



ADVANCING SCIENCE, SERVING SOCIETY

January 17, 2013

Alan I. Leshner  
Chief Executive Officer and  
Executive Publisher, *Science*

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
United States of America

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world's largest general scientific organization, I write to applaud you for supporting research as part of your Administration's initiatives on reducing gun violence.

As noted in your announcement, "research on gun violence is not advocacy; it is critical public health research that gives all Americans information they need." Your executive action underscores the importance of public health research, as well as research in the social, behavioral, and economic sciences, in helping to solve critical societal challenges.

We at AAAS stand ready to work with you and the Administration as this initiative moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alan Leshner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Alan I. Leshner