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GUIDANCE ON PEACE OFFICERS EVENT

MAY 14, 1997

- * At the event, the program will be Karen Lippe, FOP Auxiliary President -- they handle memorial; Gil Gallego, FOP National President, and the President will speak, and Gloria Estefan performs a song.
- * Also in attendance but not on the program will be Secretary Rubin, the Attorney General, and Ray Kelly. Also, we expect a good turnout from Members of Congress.
- * In honor of Police Officers Memorial Day and Police Officers Week, the flags at the White House will fly at half mast Thursday.
- * The President will note that in 1996, the fewest police officers were killed in line of duty in 37 years, since 1959. There were 116 in 1996 (compared to 162 in 1995).
- * Obviously, the President views this, in combination with declining violent crime rates around the country, as very good news. The policies he has pursued, and which he wants to continue with his juvenile justice legislation, are working.
- * The President will also highlight his proposal to require that Federal Firearms Licensees sell child safety locks with every firearm and the fact that the House juvenile justice bill was weak on guns because it did not include this proposal.
- * There will be some other news relating to implementation of the President's anti-crime policies.
- * The National Police Officers' Memorial is located near the National Building Museum. It was commissioned in 1991 and currently bears the names of 14,000 law enforcement officers.

FYI

- (* He will announce that the new Brady forms (gun application forms) are being sent (by BATF) to every Federal Firearms Licensee. Those forms, as originally directed by the President back in March, make further inquiry into prospective purchaser's residency. In addition, regulations will begin to be implemented authorizing FFL's to demand substantive proof of residency, such as driver's license or utility bill. These provisions help improve enforcement of a 90-day residency requirement that already existed. This was all a follow-up to the Empire State Building incident.)
- (* Also on March 5 he directed that all Federal law enforcement agency guns be equipped with child safety locks, and he will announce that this will be accomplished by October 15, and that major agencies (FBI, DEA, ATF) have done so already. (FBI and ATF already had begun doing this before directive.)

TOIV

Christa Robinson

New York Trip
April 14, 1997

* Press plane wheels up 8:15a.m. POTUS departs White House 8:20 a.m.

* POTUS will attend a Kick Butts Day event at Andries Huddle Middle School in Brooklyn. Kick Butts Day was founded by New York City Public Advocate Mark Green and the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids in an effort to encourage young people to discuss the health hazards of smoking and fight against tobacco use. The President participated in a Kick Butts Day event last year in New Jersey. The President will discuss the importance of reducing tobacco use among teenagers and the Administration's efforts in this regard. (OPEN PRESS)

* The President will attend a DCCC luncheon at the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens. The reception is a debt relief fundraiser, not for one particular members. Approximately 40 people are expected to attend. (POOL PRESS for remarks)

* In the evening the President will attend the Mets v. Dodgers baseball game at Shea Stadium. The game marks the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson taking the field as the first African American to play major league baseball. Prior to the game, the President will meet privately with the Robinson family and present them with sketches of the Jackie Robinson commemorative coin being created by the U.S. Mint. (POOL PRESS for presentation)

There will be a brief ceremony at the bottom of the 5th inning to honor Jackie Robinson's career and legacy. The President and Rachel Robinson will make brief remarks.

* POTUS departs Shea after Robinson ceremony (his option to stay), wheels up from NYC at 10:35pm. Arrives White House 12 a.m. Press plane arrives Andrews 12 a.m.

McCurry only: You should know that Frank Robinson, the first African American to manage in the major leagues, will travel to NY with the President and attend the baseball game with him. Tiger Woods is also being invited but his plans remain tentative at this time.

