

BAWN Endorses Crist for Governor, Donates \$25K to Campaign

Sept. 7, 2022 (MIAMI) – <u>Ban Assault Weapons NOW (BAWN)</u>, an organization born out of the Parkland and Pulse mass shooting tragedies, announces its endorsement for Congressman Charlie Crist and predicts gun violence will soar if Governor Ron DeSantis is allowed a second term:

It is with great enthusiasm that family members and survivors from two of the deadliest shootings in American history, announce BAWN's endorsement and commitment to help elect Charlie Crist as the next Governor of Florida.

It has been 6 years since a gunman used a Sig Sauer MCX to shoot 107 Floridians, 49 fatally, and 4 years since a gunman used an AR-15 to shoot 34 students and educators, 17 fatally. In the time that Ron DeSantis has been Governor he has done nothing to stop the proliferation of these killing machines.

Meanwhile, Congressman Crist's voting record on gun safety legislation while serving in Congress is impeccable, recently voting to reinstate the Assault Weapons Ban, proving that Charlie Crist is the champion our children and families need in Tallahassee to fight for us.

Gail Schwartz, founder of BAWN and Aunt of Parkland shooting victim, Alex Schachter, emphasized the need for Florida to elect a leader that will prioritize saving lives by pushing for gun safety legislation.

"In addition to saying he would have vetoed the bipartisan common sense reforms passed after the Parkland massacre, Ron DeSantis has vowed to pass a permitless and untrained carry bill – allowing Floridians to carry a loaded gun in public with no permit, no safety training and no background check. At a time when Florida has experienced an average of 2849 gun deaths annually, this will unquestionably cause more bloodshed and heartache in our communities." Schwartz said.

"I'm proud to earn the support of BAWN in our mission to fight for Florida and work to put an end to the gun violence epidemic destroying our communities," **said Charlie Crist**. "Enough is enough. How many more innocent children and families need to die before we take real action to keep Floridians safe? I vow to be a fighter for common sense gun reform and a champion for safer communities."

BAWN is imploring every voter to remember the victims of Parkland and Pulse when heading to the polls. A vote for Crist is a vote to protect your family from gun violence.

Visit <u>BAWN</u> in the coming weeks to learn about its additional endorsements and how it will be supporting gun safety champions in some of the most competitive races in Florida.

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<u>Ban Assault Weapons NOW</u> is a grassroots gun safety reform group dedicated to electing Florida candidates who share our commitment to banning assault weapons and saving lives from senseless gun violence