

CONTACT

MELISSA STERN
770-274-7980
MELISSA@AAHOA.COM

AAHOA Statement on Mass Shooting in Uvalde, Texas

Uvalde, Tx., May 24 – Our deepest condolences to the families of the victims of the mass shooting that occurred Tuesday afternoon at Robb Elementary in Uvalde, Texas. We cannot express how deeply saddened we are that another senseless tragedy has occurred in our country.

Uvalde is a small town, with about 16,000 residents. It is predominantly a tight-knit Latin community where interconnections run deep. As is true for many AAHOA Members, the majority of residents of Uvalde immigrated to America in search of a better, safer life. It is an unnerving parallel. Unfortunately, this tragedy could have happened anywhere, in any city.

“As a father myself, I can’t imagine what these families are going through,” said AAHOA Chairman Neal Patel. “It’s time our country carefully examines what is occurring and takes all necessary steps to ensure that these tragedies stop – we must urge our lawmakers to take action and find a solution to protect our children and their teachers.”

AAHOA urges our members to use their voices during this time. We are all responsible for protecting the most vulnerable members of our society – especially our children. Schools should be the last place where children and families have to worry about horrendous violence.

“It’s time to hold our leaders accountable, support those who are trying to make a difference, and ensure that as an association, we set a good example by speaking out,” said Laura Lee Blake, AAHOA President & CEO. “We must not become numb as a country to these dreadful and harrowing tragedies. As a nation, we must do better for future generations and for everyone who has been impacted by this violence in our country.”



“If that means stricter gun laws and increased safety checks, then let’s take action. If that means enacting significant measures to address the mental health crisis we are seeing, then we must do it now. Inaction is unacceptable. There is too much pain to ignore,” Blake said.

If you would like to help enact change, AAHOA urges you to contact your Senator. You can find the contact information for each state’s representative [here](#). In addition, if you’d like to help the grieving families in Texas, click [here](#) to see several verified ways you can help.

###

About AAHOA

AAHOA is the largest hotel owners association in the nation, with Member-owned properties representing a significant part of the U.S. economy. AAHOA's 20,000 members own 60% of the hotels in the United States and are responsible for 1.7% of the nation's GDP. More than one million employees work at AAHOA member-owned hotels, earning \$47 billion annually, and member-owned hotels support 4.2 million U.S. jobs across all sectors of the hospitality industry. AAHOA's mission is to advance and protect the business interests of hotel owners through advocacy, industry leadership, professional development, member benefits, and community engagement.