PRESIDENT CLINTON ATTENDS THE PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL CEREMONY

May 15, 1997

Today, President Clinton will make two new anti-crime announcements at the Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony on the West Grounds of the U.S. Capitol. The event, sponsored annually by the Fraternal Order of Police, will honor the 116 officers killed in the line of duty in 1996, the fewest officers since 1959. Also attending the ceremony but not participating in the program will be Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin, Attorney General Janet Reno, Treasury Under Secretary for Enforcement Ray Kelly, U.S. Marshalls Service Director Eddie Gonzalez and members of Congress including Senators Joe Biden, Pat Leahy and Strom Thurmond and Representative Bart Stupak. The sequence of events is as follows:

- The National Anthem will be performed by a police officer.
- Chaplain Adolph South gives the invocation
- Karen Lippe, President of the FOP Auxiliary, makes welcoming remarks.
- Gil Gallegos, National President of the FOP makes remarks and introduces the President.
- The President makes remarks.
- Gloria Estefan sings "Always Tomorrow."
- Gil Gallegos makes closing remarks.
- The President, accompanied by Gil Gallegos and Karen Lippe, places a flower in a memorial wreath.

The names of the 116 fallen officers will be enshrined on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial (located in Washington D.C. on E Street NW between 4th and 5th Streets). The memorial was built in 1991 and bears the names of more than 14,000 federal, state and local law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty.

A fact sheet on the President's anti-crime announcements and the Administrations record on making America's communities safer are attached.

Presidential Announcements Peace Officers Memorial May 15, 1997

Announcements

Today, President Clinton made two new anti-crime announcements at the Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony:

1) **Leading by Example on Gun Safety.** Consistent with his March 5, 1997 directive, President Clinton reported that all FBI and ATF agents-- nearly 13,000, or 20% of all federal law enforcement officers-- have now been provided child safety locks to prevent accidental or unauthorized use of their firearms. The remaining federal law enforcement officers will be provided with child safety locks no later than October 15, 1997.

2) **Strengthening Brady.** President Clinton announced that the Treasury Department has sent out revised versions of Form 4473 ("Brady" form) to all federal gun dealers, helping to ensure that only legitimate and eligible residents of a state are able to purchase firearms.

Child Safety Locks on Firearms

- Every day, firearms claim the lives of too many children. In 1994, 185 accidental deaths by gunshot involved children age 14 and younger. Many of these deaths could have been prevented. A child safety lock can prevent children from hurting themselves or someone else, and render a gun useless to a thief. These simple devices cost as little as just over \$4 each. Asking the federal government to lead by example, the President directed his agencies to issue child safety locks to all federal law enforcement officers.

Revised Brady Form

- In response to the tragic Empire State Building shooting by a foreign visitor in February 1997, the President directed Treasury Secretary Rubin to review options to restrict gun access to foreign visitors and to tighten requirements for proof of residency. Prior to the revisions, Form 4473 -- which all firearms purchasers must complete -- did not require gun purchasers to affirmatively give their state of residence, or require information documenting a noncitizen's residence in the state for the 90-day period, as required by federal regulation.
- The new form requires purchasers to make an affirmative statement that they reside in the state of the gun dealer; and in the case of noncitizens, require that they show secondary forms of identification to prove state residency, such as a utility bill or lease.

Clinton Administration's Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Strategy

- The President's strategy seeks to break the back of violent gangs, reduce youth violence, and provide kids with alternatives to steer them away from gangs, guns and drugs. In addition to requiring federally-licensed gun dealers to provide child safety locks with every gun sold, his strategy includes \$200 million for local prosecutors and anti-gang task forces; extends the Brady Law to prevent violent juveniles from ever purchasing a gun; and funds afterschool programs to keep kids off the streets and out of trouble.

President Clinton and America's Police: Building Stronger, Safer Communities Together

May 15, 1997

A Strategy That Works:

Lowest number of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in over 35 years. In 1996, 116 federal, state and local law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty, a dramatic 30% decline over 1995. This is the fewest police officer fatalities since 1959.

