

**BRADY CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE**  
**WAVE Educational Fund**

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Contact: Peter Hamm, 202-898-0792, [phamm@bradymail.org](mailto:phamm@bradymail.org)

Jeri Bonavia, Executive Director, WAVE, 414-351-9283

**BRADY CAMPAIGN STATE SCORECARD:  
WISCONSIN, STRUGGLING WITH GUN TRAFFICKING,  
LACKS COMMON SENSE GUN LAWS**

**Washington, D.C.** – Wisconsin has weak gun laws that help feed the illegal gun market and allow the sale of guns without background checks, according to the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence. In the organization’s 2009 state scorecards released today for all 50 states, Wisconsin earned just 10 points out of a total of 100.

According to government figures, Wisconsin also has the eleventh highest percentage of crime guns recovered that were originally purchased within the state. The Brady Campaign relates this “homegrown” gun violence to the lack of gun laws in the state and nationally.

“Since Wisconsin does not require Brady criminal background checks on all firearm sales, we’ve made it as easy as could be for gun traffickers to funnel illegal guns to felons and gang members,” said Jeri Bonavia, Executive Director of WAVE. “Our elected officials in Madison have still not done what’s needed to stop the flow of illegal guns within the state, including passing legislation to require criminal background checks on all gun sales.”

The top priority of WAVE and the Brady Campaign in Wisconsin is to pass legislation to require criminal background checks on all firearm purchases.

“We still make it way too easy for dangerous people to get dangerous weapons in Wisconsin,” said Paul Helmke, President of the Brady Campaign.

The state’s complete scorecard results can be accessed at [www.bradycampaign.org](http://www.bradycampaign.org). The categories covered by the Wisconsin 2009 scorecard are as follows:

- States can earn up to 35 points by taking steps needed to “Curb Firearm Trafficking.” States can fully regulate the gun dealers within their borders, limit bulk purchases of handguns, provide police certain technology to identify crime guns, and require lost or stolen guns to be reported to the police. **Wisconsin scored just two points in this category.**

- States can earn up to 27 points by “Strengthening Brady Background Checks.” This involves requiring background checks on all gun sales, requiring a permit in order to purchase firearms and laws regulating ammunition. Short of requiring background checks for all gun sales, states can also close the gun show loophole, at least requiring background checks for all gun show sales. **Wisconsin scored zero points in this category.**
- States can earn up to 20 points by “Protecting Child Safety” when it comes to guns. States can require that only childproof handguns be sold within their borders, require child safety locks to be sold with each handgun, hold adults accountable for keeping guns away from kids and teens, and require handgun purchasers to be at least 21 years of age. **Wisconsin scored just two points in this category.**
- States can earn up to 10 points by “Banning Military-style Assault Weapons,” as well as banning high-capacity ammunition magazines. **Wisconsin scored zero points in this category.**
- States can earn up to eight points by restricting most “Guns In Public Places” to trained law enforcement and security and by allowing localities to “Preserve Local Control” over municipal gun laws. This includes keeping guns out of workplaces and college campuses, not forcing law enforcement to issue concealed handgun permits on demand and not preventing municipalities from passing their own gun laws. **Wisconsin scored six points in this category.**

Brady Campaign officials acknowledge the research of Legal Community Against Violence on state gun laws. Their publication, “Regulating Guns in America,” and website served as a basis for our analysis. For more information about Legal Community Against Violence, see [www.lcav.org](http://www.lcav.org).

*As the nation's largest, non-partisan, grassroots organization leading the fight to prevent gun violence, the Brady Campaign, with its dedicated network of Million Mom March Chapters, works to enact and enforce sensible gun laws, regulations and public policies. The Brady Campaign is devoted to creating an America free from gun violence, where all Americans are safe at home, at school, at work, and in our communities.*

*For continuing insight and comment on the gun issue, read Paul Helmke's blog at [www.bradycampaign.org/blog/](http://www.bradycampaign.org/blog/). Visit the Brady Campaign website at [www.bradycampaign.org](http://www.bradycampaign.org).*

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