

17-56081

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

VIRGINIA DUNCAN, et al,
Plaintiff and Appellees,

v.

**XAVIER BECERRA, in his Official
Capacity as Attorney General of the State
of California,**
Defendant and Appellant.

On Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Southern District of California

No. 17-cv-1017-BEN-JLB
The Honorable Roger T. Benitez, Judge

**APPELLANT’S EXCERPTS OF RECORD,
VOLUME VI, ER 1194-1399**

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Exhibit 59

September 2013



Analysis of Recent

MASS SHOOTINGS

ER1195



ANALYSIS OF RECENT MASS SHOOTINGS

Mayors Against Illegal Guns conducted a comprehensive analysis of every mass shooting between January 2009 and September 2013 that was identifiable through FBI data and media reports. This report describes the **93 MASS SHOOTINGS — ALMOST TWO PER MONTH — THAT OCCURRED IN 35 STATES** in the nearly five-year period. Each description includes the location of the shooting, number of people killed and/or injured, and information on the shooter, gun(s), ammunition, and gun purchase, where available.

The FBI defines “mass shooting” as any incident where at least four people were murdered with a gun. Mayors Against Illegal Guns reviewed mass shootings in the FBI’s Supplementary Homicide Reports from 2009-2011, the most recent data available, and searched the media for further details about these incidents as well as for mass shootings that occurred in 2012 and 2013.

This survey includes every shooting we identified in which at least four people were murdered with a gun. And the findings reveal a different portrait of mass shootings in America than conventional wisdom might suggest:



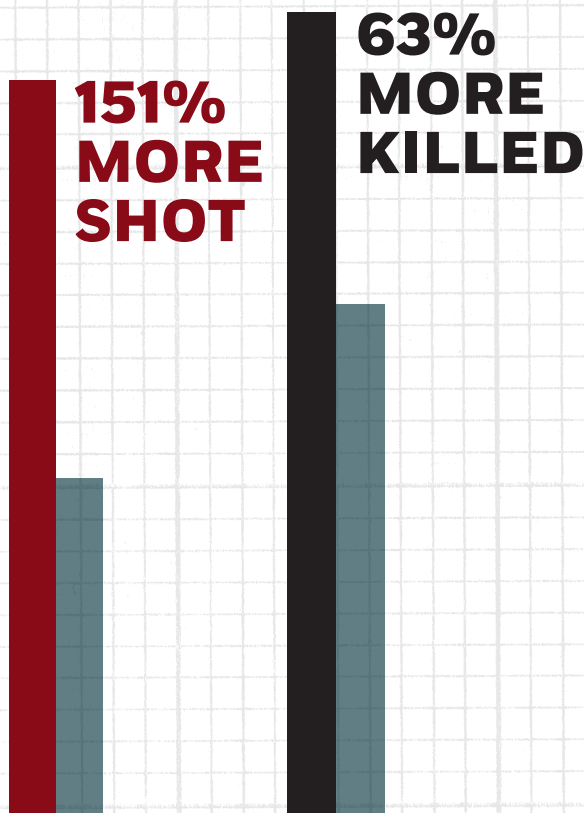
Analysis of Recent MASS SHOOTINGS

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Mass shootings

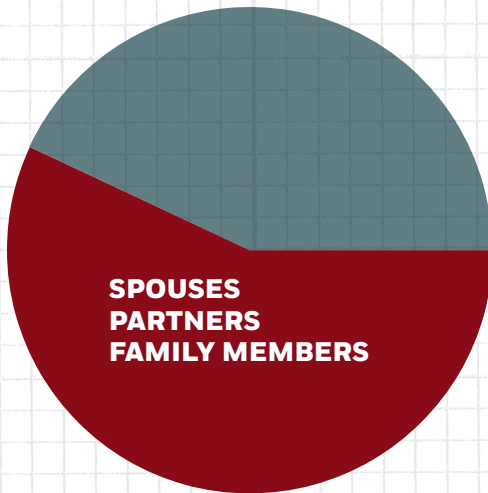
represent a small share of total U.S. firearm homicides. Less than one percent of gun murder victims recorded by the FBI in 2010 were killed in incidents with four or more victims.



Assault weapons or high-capacity magazines

were used in at least 14 of the incidents (15%). These incidents resulted in an average of 14.4 total people shot — 151% more people shot than in other incidents (5.7) — and 7.8 deaths — 63% more deaths than in other incidents (4.8).

