

# LAW & JUSTICE

## Obama Steps Up to Limit Gun Violence

### Calls deaths of 20 first graders the worst day of his presidency

(AP) — Recalling the shooting rampage that killed 20 first graders as the worst day of his presidency, President Barack Obama pledged to put his "full weight" behind legislation aimed at preventing gun violence.

Obama voiced skepticism about the National Rifle Association's proposal to put armed guards in schools following the Dec. 14 tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., during a recent interview on NBC's "Meet the Press."

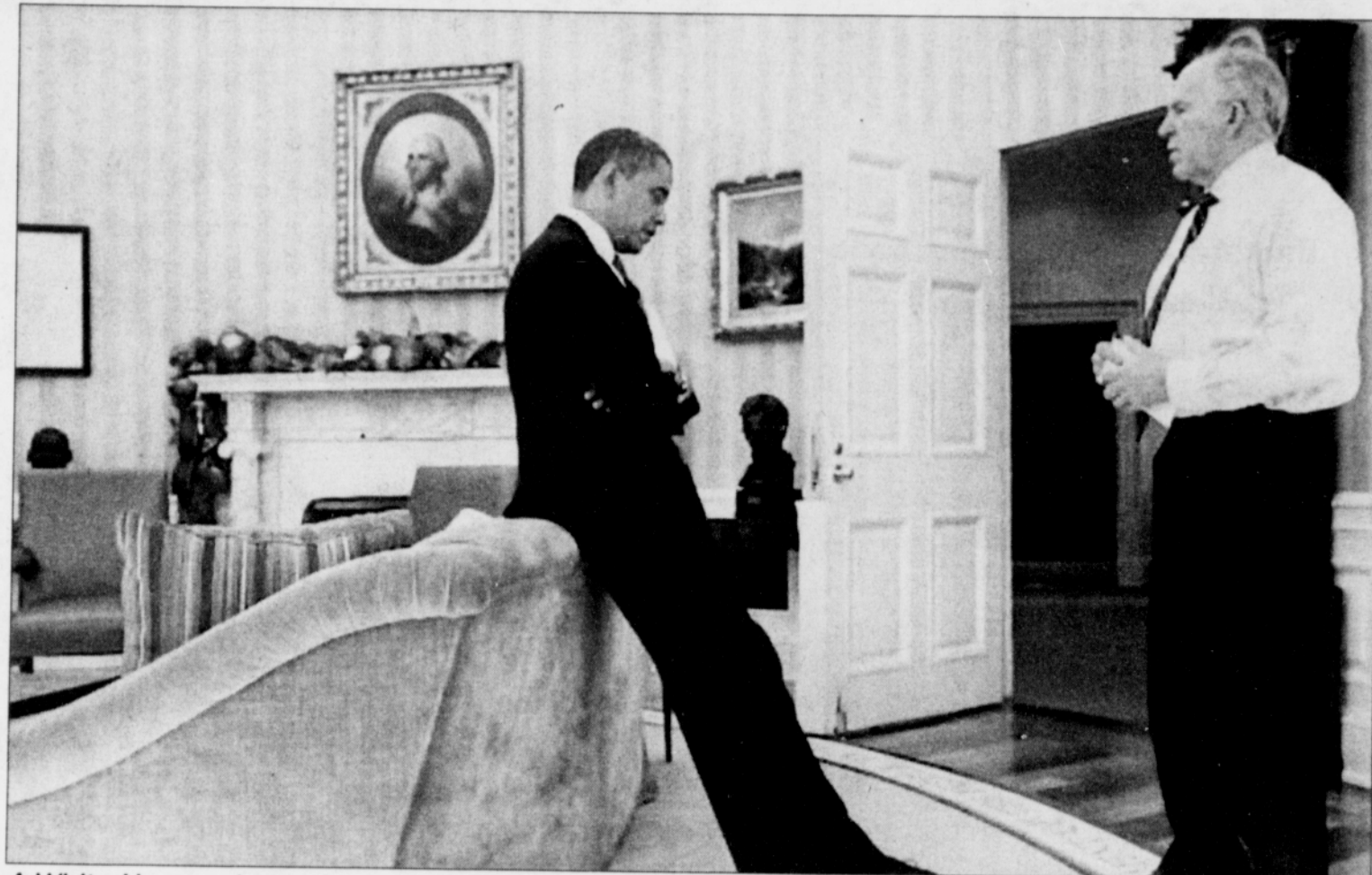
Instead, the president vowed to rally the American people around an agenda to limit gun violence, adding that he still supports increased background checks and bans on assault weapons and high-

capacity bullet magazines. He left no doubt it will be one of his top priorities next year.

"It is not enough for us to say, 'This is too hard so we're not going to try,'" Obama said.

"I think there are a vast majority of responsible gun owners out there who recognize that we can't have a situation in which somebody with severe psychological problems is able to get the kind of high capacity weapons that this individual in Newtown obtained and gun down our kids," he added. "And, yes, it's going to be hard."

The president added that he's ready to meet with Republicans and Democrats, anyone with a stake in the issue.



A White House photo shows the president's reaction as John Brennan briefs him on the details of the Dec. 14 shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. Obama later said during a TV interview that this was the worst day of his presidency.

## Seniors, Children Top Priorities

Ellen Rosenblum was sworn in Friday as Oregon's Attorney General, the first woman in state history to hold the job.

Rosenblum said protecting seniors and children will be her top priorities. Specifically, she intends to escalate the Department of Justice's ongoing battle against elder financial abuse. She will also emphasize the many ways the department protects and supports the state's kids and families.



Ellen Rosenblum

Amongst Rosenblum's top goals in the upcoming session of the Oregon Legislature is securing funding for a badly needed new computer system for the Department of Justice's Child Support Division. The division handles more than \$1 million a day in child-support payments.

"I'm honored and grateful for the support of Oregonians," Rosenblum said. "On my watch, the Oregon Department of Justice will fight for consumers, for the elderly, for kids. I will fight to make the state a more just and safer place."

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# LEADERSHIP

A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus, but a molder of consensus.

—MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



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