

Advertising deadlines 12:00 Noon Monday
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

To place your ad, email

advertising@theskanner.com

Gun Debate: Lawmakers Say It's Time To Act

By Ashley Killough *CNN*

Lawmakers tend to stay quiet in the immediate aftermath of mass shootings, hoping to avoid attempts to politicize such tragedy.

But two days after the attack that took the lives of 20 children and six adults at a Connecticut elementary school, lawmakers were eager to take on the gun debate Sunday - with many saying a tipping point had finally been reached to pass stricter laws.

Another group of voices, however, argued that if Friday's tragedy proved anything, it was a need for more guns in the hands of people as a means for self-defense.

The renewed attention on gun-control laws comes as President Barack Obama visits Newtown, Connecticut,

After the shootings of 20 children and six adults at an elementary school, lawmakers were eager to take on the gun debate

Sunday. In a tearful statement Friday, the president said, "We've endured too many of these tragedies in the past few years" and called for "meaningful action to prevent more tragedies like this, regardless of politics."

As a presidential candidate in 2008, Obama supported reinstating the federal assault weapons ban that expired in 2004, but has yet to make it a top priority since taking office. White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said Friday that it remains a commitment on Obama's second-term agenda. In Congress, multiple gun control bills have been introduced in recent years, but not a single one has advanced to a floor vote.

Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California said Sunday the president will soon have legislation "to lead on," announcing she will introduce a bill next month to place a ban on assault weapons.

"The purpose of this bill is to get... 'weapons of war' off the street of our cities," Feinstein said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

The senator added she'll introduce the bill when Congress reconvenes in January and the same legislation will also be proposed in the House of Representatives. It's modeled after the original assault-weapons ban that Feinstein helped champion in 1994. The ban, however, expired at the end of

its 10-year term.

"We're crafting this one. It's being done with care. It'll be ready on the first day," she said, adding that she'll soon announce the House authors.

Fellow Democratic Sen. Chuck Schumer, who worked on the House version of the assault weapons ban in 1994, said Washington has been "gridlocked" over the issue because "you have both sides off in a corner."

The New York senator said if pro-gun-control lawmakers can admit "there is a constitutional right to bear arms" and if anti-gun-control lawmakers can admit that "every amendment should have some balance and some limitation," then both sides can meet in the middle.

"Maybe we can make some real progress instead of each side being off in their corner, one side saying ban guns, get rid of guns, and the other side saying don't you touch anything about guns," Schumer said.

Connecticut has some of the strictest assault-weapons laws in the country, but Gov. Dan Malloy said Sunday that the lack of similar laws at the federal level makes it difficult to keep such weapons out of the state.

He said manufacturers can use "descriptive terms to try to get around the limitations that are built into our statutes" and added many guns found in the state had been tracked from gun shows in other parts of the country.

"One can only hope that we'll find a way to limit these weapons that really only have one purpose," Malloy, a Democrat, said on CNN's "State of the Union."

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who's long called for more action on gun laws, said Sunday that tougher regulations should be Obama's "number one agenda" during his second term.

"It's so unbelievable. And it only happens in America. And it happens again and again," he said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

CITY OF VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #2-13 (RFP) FOR ON-CALL PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS SAMPLING AND TESTING

The City of Vancouver (City) is seeking proposals from well qualified construction materials testing and laboratory companies for on-call field testing, sampling and laboratory analysis of materials incorporated during the construction of city streets and transportation facilities, as well as water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer utilities within the City's service area. Occasional specialty inspection for the construction of building structures may be requested.

Request for proposal packets may be obtained from the Customer Service Desk, 1st floor lobby, at 415 W. Sixth Street, Vancouver Washington, by visiting our website at <http://www.cityofvancouver.us/procurement>, or by calling (360) 487-8430.

Technical questions regarding this Request for Proposal should be directed to Dan Swensen, Engineering and Construction Services Manager, (360)487-7754.

Sealed responses will be received by the Procurement Services Manager of the City of Vancouver, Washington up to the hour of 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 6th, 2013. Responses delivered later will not be accepted. The City of Vancouver is not responsible for delays in delivery.

