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August 20, 2014

Mayor Christopher Cabaldon Mayor Pro Tem Mark Johannessen Council Member William Kristoff Council Member Christopher Ledesma Council Member Beverly Sandeen CITY OF WEST SACRAMENTO West Sacramento Civic Center 1110 West Capitol Avenue, 3rd Floor West Sacramento, CA 95691

**VIA E-MAIL AND FAX: (916) 372 - 8765** 

City Clerk Kryss Rankin CITY OF WEST SACRAMENTO West Sacramento Civic Center 1110 West Capitol Avenue, 3rd Floor West Sacramento, CA 95691

Re: Ordinance 14-9: Zoning for Retail Sales of Firearms and Ammunition – OPPOSITION

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council:

We are aware that, at its upcoming August 20, 2014 regular meeting, the West Sacramento City Council will consider Draft Ordinance 14-9 regarding the adoption of zoning requirements for the retail sale of firearms and ammunition ("the Proposed Ordinance"). We write on behalf of our clients, the National Rifle Association ("NRA"), as well as the hundreds of thousands of their members in California, including those residing in the City of West Sacramento ("the City"), to express their opposition to the Proposed Ordinance.

Specifically, we wish to inform the City that such proposals raise significant constitutional concerns, including conflicts with the First Amendment, the Second Amendment, and the Equal Protection clause. Should the City move to adopt zoning regulations that single out firearm and ammunition retailers for especially harsh treatment, our clients are prepared to bring a lawsuit to vindicate those rights. Second Amendment civil rights jurisprudence is evolving rapidly in the wake of the Supreme Court's rulings in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. 570 (2008), and *McDonald v. City of Chicago*, 130 S. Ct. 3020 (2010), recognizing an *individual and fundamental* right to arms. It would be a more prudent use of the City's resources to refrain from enacting such laws while this area of law develops through litigation in other jurisdictions.

City of West Sacramento August 20, 2014 Page 2 of 2

Our clients understand the need to fight the criminal misuse of firearms and gun violence, and they have a variety of effective programs for doing so available to the City upon request. These programs do not overburden responsible business owners or flout constitutional guarantees. We ask the City to consider implementing such programs before pursuing any restrictive zoning scheme targeting the otherwise lawful business of firearm retailers, who are the purveyors of constitutional rights.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the content of this correspondence, please feel free to contact us at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Michel & Associates, P.C.

amarner \_

Anna M. Barvir



WRITER'S DIRECT CONTACT: (562) 216-4444 ABARVIR@MICHELLAWYERS.COM

## **FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET**

| TO: | Sacramento | City | Council |
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FIRM: City of Sacramento

FAX NO.: (916) 372-8765

TEL. NO.

FROM: Anna M. Barvir

**DATE:** August 20, 2014

RE: Ordinance 14-9: Zoning for Retail Sales of Firearms and Ammunition - OPPOSITION

THIS FAX CONTAINS COVER PAGE PLUS 2 PAGES. IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL PAGES PLEASE CONTACT Claudia Ayala AT (562) 216-4444.

## **SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

| Please distribute before tonight's meeting. Will also follow via electronic mail. Thank you, |
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Writer's Direct Contact: (552) 2 | 6-4444 ABARVIR@MICHELLAWYERS.COM

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Sacramento City Council

FIRM:

City of Sacramento

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TEL. NO.

FROM:

Anna M. Barvir

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Ordinance 14-9: Zoning for Retail Sales of Firearms and Ammunition - OPPOSITION

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