



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

A Message from Mayor Dean J. Trantalis

A STATEMENT ON THE MASS SHOOTINGS IN EL PASO AND DAYTON

August 4, 2019

Innocent lives stolen, dreams shattered, families devastated, and loved ones lost forever. That was the reality we woke up to this morning after two mass shootings in less than 24 hours in El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio left 29 people dead and more injured.

The City of Fort Lauderdale extends our deepest sympathy to the innocent victims who were gruesomely gunned down. We stand strong with the cities of El Paso and Dayton and offer our sincere condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones impacted by these horrific tragedies.

Unfortunately, mass shootings are now commonplace in our country due in part to the ease and availability with which assault weapons can be obtained, coupled with the spread of hatred, bigotry, and racism. The incidents in El Paso and Dayton were the 250th and 251st mass shootings of 2019. That is unacceptable for a country founded on the principles of freedom, equality, and peace.

I encourage everyone to continue to demand common sense gun control laws in an effort to prevent more bloodshed, and I call upon each of us to fight against the rising tide of hostility, hate crimes, racial discrimination, and injustice.

Let us also make a special attempt to do something positive in our own community. Consider giving blood, making a donation, or volunteering to help those in need. By doing so, we can spread the message of unity and demonstrate our solidarity against this senseless cycle of gun violence and terrorism.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dean J. Trantalis".

Dean J. Trantalis
Mayor