All responses to this request that are mailed through the United States Postal Service shall be addressed to the Procurement Services Manager, City of Vancouver, P.O. Box 1995, Vancouver, Washington 98668-1995. Please be advised that USPS deliveries requiring a signature may not be delivered in a timely manner as our receiving point is not staffed at all times and may not be available to sign at the time of delivery. Hand-delivered responses, or responses not sent through the USPS, shall be delivered to the Vancouver City Hall, Customer Service Desk, 1st floor lobby, City of Vancouver, 415 W. 13th Street, Vancouver, Washington 98660. The United States Postal Service will NOT deliver to the street address.

All proposals shall be placed in a sealed envelope, which is clearly marked "RFP #2-13 ON-CALL PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TESTING". Responses by FAX will not be accepted.

The City of Vancouver is committed to providing equal opportunities to State of Washington certified Minority, Disadvantaged and Women's Business Enterprises in contracting activities.

The City of Vancouver reserves the right to cancel this request or reject any and all responses submitted or to waive any minor formalities of this call if the best interest of the City would be served.

No respondent may withdraw his response after the hour set for the opening thereof, unless the award of contract is delayed for a period exceeding ninety (90) days.

"We kill people in schools. We kill them in hospitals. We kill them in religious organizations. We kill them when they're young. We kill them when they're old. And we've just got to stop this," Bloomberg said.

He's not the only one calling on the White House to act. More than 126,000 people have signed a petition since Friday asking for Obama "to produce legislation that limits access to guns."

GAMBLING TOO MUCH?

Free, confidential help is available statewide. Call 1-877-MY-LIMIT to talk to a certified counselor 24/7 or visit 1877mylimit.org to chat live with a counselor. We are not here to judge. We are here to help. You can get your life back.



PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FULL-TIME CIVIL SERVICE CUSTODIAN

APPLY NOW!

www.hr.pps.k12.or.us

Portland Public Schools is now hiring for Full-Time Custodians. To be considered for this position, please complete an online application at: <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/departments/hr/3340.htm>, and apply to the position under classified vacancies. This position is scheduled to close December 30, 2012 if sufficient applications have been received.

Additional information is available via the Human Resources website. Please contact Nancy Dickison for any questions: 503-916-3225

Portland Public Schools is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

12-19-12

INVITATION TO BID

GROVE HOTEL BUILDING RENOVATION 401/439 W Burnside, Portland, OR

R&H Construction is seeking bids for the renovation of a 27,000 s.f., 3-story building (72 units with retail below). Major scopes of work include: final cleaning, masonry restoration, steel, millwork, casework, insulation, roofing, doors, glazing, drywall, tile, floor covering, painting, specialties and others. The following scopes are design-build: fire sprinklers and HVAC. The demolition, plumbing and electrical scopes have already been selected.

****Important**** BOLI wage rates based on July 1, 2011 apply. Certified payroll reports are required. Workforce training required for contracts over \$100,000. All subs must have a \$30,000 Public Works Bond. This project will be a fast tract project with intense schedule and logistical considerations.

Pre-Bid Meeting: December 21, 2012 at 10:00 AM

(Meet at 401/439 W Burnside)

Bids Due: December 28, 2012 2:00 PM

Bid Questions: Contact John Hillenkamp, 503-248-5509, jhillenkamp@rhconst.com or Ev Galloni, 503-248-5523, egalloni@rhconst.com

Plans available December 14th at the R&H Office and the R&H Website: www.rhconst.com>Subcontractors>Plan Room



1530 SW Taylor Street,
Portland, OR 97205
Tel. (503) 228-7177
Fax (503) 224-3638

This project has MWESB participation goals. R&H is an equal opportunity employer and encourages sub-bids from minority, women and emerging small business enterprises.

OR CCB# 38304

The SKANNER
This Week's Edition

Check Out *The Skanner News* Turn-the-Pages now on **Facebook!**

Go to 'The-Skanner-News-Group' Fan Page on Facebook and click on 'The Skanner This Week's Edition' button to view our complete newspapers, exactly as they are printed, but on-line! Just click to turn the pages and click to zoom.