is our responsibility to do all we can to ensure the safety and security of all people. We hope and work for the day when communities across Georgia will be places where human life is valued and celebrated, not tragically ended by gun violence.*

Many bills are anticipated this session, some expanding access to guns and some promoting gun safety:

- **Campus Carry** authorizes carrying guns on all college campus facilities. *Vetoed by Governor in 2016.*
- **Guns in Churches** and other sites now protected. *Vetoed by Governor in 2016.*
- **HB 10** (Rep. Oliver) **Prohibits assault weapons**, large capacity magazines and armor piercing bullets.
- **HB 11** (Rep. Waites) **Safety training required** to receive weapons carry license.

For more information, please contact:

Presbyterians for a Better Georgia [www.p4bg.org](http://www.p4bg.org) or Central Outreach & Advocacy Center [www.centraloac.org](http://www.centraloac.org)  
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