

Mr. Johnny Morris, CEO
Bass Pro Shops Corporate Headquarters
2500 East Kearney St.
Springfield, MO 65803

June 12, 2022

Dear Mr. Morris,

My reasons for writing to you are simple: gun violence and the concrete action I urge you to take to diminish it.

In the aftermath of three mass shootings in a ten-day span from May 14, 2022 to May 24, 2022 (Buffalo, NY; Laguna Woods, CA and Uvalde, TX), I cannot sit idle, hoping for others to drive sweeping policy changes on gun reform. Nor will I let 2022 equal the record high number of 45,000 deaths¹ in 2020 from gun violence. Nor should you. Instead, I will act for immediate change, and I am imploring you to do the same.

Like many others in our country, I view gun violence as a public health issue. Like 53% of Americans, I favor stricter gun laws.² Implementing smart and practical sales policy changes to the purchase of assault-style guns lessens the ability for violent and/or mentally ill individuals to access guns for nefarious purposes, including the mass assassinations of innocent people. Such practical sales policy changes are not meant to strip individuals of their constitutional rights, but are to protect those most vulnerable in our communities from the violence that is magnified by the availability of semi-automatic rifles and high-capacity ammunition magazines.

Therefore, I am asking you, Mr. Morris, as the Chief Executive Officer of Bass Pro Shops to join other retailers like Walmart and Dick's Sporting Goods to ban the sale of assault-style guns and high-capacity ammunition magazines by December 31, 2022. This swift and decisive action is needed after the Uvalde shooting in which a barely legal 18-year-old purchased two semi-automatic guns within days of one another. No questions asked. This is not about profit margins or market share—it is about human lives.

I look forward to learning of Bass Pro Shops' strategy and actions to ban the sale of assault-style guns and high-capacity ammunition magazines by year end.

Sincerely,

Address:

¹ Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Center for Gun Violence Solutions, A Year in Review: 2020 Gun Deaths in the US

² Pew Research Center; April 2021 Survey