



## **Psychoanalytic Association Calls for Laws Controlling the Availability of Dangerous Firearms**

**New York, NY – October 2, 2017** - In light of the most recent tragic shooting in our country that has left more than 50 people dead and hundreds injured, the American Psychoanalytic Association (APsAA) is calling for laws and regulations at the federal, state and local levels to control the availability of dangerous firearms.

“As former President Clinton stated this morning, ‘This should be unimaginable in America’, yet these mass shootings have become routine and the trauma they cause ingrained in our collective American psyche,” said Harriet Wolfe, M.D., president of APsAA.

According to the association’s January 2013 [position statement](#) on firearm violence, which was drafted following the tragic shooting at the Sandy Hook elementary school, “Firearm violence is complex and multifactorial and cannot be ascribed to a single cause or single population, such as the ‘mentally ill’”. Furthermore, it stated the association’s commitment to work with its membership, government leaders and other organizations on research and the dire necessity to create effective policies and interventions to prevent further violence.

“While details are still emerging, one thing is for certain - the trauma caused to the injured, the survivors, the victims’ families, and to all of us, will be long-lasting and difficult to heal. We send our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of those lost to this horrific tragedy and hope that those injured will recover from both their physical and emotional traumas,” said Wolfe.

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