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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- - -

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, March 27, 2008
9:25 a.m.

- - -

PRESENT:

COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER, CHAIR
COUNCILMAN DARRELL L. CLARKE
COUNCILMAN CURTIS JONES, JR.
COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY
COUNCILWOMAN JOAN L. KRAJEWSKI
COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO

BILLS 080015, 080016, 080017, 080018, 080032,
080033, 080034, 080035 and 080036

- - -

V A R A L L O Incorporated
Litigation Support Services
Eleven Penn Center
1835 Market Street, Suite 600
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COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Good

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morning, everyone. The Committee on

4

Public Safety is now in session.

5

Let the record reflect that in

6

attendance are Committee members

7

Councilman Frank Rizzo to my left,

8

Councilman Darrell Clarke to my left,

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Councilwoman Joan Krajewski to my left,

10

Councilman Curtis Jones to my right, and

11

I am Councilwoman Miller, Chair of this

12

Committee.

13

We have nine bills on the

14

schedule, and time is not on our side

15

today. These bills have been before this

16

Committee on a few occasions and are not

17

new.

18

There has been a small

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amendment. We have taken out the

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language waiting for the state enabling

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legislation. That does not seem to be

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happening, so we have decided to move

23

ahead and do what is necessary for

24

Philadelphia.

25

Let's be courteous to the other

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.
2 hearings today and move these bills out
3 quickly.

4 Thank you.

5 Would the Clerk please read the
6 title of the first bill.

7 THE CLERK: 080015, an
8 ordinance amending Chapter 10-800 of The
9 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety," by
10 adding a new Section to prohibit the
11 possession or acquisition of firearms by
12 persons charged with certain criminal
13 offenses, during the pendency of such
14 charges, under certain terms and
15 conditions.

16 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank
17 you.

18 And we have our one and only
19 witness.

20 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER ROSS: Good
21 morning.

22 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Deputy
23 Commissioner Ross. Good morning.

24 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER ROSS: Good
25 morning, Councilwoman.

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.

2 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Please
3 proceed. Identify yourself and please
4 proceed.

5 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER ROSS:
6 Deputy Police Commissioner Richard Ross,
7 Police Department, and I am here just
8 very briefly to reiterate the
9 Commissioner's position on reasonable gun
10 legislation in the City and just to let
11 the Council know that we believe very
12 strongly that this legislation will go a
13 long way towards dramatically improving
14 gun violence in our City.

15 You are well aware of the
16 Commissioner's Crime-Fighting Plan, you
17 know, which includes things such as
18 putting more officers on the street and
19 using technology such as cameras, video
20 cameras, to stem the tide of violence.
21 So we just believe that without such
22 legislation, that in the long run we will
23 always be fighting an uphill battle. So
24 in short, we thank you for your continued
25 support in this effort.

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.

2 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank
3 you.

4 Are there any questions of this
5 witness by Committee members?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Seeing
8 none, thank you. Thank you for coming
9 in.

10 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER ROSS:
11 Thank you.

12 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank the
13 Administration and the Commissioner and
14 the Mayor and everybody for supporting
15 this, please.

16 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER ROSS:
17 Thank you.

18 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank
19 you.

20 Will the Clerk please read the
21 bills into the record.

22 THE CLERK: The remaining
23 bills: 080016, an ordinance amending
24 Chapter 10-800 of The Philadelphia Code,
25 entitled "Safety," by adding a new

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.

2 Section, entitled "Acquisition or
3 Transfer of Firearms," to regulate the
4 acquiring or transferring of any firearm
5 within the City of Philadelphia, all
6 under certain terms and conditions.

7 Bill No. 080017, an ordinance
8 amending Chapter 10-800 of The
9 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety," by
10 adding a new Section, entitled "Temporary
11 Removal of Firearms of Persons Posing a
12 Risk of Imminent Personal Injury to Self
13 or Others."

14 Bill 080018, an ordinance
15 amending Chapter 10-800 of The
16 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety," by
17 adding a new Section, entitled
18 "Prohibited Possession, Sale and Transfer
19 of Firearms by Persons Subject to
20 Protection from Abuse Orders."

21 Bill 080032, an ordinance
22 amending Chapter 10-800 of The
23 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety," by
24 adding a new Section, entitled "Failure
25 to Report Lost or Stolen Firearms," by

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.
2 requiring prompt notification of lost or
3 stolen firearms and imposing penalties.

4 Bill 080033, an ordinance
5 amending Section 10-800 of The
6 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety," by
7 adding a new Section 10-821a, entitled
8 "Contraband Weapons, Accessories and
9 Ammunition," providing for the
10 prohibition and registration of certain
11 assault weapons and imposing penalties.

12 Bill 080034, an ordinance
13 amending Chapter 10-080 of The
14 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety," by
15 adding a new Section 10-834, entitled
16 "Sale or Transfer of Ammunition," to
17 require all sale of ammunition for
18 firearms to be reported to the City of
19 Philadelphia Police Department and to
20 require that Department to maintain a
21 registry of such reports, all under
22 certain terms and conditions.

23 Bill 080035, an ordinance
24 amending Chapter 10-800 of The
25 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety," by

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.
2 adding a new Section 10-831, entitled
3 "Straw and Multiple Handgun Purchase
4 Reduction," to limit purchases of
5 handguns by Philadelphia residents to one
6 a month and to prohibit straw purchases
7 of handguns utilized by criminals for the
8 purpose of evading the one handgun a
9 month limitation, all under certain terms
10 and conditions.

