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PRESS RELEASE

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District Attorney Donovan, NYPD Commissioner Kelly Announce Results of Staten Island Gun Buy-Back Initiative

****1st Staten Island Gun Buy-Back Yields 352 Weapons at 2 Locations****

STATEN ISLAND, NY – Richmond County District Attorney Daniel M. Donovan, Jr. and New York City Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly today announced the results of Staten Island’s first ever gun buy-back program, which was held last Saturday, December 13, 2008 at St. Philips Baptist Church and Brighton Heights Reform Church. As part of the program, 352 guns were recovered, including 82 revolvers, 62 semi-automatic pistols, and an AK-47 assault weapon.

District Attorney Donovan stated, “I am pleased to announce that the first ever gun buy-back program held on Staten Island was an unqualified success with hundreds of guns, including automatic and semi-automatic weapons, being taken off of our streets. I must express my gratitude to Commissioner Kelly, the NYPD and our partner churches for their role in this successful effort.”

Commissioner Kelly said, “If not peace on earth, you have helped bring peace on Staten Island – while our Brooklyn and Manhattan initiatives yielded more guns, per capita Staten Island appears to have collected the most – 352 in just six hours. Thank you, and congratulations.”

Commissioner Kelly reminded the public that a citywide “cash for guns” program provides \$100 to anyone who turns in a gun, no questions asked, at police station houses and police facilities in the transit system and housing developments in the five boroughs on any day.

As part of the event, people who owned illegal guns were able to trade them for \$200 bank cards at two churches in on the North Shore of Staten Island. All transactions were completely anonymous – no questions asked.

Funding for the event was provided jointly, by the Richmond County District Attorney’s Office and the NYPD.

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PBSI Gun Buy Back Program 12/13/08

Precinct	Revolvers	Semi-Auto Pistols	Sawed-off Shotguns	Assault Weapons	Rifles	Shotguns	Other	Total
120	82	62	2	1	111	54	40	352
TOTAL	82	62	2	1	111	54	40	352
% of Total	23.3%	17.6%	0.6%	0.2%	31.5%	15.3%	11.4%	100.0%



A small assortment of the guns collected as part of the Staten Island gun buy-back on December 13, 2008.
(photo courtesy of NYPD/DCPI)



District Attorney Donovan looks on as NYPD Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly makes reference to a rifle with an illegal colored stock. *(photo courtesy of NYPD/DCPI)*

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