Crime rates have dropped for five straight years. For five years before President Clinton took office, violent crime was *increasing* in America. The President's anti-crime strategy has helped reverse this trend -- and violent crime has now *dropped* four years in a row. According to both the National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund and the Concerns of Police Survivors, "The decline in violent crime across America appears to have resulted in a dramatic decrease in the number of police officers killed in the line of duty during the past year..." [National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) and Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS), Press Release, 12/31/96]

Putting 100,000 new community police on our streets. President Clinton promised to put 100,000 new community police officers on the street to protect our communities -- increasing our nation's police force by nearly 20 percent. Since passage of the President's 1994 anti-crime bill, 64,000 of these officers have been funded. According to the National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund, "the COPS program initiated by President Clinton to put 100,000 new officers on the street is helping [reduce law enforcement fatalities] -- more police to deter crime and back each other up." [NLEOMF and COPS, Press Release, 12/31/96]

Protecting law enforcement from deadly assault weapons. Because criminals should never outgun law enforcement officers, the President's 1994 anti-crime bill banned 19 of the deadliest cop-killing assault weapons. The President banned guns like the Uzi, which are the weapons of choice for drug dealers and gangs. The number of officers killed by an assault weapon dropped from 10 in 1995 -- to one on 1996.

Preventing criminals from buying handguns. In 1993, the President signed the Brady Bill. Since its passage, the bill has prevented 186,000 stalkers, fugitives and felons from buying handguns. And the number of police officers killed by firearms declined by nearly 25 percent -- from 71 in 1995 to 55 in 1996.

The Agenda Ahead: The President wants to build on this record of accomplishment by -

- ✓ **Finishing the job of putting 100,000 community police officers on the street.**
- ✓ **Ending the use of cop-killer bullets.** These armor piercing bullets serve only to endanger the men and women we ask to protect us every day.
- ✓ **Targeting gangs with new prosecutors and tougher penalties.**
- ✓ **Requiring child safety locks on every gun.**

**Peace Officers Memorial Event
Questions and Answers
May 15, 1997**

Q. What is the Peace Officers Memorial?

The Peace Officers Memorial is one of several events that takes place during National Police Week each year to commemorate the deaths of law enforcement officers slain in the line of duty. It is sponsored by the National Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) -- the nation's largest law enforcement organization with some 277,000 members -- and has been held every year since 1982. Thousands of law enforcement officers from across the country attend each year.

Q. What anti-crime initiatives did the President announce at the Peace Officers Memorial today?

A. First and foremost, the President attended the Peace Officers Memorial to commemorate the deaths of the 116 law enforcement officers slain in the line of duty in 1996. While fewer officers died this year than in any other since 1959, too many of our officers are killed and assaulted every year. The President has always honored the service and sacrifice of these officers and their families by attending police memorials during Police Week.

At today's service, the President announced two actions taken by the Administration to continue to fight crime and violence. These are:

(1) Child Safety Locks -- Consistent with his March 5th directive, the President reported that all FBI and ATF agents -- about 13,000 or 20% of all federal law enforcement officers -- have been issued child safety locks for their firearms, and that the remaining officers will be provided with locks by October 15th at the latest.

(2) Revised Brady Forms -- The President also announced that the Treasury Department has sent out revised Brady forms (Form 4473) to all federal gun dealers to help ensure that only legitimate residents of a state are able to purchase firearms.

Q. Are these really new announcements?

A. Today's announcements demonstrate how quickly the Administration is implementing the President's directives. It has only taken about three months from the date of the tragic Empire State Building shooting to ATF sending out new 4473 forms-- which reflect revised federal regulations-- to the over 150,000 federally-licensed gun dealers. Two and a half months after the President directed his federal agencies to provide child safety

locking devices to all federal law enforcement officers, we can say that all FBI and ATF agents have them. This represents about 20 percent of all federal law enforcement officers. Moreover, this Administration is committed to ensuring that all federal law enforcement officers receive child safety locks for their guns no later than October 15th.

Q. How many officers were killed in the line of duty in 1996?

A. In 1996, 116 federal, state and local law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty -- a 35% decline over 1995. This is the lowest number of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty since 1959 -- and well below the annual average over the past decade of about 160 deaths.