11 And Bill 080036, an ordinance
12 amending Chapter 10-800 of The
13 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety," by
14 adding a new Section, entitled "Reporting
15 Requirements Upon the Application for or
16 Renewal of a License to Carry a Firearm,"
17 to provide for certain reporting
18 requirements for the issuance or renewal
19 of licenses to carry firearms within the
20 City of Philadelphia, all under certain
21 terms and conditions.

22 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank
23 you.

24 Are there any other witnesses
25 wishing to testify today on any of these

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.

2 bills?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Seeing
5 none, this concludes the public hearing
6 on the Committee of Public Safety. We
7 will now go into the public meeting.

8 The Chair recognizes Councilman
9 Clarke to report Bill 080015.

10 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,
11 Madam Chair. I move that Bill No. 080015
12 be reported out of Committee with a
13 favorable recommendation and request for
14 rules suspension as to allow reading at
15 the next session of Council.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: All in
18 favor?

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: This bill
23 has been properly moved and seconded and
24 the rules of Council have been requested
25 to be suspended as to permit first

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.
2 reading at our next session.

3 Councilman Clarke, Bill No.
4 080016.

5 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Madam
6 Chair, I move that Bill 080016 be
7 reported out of Committee with a
8 favorable recommendation and request for
9 rules suspension as to allow reading at
10 the next session of Council.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: All in
13 favor?

14 (Aye.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: This bill
18 has been properly moved and seconded and
19 rules suspension requested as to permit
20 first reading at our next session.

21 Councilwoman Krajewski, Bill
22 No. 080017.

23 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Madam
24 Chairman, I move that Bill 080017 be
25 reported out of this Committee with a

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.
2 favorable recommendation, that the rules
3 of Council be suspended as to permit
4 first reading at the next session of
5 Council.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: All in
8 favor?

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank
13 you. This bill has been properly moved
14 and seconded and the rules of Council
15 have been requested to be suspended so as
16 to permit first reading at our next
17 session.

18 Councilwoman Krajewski, Bill
19 No. 080018.

20 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Madam
21 Chairman, I move that Bill 080018 be
22 reported out of this Committee with a
23 favorable recommendation, with a
24 suspension of rules so as to permit first
25 reading at the session of Council.

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: All those
4 in favor signify by saying aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: All those
7 opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: This bill
10 has been properly moved and seconded and
11 the rules have been requested to be
12 suspended so as to permit first reading
13 at our next session.

14 Councilman Rizzo, Bill No.
15 080032.

16 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam Chair,
17 Bill No. 080032 to be moved from this
18 Committee with a favorable
19 recommendation, that the rules of Council
20 be suspended so this can be heard at the
21 next session of Council.

22 (Duly seconded.)

23 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: All in
24 favor?

25 (Aye.)

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.

2 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: The ayes
5 have it. This bill has been properly
6 moved and seconded and the suspension of
7 the rules has been requested so as to
8 permit first reading at our next session.

9 Councilman Rizzo, Bill No.
10 080033.

11 Where did he go?

12 Councilman Jones.

13 COUNCILMAN JONES: An ordinance
14 amending Section 10-800 of The
15 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety" -- I
16 move that Bill 080033 be moved out of the
17 Committee with a favorable recommendation
18 and a suspension of the rules.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: All in
21 favor?

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: This bill

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.
2 has been properly moved and seconded and
3 the rules suspension has been requested
4 so as to permit first reading at our next
5 session.

6 Councilman Kenney, 080034.

7 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,
8 Madam Chairperson. I move that Bill No.
9 080034 be reported out of this Committee
10 with a favorable recommendation and a
11 request made for rules suspension to
12 allow first reading at our next Council
13 session.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: All in
16 favor signify by saying aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: All
19 opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: No?

22 Okay. Great. This bill has been
23 properly moved and seconded and rules of
24 Council have been requested to be
25 suspended so as to permit first reading

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.

2 at our next session.

3 Councilman Kenney, Bill No.

4 080035.

5 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,
6 Madam Chairperson. I move that Bill No.
7 080035 be reported out of this Committee
8 with a favorable recommendation and a
9 request made for rules suspension to
10 allow first reading at our next Council
11 session.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: All in
14 favor?

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Great.

19 This bill has been properly moved and
20 seconded and the suspension of rules has
21 been requested so as to permit first
22 reading at our next session.

23 Councilman Clarke, 080036.

24 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,
25 Madam Chair. I move that Bill No. 080036

1 3/27/08 - PUBLIC SAFETY - BILL 080015, etc.

2 be reported out of Committee with a
3 favorable recommendation, request for
4 rules suspension as to allow the reading
5 at the next session of Council.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: All in
8 favor?

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: This bill
13 has also been properly moved and seconded
14 and, furthermore, the rules of this
15 Council have been suspended so as to
16 permit first reading at our next session.

17 There are no more bills. I
18 want to thank everyone for coming.

19 This concludes the hearing, and
20 thank you.

21 (Committee on Public Safety
22 adjourned at 9:35 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the proceedings, evidence and objections are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me upon the foregoing matter on March 27, 2008, and that this is a true and correct transcript of same.

MICHELE L. MURPHY
RPR-Notary Public

(The foregoing certification of this transcript does not apply to any reproduction of the same by any means, unless under the direct control and/or supervision of the certifying reporter.)