



OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN MENDELSON
COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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**CHAIRMAN MENDELSON'S STATEMENT REGARDING CIRCUIT COURT
RULING AFFECTING DISTRICT'S CONCEALED CARRY LAW**

WASHINGTON, DC – DC Council Chairman Phil Mendelson comments on the ruling in *Wrenn v District of Columbia*, striking down the 'good reason' requirement within the District's law regarding license to carry a handgun.

"I urge Attorney General Karl Racine to appeal and seek a decision by the full (en banc) Court," Mendelson said. "The 2-1 panel decision is at odds with four other Circuit Court decisions on this issue. Accepting this without appeal would make the District an outlier among the states, and not in a good way, on this important issue of public safety."

The District's law is similar to regulatory structures in place in New York, New Jersey, parts of California, and Maryland—jurisdictions which have withstood constitutional challenges in federal appeals courts.

Mendelson continued, "I know 2nd Amendment advocates claim that allowing the possession and carrying of firearms promotes public safety. But all of the gun violence in our city is by people carrying firearms. This is why some regulation – like requiring a good reason to have a license to carry – is necessary. It's not a novel thought. Indeed, this has been the law in the District since before the Civil War.

"We will not be a safer city – and members of Congress and foreign officials will not be safer in it – if the 2-1 decision is not appealed."