ER1197



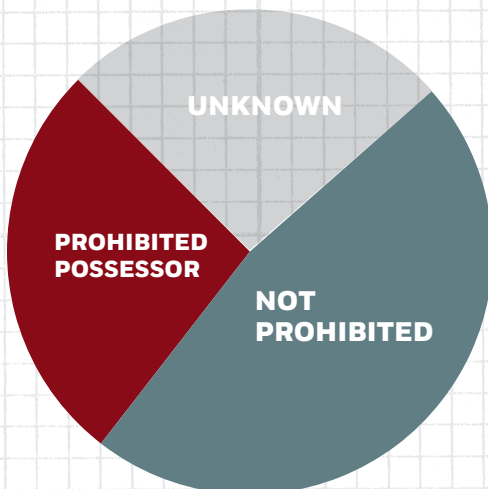
Domestic or family violence

There was a noteworthy connection between mass shooting incidents and domestic or family violence. In at least 53 of the cases (57%), the shooter killed a current or former spouse or intimate partner or other family member, and in at least 17 incidents the shooter had a prior domestic violence charge.



Mental health

We did not find evidence that any of the shooters were prohibited from possessing guns by federal law because they had been adjudicated mentally ill or involuntarily committed for treatment. In 10 of the 93 incidents (11%), we found evidence that concerns about the mental health of the shooter had been brought to the attention of a medical practitioner, school official or legal authority prior to the shooting.



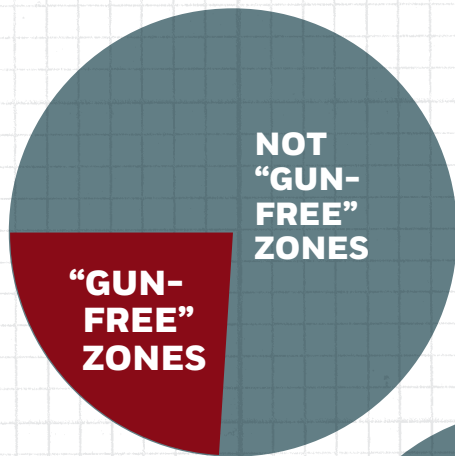
Role of prohibited possessors

Certain categories of people, including felons, certain domestic abusers, and people adjudicated mentally ill are prohibited by federal law from possessing guns. We had sufficient evidence to judge whether the shooter was a prohibited gun possessor in 75 of the 93 incidents (81%). Of those 75 incidents, 32 (43%) involved a prohibited possessor, and 43 (57%) did not.



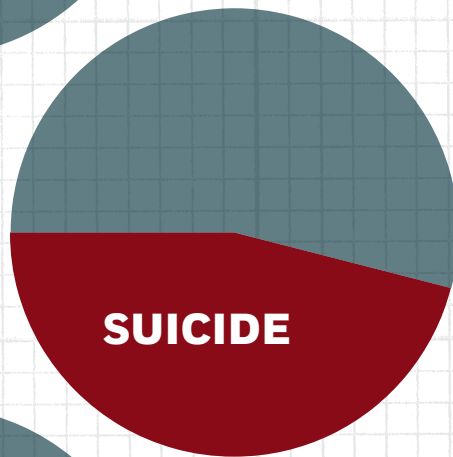
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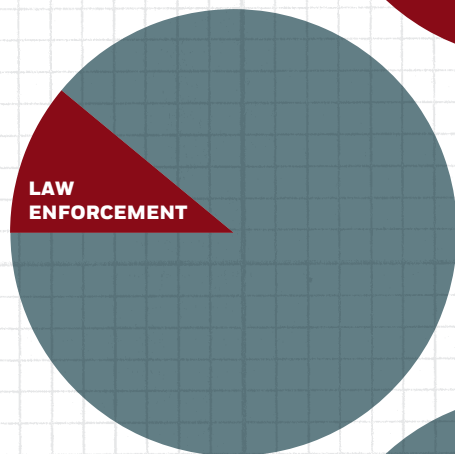
"Gun-free" zones

Sixty-two of the 93 incidents (67%) took place wholly in private residences. Of the 31 incidents in public spaces, at least 17 took place wholly or in part where concealed guns could be lawfully carried. All told, no more than 14 of the shootings (15%) took place entirely in public spaces that were so-called "gun-free zones."



