

Mass Violence Prevention & Community Safety, Select Duty 4 - Public Comments from Brett Kirkpatrick

Stopping mass violence and promoting community safety can best be accomplished through expanded mental health initiatives that permit schools, churches, health care institutions, public safety entities and other social institutions to share information that can identify individuals who need mental health interventions and ensure that those interventions are carried through. This will not be easy and will require expertise from multiple disciplines. But anything short of substantially reforming our mental health laws and mental health care practices will fail to provide lasting effect. We must not be tempted by “feel good” measures such as “red flag” laws and restrictions on the private transfer of firearms or other weapons. Measures such as these do not address the root of the problem which is mental illness.