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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CeaseFirePA Announces List of Endorsed State Candidates

*Endorsed candidates include Kathleen Kane for Attorney General, 45 candidates for the State House of Representatives and, six State Senate candidates*

PENNSYLVANIA – On Monday CeaseFirePA announced a slate of endorsed candidates for state offices in Pennsylvania, including Attorney General, State House, and State Senate.

The endorsements come at the conclusion of an extremely active legislative session in Harrisburg. In 2012 CeaseFirePA blocked NRA efforts to obtain dangerous legislative initiatives including eliminating the state background check system, allowing concealed carry of firearms without a permit, and granting special legal status to gun owners and the gun lobby to use Pennsylvania courts to attack communities that have taken local action to crack down on illegal gun traffickers.

At the same time, CeaseFirePA successfully worked with police and prosecutors to encourage legislators to finally extend an established mandatory minimum for repeat offenders of illegal firearms transfer – to straw purchasers who are convicted for the first time for straw buying more than one firearm. This was a major victory for Pennsylvania’s gun violence prevention movement.

*“It is more important than ever that the Pennsylvania’s gun violence prevention movement have proactive allies in Harrisburg,” said CeaseFirePA Executive Director Max Nacheman. “Each of these candidates has proven, either through their past action in the legislature or their response to CeaseFirePA’s legislative questionnaire, not only their support for commonsense reforms to reduce gun violence – but their intent to pursue those reforms in future legislative sessions.”*

### **Kathleen Kane for Attorney General**

CeaseFirePA is proud to endorse Kathleen Kane to be Pennsylvania’s next Attorney General. Kane has committed to using the position of Pennsylvania’s top prosecutor to address the issue of gun violence prevention. Kane received a perfect score on CeaseFirePA’s questionnaire. In particular Kane has committed to a review of all concealed carry reciprocity agreements currently in place between Pennsylvania and other states, including Florida, and renegotiating or terminating those that do not meet Pennsylvania’s standards.

Further, Kane has expressed support for strengthening Pennsylvania’s background check system, including background checks for all gun sales and reporting of all applicable background records to the National Instant Background Check System (NICS), so other states can confirm that current and former PA residents are not dangerous prohibited purchasers. Kane also expressed her support for the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Gun

Violence Task Force – a joint project with the Pennsylvania Attorney General’s office, including the intent to advocate for increased funding in Philadelphia where it has delivered strong results, as well as expanding the program to other Pennsylvania regions suffering from gun violence.

### **David Levdansky for State Representative**

One candidate for State Representative who stands out is David Levdansky. While serving as a member of the Legislature, Levdansky established himself as one of the strongest voices for reform to reduce gun violence in Pennsylvania. Levdansky lost his seat by a narrow margin in 2010 and is working to regain the seat he represented for more than two decades. A long time sportsman and Second Amendment advocate, Levdansky is a firm supporter of the right to bear arms – but understands that preserving that right does not exclude reforms to improve the efficiency with which police and prosecutors can enforce existing laws and crack down on people who use and traffic guns illegally.

### **Other Endorsements**

The debate about gun violence prevention is slowly shifting from a dogmatic battle over “pro-gun versus anti-gun” to a productive conversation about effective law enforcement and public safety. These legislators and candidates for legislative office have embraced the reality that supporting the right to bear arms and working toward effective enforcement of laws governing legal gun ownership, use, possession, and transfer are not mutually exclusive.

#### **Attorney General**

Kathleen Kane

#### **State House**

22: Erin Molchany  
23: Rep. Dan Frankel  
24: Ed Gainey  
26: Mike Hays  
31: Rep. Steven Santarsiero  
39: Fmr. Rep. David Levdansky  
43: John Weigel  
61: Jo White  
70: Rep. Matthew Bradford  
83: Christopher Bain  
93: Linda Small  
96: Rep. Michael Sturla  
103: Patty Kim  
111: Jeffrey Dahlander  
120: Rep. Phyllis Mundy  
132: Michael Schlossberg  
135: Rep. Steve Samuelson  
137: Joseph Capozzolo  
146: Mark Painter  
148: Mary Jo Daley  
149: Rep. Tim Briggs  
154: Steve McCarter  
157: Fmr. Rep Paul Drucker  
159: Rep. Thaddeus Kirkland

161: Larry DeMarco  
164: Rep. Margo Davidson  
166: Rep. Greg Vitali  
167: Rob Broderick  
172: Rep. Kevin Boyle  
177: William Dunbar  
180: Rep. Angel Cruz  
182: Brian Sims  
185: Rep. Maria Donatucci  
188: Rep. James Roebuck  
190: Rep. Vanessa Lowery Brown  
191: Rep. Ronald Waters  
192: Rep. Louise Williams Bishop  
194: Rep. Pamela Delissio  
195: Rep. Michelle Brownlee  
198: Rep. Rosita Youngblood  
200: Rep. Chelle Parker  
201: Stephen Kinsey  
202: Rep. Mark Cohen  
203: Rep. Dwight Evans

#### **State Senate**

1: Sen. Larry Farnese  
3: Sen. Shirley Kitchen  
7: Sen. Vincent Hughes  
13: Tom O'Brien  
17: Sen. Daylin Leach  
49: Sean Wiley