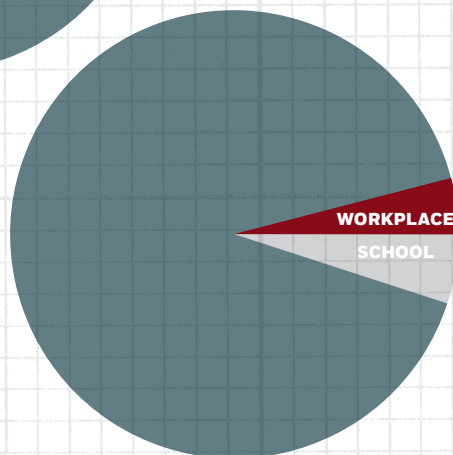
Suicide

In 40 of the 93 incidents (43%), the shooter committed suicide during the incident.



Law enforcement

In 13 of the 93 shootings (14%), law enforcement or military officers were targeted in the shooting or killed or injured responding to it.



Workplace and school shootings

Four of the 93 shootings (4%) occurred at the shooter's current or former workplace. Four of the 93 shooting incidents (4%) took place in schools, including primary, secondary, and college campuses.



MASS SHOOTING INCIDENTS JANUARY 2009–SEPTEMBER 2013 (in reverse chronological order)

Washington, D.C., 9/16/2013: The alleged shooter, who was a civilian contractor and former non-combat military, killed twelve and wounded three more in an attack on Building 197 at the Navy Yard.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Aaron Alexis, 34
- **GUN DETAILS:** The shooter arrived with a shotgun and also obtained a handgun from one a security guard that he killed.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Two days before the incident the shooter passed a National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) at the licensed gun dealer Sharpshooters in Lorton, VA, and purchased the shotgun.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter had been arrested at least three times including: in September 2010 in Fort Worth, Texas for shooting a firearm into a neighbor's apartment; in August 2008 in Dekalb County, Georgia for disorderly conduct; and in 2004 in Seattle, Washington for shooting out the tires of another man's vehicle. But court records do not indicate he was convicted in any of these cases, and this record did not prohibit him from buying guns. He had also received treatment for mental health conditions at two VA hospitals beginning in August, 2013 following an incident where he called Newport Rhode Island Police to report hearing voices. But these incidents did not rise to the level of prohibiting from buying guns. And during his military service he was reportedly cited on at least eight occasions for misconduct ranging from traffic tickets and showing up late for work to insubordination, extended absences from work, and disorderly conduct. On account of this the Navy sought to offer him a "general discharge" but he was ultimately honorably discharged through the early-enlisted transition program in January 2011.
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** There were armed guards at the Washington Navy Yard, and the shooter was familiar with the premises, so he did not select it as a target on the presumption he would not faced armed resistance. In fact, the shooter reportedly used a gun that he took from a guard after killing him.

Crab Orchard, TN, 9/11/2013: Bennett and his girlfriend Moser killed a woman and three teenagers, apparently during an attempted robbery during a marijuana exchange. The victims' bodies were discovered in a car parked along the side of the road in the Renegade Mountain resort community near Crossville.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Jacob Allen Bennett, 26 and Brittany Lina Yvonn Moser, 25
- **GUN DETAILS:** Handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Bennett was prohibited from possessing firearms. In 2010 he received a 6-year prison sentence for charges of theft, forgery, and possession of a handgun during a felony, but was paroled on March 4, 2013. The Cumberland County sheriff's office estimated they had previously arrested Bennett



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five times.

- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** We could find no evidence that permit holders were prohibited from carrying guns in this area. In Tennessee, concealed weapons would be prohibited only if the county or municipality declared itself a gun-free zone.

Oklahoma City, OK, 8/14/13: The shooter killed four of his relatives including an infant inside of their family home.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Daniel Green, 40
- **GUN DETAILS:** .380 semiautomatic handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** A box of .380 handgun ammunition was found in the vehicle when the shooter was arrested.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** One of the victims owned a .380 semiautomatic handgun and kept it hidden in the attic.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Green's father told police in an affidavit that his son was schizophrenic, but there is no evidence that Green had been adjudicated mentally ill or had a criminal history that would prohibit gun ownership.