Q. Why such a sharp decline in the number of police officers slain?

A. There are a variety of reasons, but I understand that law enforcement organizations and victims groups agree on 3 important reasons: (1) more and better-trained police officers (nearly 700,000); (2) a reduction in the number of firearms-related fatalities (from 71 in 1995 to 55 in 1996, or about half of the overall decrease); and (3) increased used of bullet resistant vests.

Q. Can you tell us more about the revised Brady form? How has it been changed?

A. Last March, in response to the tragic Empire State Building shooting by a foreign visitor, the President asked Secretary Rubin to review options to address existing deficiencies relating to the purchase of firearms by nonresident aliens. In response, the Treasury Department has revised the Brady form (Form 4473) to help ensure that only legitimate residents of a state are able to purchase firearms.

These new forms will require prospective gun purchasers to formally attest that they are residents of the state in which they are purchasing the firearm. For noncitizens, the revised Brady form requires proof that the 90-day residency requirement in federal regulations has been met. This can be accomplished through supplementary forms of identification, such as utility bills or lease agreements.

Q. What was the President's directive on child safety locks?

On March 5, 1997, President Clinton directed all federal agencies to issue child safety locks for guns issued to federal law enforcement officers. Today, President Clinton announced that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) have already provided safety locks to all their law enforcement agents. All other Federal law enforcement officers -- such as the Drug Enforcement agents and U.S. Marshals -- will be equipped with child safety locks no later than October 15th of this year.

Together, the FBI and ATF represent about 20% of the total number of federal law

enforcement officers.

Additionally, the President renewed his challenge to Congress to pass comprehensive juvenile crime legislation that includes his proposal to require all federally-licensed gun dealers to provide child safety locks with every gun sold. This provision has the strong support of national law enforcement organizations, such as the Fraternal Order of Police and the Major Cities Chiefs.

Q. Can child safety locks really make a difference?

- A. Every day, firearms claim the lives of too many children. They are responsible for 12% of fatalities among American children and teens, including many tragic accidents.

Many of these deaths are preventable. A safety lock can prevent a child from hurting themselves or someone else with a gun. It can also render a gun useless to a thief or criminal. Moreover, child safety locks are simple devices-- costing as little as \$4 each. These devices prevent a gun from being discharged without first being deactivated-- through a key or mechanical or electronically-operated lock.

Q. What is the Administration's position on the H.R.3, the Juvenile Crime Control Act?

- A. The President is opposed to the legislation because it is not a comprehensive plan to attack gangs and juvenile crime. A 1996 report released by the Justice Department's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention projected that if trends continue as they have over the past 10 years, juvenile arrests for violent crime will more than double by the year 2010. This is why President Clinton has made juvenile crime and gangs his top law enforcement priority over the next four years.

America's Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Strategy must declare war on gangs; target funding for additional local prosecutors to pursue, prosecute, and punish gang members; extend the Brady Law so violent teen criminals will never have the right to purchase a gun; require federal dealers to sell a child safety lock with every gun, to protect our kids from using guns to hurt each other or themselves; and target resources to keep schools open late, on weekends, and in the summer to keep young people off the street and out of trouble.

The legislation passed in the House last week fails to provide any of these necessary measures to give law enforcement, prosecutors, and parents the tools they need to combat gangs and youth violence in their communities.

The President will continue to work with Congress to ensure passage of legislation that will give our children the safest and most secure future as possible.

Q. What does the Administration's juvenile justice proposal do?

- A. The legislation that President Clinton announced on February 19 is part of his overall Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Strategy. The strategy seeks to break the back of violent gangs, reduce youth violence, and provide our kids with positive alternatives to steer them away from gangs, guns, and drugs.

Among many other measures, the strategy provides critical resources for state and local prosecutors to target, prosecute and convict violent youth gangs. It permits Federal prosecutors to prosecute juveniles in adult court when they commit violent crimes.

It requires child safety locks for guns to prevent accidents and thefts and extends the Brady Law so that violent juveniles can never own a gun.

It also creates afterschool initiatives to keep kids off the streets and give them positive alternatives. It will give communities the resources and support to establish comprehensive curfews, anti-truancy efforts, create youth violence courts, and effective prevention initiatives.