



# City of Orange Township

29 North Day Street  
Orange, New Jersey 07050

## ***News Release***

For Release: April 6, 2009

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### **Orange Police To Discuss Gun Buyback Program held in Memory of Hassan Miller, son of Councilman Hassan Abdul-Rasheed.**

#### **Background Information for News Conference, Monday, April 6, 2009, 10:00 AM Freddie Pohill Law and Justice Complex, 29 N. Park Street, Orange, New Jersey 07050**

Mayor Eldridge Hawkins, Jr., Police Director John E. Rappaport, and Councilman Hassan Abdul-Rasheed will discuss the gun buyback program held over the past two weeks at The Church of the Epiphany, 105 Main Street, Orange.

Guns seized by the police and turned in during the buyback program will be displayed. In addition to the buybacks, police distributed free gunlocks and gun safety booklets. Police officers demonstrated safe loading and unloading techniques, and showed firearms owners how to make firearms more secure.

#### **Statement by Mayor Eldridge Hawkins, Jr.**

“Hassan Miller lost his life last month to gun violence. In Hassan’s memory, we held a gun buyback program in Orange. Orange is already carrying out an unprecedented crackdown on street crime, gang violence, drug sales, and quality of life crimes. But making arrests is not enough. That’s why we initiated our gun buyback, gun lock, and gun safety awareness program. We paid for the buyback program with funds recovered in a major narcotics arrest last year.”

#### **Statement by Councilman Hassan Abdul-Rasheed**

“My son, Hassan C. Miller was killed on February 11, 2009, as a result of gun violence. I cannot begin to put into words, the void that his death has left in my life and in my heart. Gun violence can be reduced with programs such as this one that take guns off our streets. It is my hope that another family will never have to endure the pain and heartache that has plagued my family since the tragedy occurred.”

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