Dallas, TX, 08/07/2013: The gunman shot and killed his girlfriend and her daughter, and injured two others; and then in a separate attack shot and killed his estranged wife and her daughter, and injured another two people. He also detonated an explosive but it did not harm anyone.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Erbie Lee Bowser, 44
- **GUN DETAILS:** .380 pistol
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter's estranged wife had obtained a protective order against Bowser in February 2011, citing family violence, and he was later arrested for violating the order. The order seems to have expired in February 2012, but would likely have been prohibiting while it was in place. A criminal conviction for domestic violence, which would also likely have been prohibiting, was expunged from his record after he completed a court program for veterans in the summer of 2012. Bowser was a veteran, but he had not served in combat — making him ineligible to enter the program. He apparently lied about his military history in order to enter the program.

Clarksburg, WV, 07/26/2013: According to a criminal complaint, the shooter was trying to collect \$10,000 two men owed him for drugs when one of them aimed a handgun at him. He stripped the man of the weapon and used it to kill them both; he then shot and killed a father-son newspaper delivery team that happened to be outside the house.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Sidney Muller, 27
- **GUN DETAILS:** 9mm Beretta
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown

ER1201



- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Gun apparently belonged to one of the victims
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter had been convicted previously for driving under the influence and had been arrested for driving with a suspended license, but was not criminally prohibited from possessing a gun. The shooter was also a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and his lawyers indicated he had scored four out of five in Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder testing and had been diagnosed as bipolar. He was reportedly in treatment at the local VA hospital. But there is no evidence his mental illness rose to the level of prohibiting him from possessing guns.

Hialeah, FL, 7/16/13: The shooter killed the two managers of his building, a bystander across the street, and three more occupants before police killed him in a standoff.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Pedro Alberto Vargas, 42
- **GUN DETAILS:** Glock 17 9mm semiautomatic pistol
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Hundreds of additional rounds were found in Vargas' apartment following the incident.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Vargas obtained a concealed weapons permit after completing a two-hour training and four-hour safety course in the fall of 2010 at the Florida Gun Center in Hialeah. In October 2010 he passed a background check and purchased a Glock 17, which was used in the shootings.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter had developed a pattern of anonymously harassing his former co-workers online, and was confronted about it three days before the shooting. But there is no evidence Vargas was prohibited from owning a gun.

Santa Monica, CA, 6/7/13: The shooter killed his father and brother, burned down their house, and shot and wounded a passing driver who tried to intervene. He then carjacked another vehicle and made the driver transport him to Santa Monica College, firing at a city bus and police cruiser along the way, injuring three. Once on the college's campus, he shot and killed three people outside and fired 70 rounds at students in the library before he was shot and killed by police.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** John Zawahri, 23
- **GUN DETAILS:** The shooter was armed with a .223 caliber AR-15 assault rifle that did not have a serial number; this type of rifle is prohibited in California. A .44 caliber "black powder" revolver that had been converted to fire .45 caliber rounds and three "Zip Guns," which are illegal to possess, were also recovered.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** The shooter was carrying a duffel bag containing approximately 1,300 rounds of ammunition. He was armed with approximately forty 30-round .223 magazines, which are illegal to purchase, sell, or transfer in the state of California.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** The assault rifle, high-capacity magazines, and several components to modify the firearms may have been shipped from outside California. The firearms were not registered to the shooter or to his family members.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter had a history of mental health issues and had previously been held for a short-term psychiatric evaluation, which would have prohibited him from accessing or possessing a firearm for five years, but the prohibition expired in 2011. The shooter had attempted to buy a firearm in 2011, but a letter from the Department of Justice discovered in his bedroom after the shooting indicated that he had not been eligible to purchase it at that time, likely because of this hospitalization.



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Fernley, NV, 05/13/2013: On May 10th, the shooter killed a couple in their home and stole \$3,500 in cash and jewelry. Three days later, he killed two more people and stole a firearm and their vehicle, and then shot and killed another person later that day.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Jeremiah Bean, 25
- **GUN DETAILS:** NEF Co. Model R92 .22 caliber handgun. The shooter also stole a Smith & Wesson from one of his victims.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter had been previously convicted for felony charges of burglary and grand larceny, and finished his parole in December 2012. This criminal record likely prohibited him from possessing firearms.

