



COALITION AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

• A Santa Barbara County Coalition •

January 2016

Funding Needed for 2016 Santa Barbara Gun Buyback

Dear Mayor Schneider, City Council Members, Paul Casey, Chief Sanchez, and Sergeant Harwood,

The Coalition Against Gun Violence would like to inform you that **we are unable to fund a gun buyback in 2016**. CAGV undertook this task for the past two years but we do not have the fundraising capabilities to continue with this.

The successful buybacks in 2014 and 2015 resulted in the removal of 444 firearms from our communities, any of which could have caused a suicide, homicide, accidental death or injury. CAGV and the SBPD have proven that gun buybacks get results and help educate the community. These events were lauded in the community as great examples of community activists and city police working together to improve our safety. See the KEYT news report [here](#).

Unfortunately CAGV does not have the financial capability to continue funding this event. We would very much like to see this important community service event continue and CAGV would be happy to coordinate and publicize an annual gun buyback for this June. But we cannot provide the funding.

From our experience, the funding required for a gun buyback is approximately \$25,000 (\$5,000 for publicity and \$20,000 for the grocery store gift cards given out in exchange for working firearms). We hope that between the City and the Santa Barbara Police Department, you will be able to provide the necessary funds for this event in 2016.

Please let us know your thoughts on this as soon as possible. We very much hope to assist on another successful gun buyback in 2016.

Sincerely,

Toni Wellen, Chair
Coalition Against Gun Violence