

**Date:** May 14, 2018 at 1:43:22 PM PDT

**To:** [doleary@sdfair.com](mailto:doleary@sdfair.com)

**Subject:** Gun show at Del Mar Fairgrounds

To the Del Mar Fairgrounds Board Of Directors:

Lisa Barkett

Lee Haydu

Kathlyn Mead

Pierre Sleiman

Russ Penniman

Frederick Schenk

Steve Shewmaker, President

Richard Valdez, Vice President

David Watson

America's gun fatalities is more than 25 times the average of other high income countries. Nearly 13,000 gun homicides occur in a year in the US . In 2016, more youths were killed by gunfire than in any previous year. There have been more than 1,600 mass shootings since Sandy Hook. Parkland, Newtown, Orlando, Sutherland Springs, Blacksburg --- they didn't think it would happen in their towns.

Cannabis Shows were not approved at the Fairgrounds because it is a controversial, dangerous consumer product. By the same token, Gun Shows and Gun Proms glorifying the use of guns, normalize them for everyday use to our youths, a much more explosive, dangerous consumer product.

Would the Board be able to obtain enough insurance and clear its liability should one incident were to be associated with these gun shows --- whether by accidental discharges in the gun shows, or by any tragedy - God forbid - that could be linked to Del Mar Fairgrounds Gun Shows?

Tragically there is not enough money to pay for innocent lives lost, the trauma for survivors, families, first responders, physicians, law enforcement officers, people in our communities near and far.

Our communities take pride on the beauty of our sea coast and our inland mountains,

and we do not want it to be marred by a potential violent gun incident that could be associated with the Del Mar Gun Shows.

Responsible gun owners know our laws and where to buy guns and ammunitions responsibly. No one wish to take away their legal guns or their legal access to ammunitions.

The DAA6.25 Gun Show Contract states that:

"Whether or not a fair rents out their facilities for gun shows is a policy decision to be made by the fair board and their community."

These Gun Shows and Gun Proms allowed to operate at this public facility do not reflect the family values of our community and they need to be stopped.

We already have had gun incidents in Torrey Pines High School, in Carlsbad School --- thankfully small incidents. But for the children and parents involved , they are still traumatized by them and impossibly difficult to talk about.

The Board can certainly work on more creative shows that would be less controversial in the community, and offer better alternative family events for the community to enjoy, and not endanger Del Mar Fairgrounds ' liability.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

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Carlsbad, CA