

# New Yorkers Against Gun Violence

Working to Reduce Gun Violence Since 1993

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To: Speaker Sheldon Silver, New York State Assembly  
From: New Yorkers Against Gun Violence  
Re: A 7575 Lancman  
Date: April 17, 2009

We are writing to express our strong support of A 7575 sponsored by Assemblyman Lancman. The legislation expands the Penal Law 265.00 Section 1 subdivision 17, definition of "serious offense" to include domestic violence offenses as defined in Family Court Act Section 812.

This proposed legislation is an important addition to our statutory framework since it will include offenders who are among the most frequent users of guns to threaten, kill and rape women. As you know, the majority of women who are killed, are murdered by a gun. And of those victims, most are killed by a male intimate partner.

In addition, including domestic violence as a serious offense would send a clear message that domestic violence abusers are not responsible gun owners. This legislation will also protect families and children who are often similarly threatened by guns in domestic violence situations.

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We urge all members of the Assembly to vote YES on this bill.

## Executive Director

Jackie Hilly

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