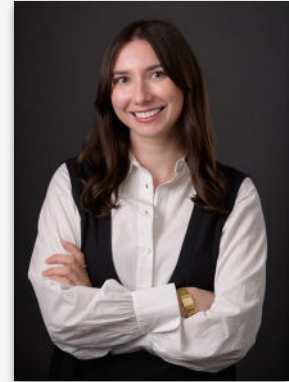




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Director Government  
Affairs



CORNELIUS FLETCHER  
Director, Federal Affairs



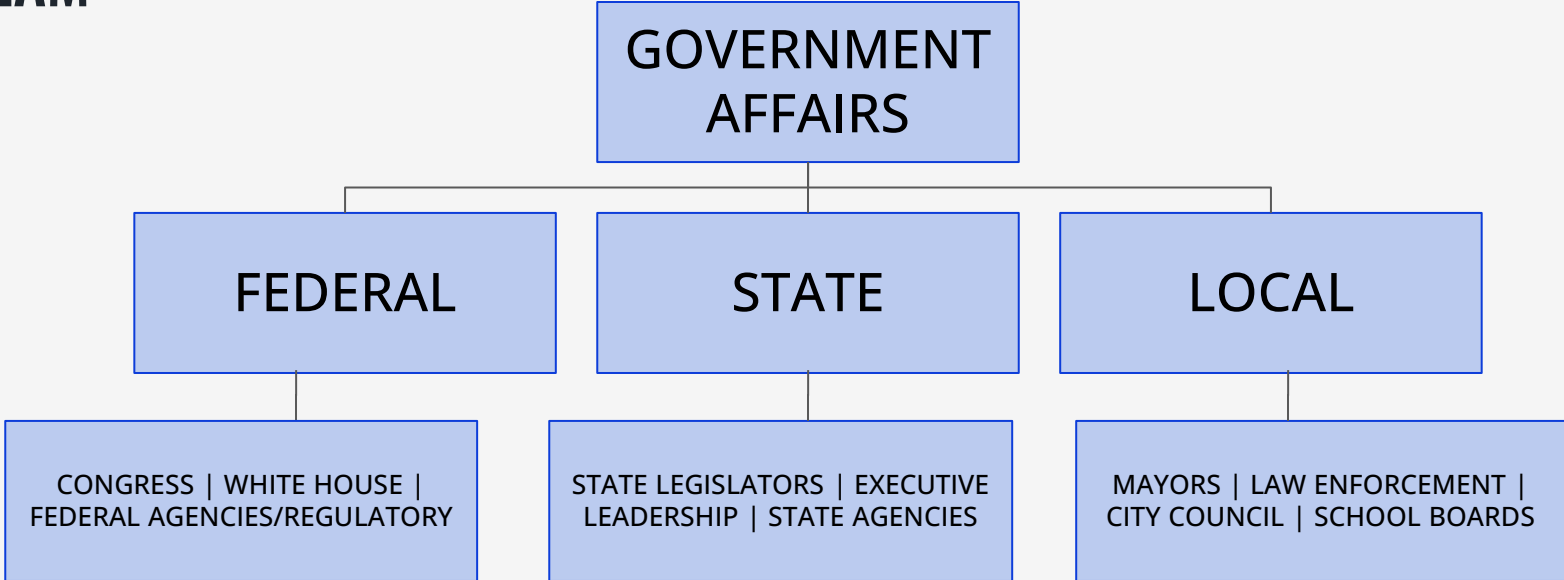
RACHEL BHALLA  
Associate Regional Director,  
State Gov. Affairs - South

# A United Government Affairs Team





# THE STRUCTURE OF OUR TEAM



# STATE AND FEDERAL ADVOCACY

## **Gun violence prevention issues that overlap with Fed and State**

- Funding for Community Violence Interruption (CVI), research
- ATF funding
- Dealer licensing

## **General Fed and State overlap**

- Bipartisanship
- Kids, Veterans, Over 65
- Law enforcement, Faith groups, Constituents

# LOCAL AND STATE ADVOCACY

With local municipalities preempted from passing gun safety laws in 42 states, we have been pushed to work creatively, and consider overlapping advocacy priorities and opportunities.

## **Local → State Strategies**

- Elevating local voices to pass gun safety laws or stop harmful legislation
- Directing law enforcement expertise to inform bill language
- Expanding successful local programs statewide
- Mitigating harm or providing tools for successful implementation legislation locally

## **State → Local Strategies**

- Allocating state funding to support local CVI or secure storage education programs
- Passing state legislation for local implementation
- Passing bills with preemption carve outs

# WHAT THE WORK LOOKS LIKE

# CASE STUDY: FEDERAL BACKGROUND CHECK LOOPHOLE AKA ENGAGED IN THE BUSINESS RULE

## **Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA)**

- First bipartisan gun violence prevention law to pass Congress in 30 years
- Needed state advocacy to get over the hump

## **Engaged in the Business**

- A part of BSCA
- Congressional Review Act was brought forward in the House and Senate
- Even though we knew a veto would be the end we still worked on BSCA Rs and moderate Ds
- Emphasized responsible gun ownership and law enforcement support



# CASE STUDY: MITIGATING THE DAMAGE OF ARMING TEACHERS LOCALLY

## Before Passage

- Engaged bipartisan partners with overlapping interests
- Ensured stakeholders were informed and had tools to voice their concerns

## Following Passage

- District commitment tracking to hold state and local leaders accountable
- Volunteers toolkits to advocate to school districts and city leaderships
- Continuous media coverage to promote transparency and constituent engagement

