Mr. Weber has dedicated his professional life to countering nuclear, chemical, and biological threats and to strengthening global health security.

Mr. Weber’s thirty years of US government service included five-and-a-half years as President Obama’s Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs. He was a driving force behind Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction efforts to remove weapons-grade uranium from Kazakhstan and Georgia and nuclear-capable MiG-29 aircraft from Moldova, to reduce biological weapons threats, and to destroy Libyan and Syrian chemical weapons stockpiles. In addition, he coordinated US leadership of the international Ebola response for the Department of State.

Prior to joining the Pentagon as Advisor for Threat Reduction Policy in December 1996, Mr. Weber was posted abroad as a US Foreign Service Officer in Saudi Arabia, Germany, Kazakhstan, and Hong Kong.

Mr. Weber is an independent consultant and a Strategic Advisor for IP3 International and Ginkgo BioWorks. He serves on the Board of the Arms Control Association and the James Martin Center for Non-proliferation Studies International Advisory Council. He taught a course on Force and Diplomacy at the Georgetown University Graduate School of Foreign Service for seven years, and was a Senior Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School’s Belfer Center for Science and international Affairs. Mr. Weber graduated from Cornell University and holds a Master of Science in Foreign Service (MSFS) degree from Georgetown University. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.
Ceasefire NJ is the oldest and largest gun violence prevention group in NJ. It is a project under the umbrella of the Coalition for Peace Action. Ceasefire NJ coordinates statewide organizing on gun violence issues.

The highly publicized mass shooting at a high school in Parkland, Florida is only the latest in a seemingly never-ending string of such horrifying violence. In fact, mass shootings—where 4 or more people are shot in same incident—occur an average of once a day in the US. An average of 106 Americans die from gun violence every day in the US, over 25 times more than in other developed countries.

But we can take action to make our schools and communities safer from this national travesty.

New Jersey has some of the strongest gun safety laws in the nation, and as a result has the fifth lowest rate of gun deaths per capita. Before Gov. Christie's two terms, NJ had been fourth lowest, so we have slipped a bit while he vetoed almost every bill to make New Jersey safer from gun violence.

The good news is that, spearheaded by the CFPA's Ceasefire NJ Project, some significant progress has finally been made in the past year:

• A bipartisan bill to strengthen measures to remove guns from domestic violence perpetrators was signed by Gov. Christie in January 2017.
• Two Republican US Representatives from NJ, Lance and Smith, were successfully lobbied to oppose the Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act when it was voted on last fall.
• A bipartisan Ban on Bump Stocks was passed without any opposing votes in the NJ legislature, and signed into law by Gov. Christie on January 15, 2018, his last full day in office.
• Meetings with delegations of gun violence prevention leaders from across the state were held in December 2017 and February 2018 with the Majority Leaders of the NJ Assembly and Senate, as well as Gov. Phil Murphy, to develop a package of seven GVP bills that are now starting to have hearings.

To support continued organizing, it is crucial that you contribute your 2018 membership by using the form on the other side, or going to peacecoalition.org and clicking on the membership link on the upper right.

We are also heartened and empowered by the wonderful leadership of high school students, especially those from Parkland but also others from across the country. We are monitoring the March 24 March for Our Lives and other events, and will post items on our web site and email those on our listserv when we have more information. If you aren't yet subscribed to our free e-mails, use the first link to the right of our name at peacecoalition.org.

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