Waynesville, IN, 5/11/13: The alleged shooter killed four people in a home where methamphetamine was subsequently discovered, leading police to believe the crime was drug-related.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Samuel Earl Sallee, 55
- **GUN DETAILS:** A Ruger 10/22 .22 caliber rifle was recovered.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The alleged shooter, who had been at the location of the homicides just hours before the bodies were discovered, was taken into custody two days after the shooting. He was prohibited from possessing firearms due to several prior felony convictions including for intimidation, drunk driving (on multiple occasions), receipt of stolen property, and battery. Although authorities delayed in charging the shooter with a crime while they tried to determine a motive for the homicides, they charged him with illegal firearm possession.

Ottawa, KS, 04/28/2013: The shooter raped and killed a woman, as well as killing her 18-month old daughter and two men who were with her at a farm in eastern Kansas.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Kyle Flack, 27
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** In 2005 the shooter was convicted of attempted murder in the 2nd degree, having shot a man five times with a pistol, but he only served two years of a five-year sentence and was paroled in July 2009. He was required to register as a violent offender until 2024 and was prohibited from buying guns. His mother also sought mental health treatment on his behalf; her concerns were dismissed, but Flack ultimately submitted to a mental health evaluation.

Manchester, IL, 4/24/13: The shooter broke into a home and killed the grandmother of his child and four of her family members including two young children, apparently related to a cus-

ER1203



tody dispute over his 3-year-old daughter. The shooter was subsequently killed in a gunfight with law enforcement.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Rick Odell Smith, 43
- **GUN DETAILS:** All of the victims were killed with a Winchester 20-gauge pump-action shotgun. A .270 Bolt Action Winchester rifle and Ruger carbine rifle were also recovered.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter had been previously convicted for felony reckless homicide, which would likely have prohibited from possessing guns, along with drug possession and writing bad checks.

Federal Way, WA, 4/21/13: The shooter killed his girlfriend inside the apartment they shared and then fatally shot two men in a nearby parking lot. When a neighbor called 911, the shooter broke down the man's door with a shotgun and killed him. He was subsequently shot and killed by police.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Dennis Clark III, 27
- **GUN DETAILS:** .40 caliber semi-automatic handgun and a pistol grip Mossberg 500 pump shotgun. Federal Way Police report that Clark had a permit to carry a concealed weapon and was the registered owner of at least two firearms, including the handgun he used in the shooting.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Clark had no criminal convictions but in 2002 had used a BB gun to shoot a girl in the buttocks and back after she broke up with him, resulting in a fourth-degree assault charge that was dismissed. He was charged with misdemeanor criminal trespass in 2003. And in March 2009 he was charged with harming a police dog but the case was dismissed.

Akron, OH, 4/18/13: The shooters killed four people inside a townhouse; the initial motive for the crime was reportedly robbery.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Derrick Brantley, 21 and Deshanon Haywood, 21
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** One shooter, Brantley, was free on bond awaiting trial on felony charges of heroin trafficking. The other, Haywood, was paroled from prison in February 2012 after serving part of a two-year sentence for cocaine trafficking and heroin possession. He immediately violated his parole and was sentenced to 45 days of house arrest. Both were likely prohibited from possessing firearms by their criminal histories.

Herkimer, NY, 04/13/2013: The shooter killed two people and critically wounded one at John's Barber Shop and then killed two more people at Gaffey's Fast Lube, a car care facility. He was killed by responding officers.



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- **SHOOTER NAME:** Kurt Myers, 64
- **GUN DETAILS:** According to the police superintendent, Myers used a shotgun. Additional guns and ammunition were found by emergency crews after Myers set fire to the apartment.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no reason to believe Myers was prohibited him from possessing a gun. He was arrested in 1973 for drunk driving
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** Gaffey's Fast Lube does not have a specific policy prohibiting guns and allows permit holders to carry concealed weapons on the premises. John's Barbershop did not reopen following the shooting but the owner of a neighboring business did not recall the barbershop having any explicit firearm policy or ban, which would have been required to prohibit customers from carrying guns on the premises.

Albuquerque, NM, 1/19/13: The shooter killed his parents and three siblings in their home. He then loaded a van with guns and ammunition with the intent to kill his girlfriend's family and die in a shootout at Wal-Mart, according to court documents. Instead, he spent the next day with his girlfriend and her family and went to a church he regularly attended, where he was arrested for murder after speaking with the pastor.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Nehemiah Griego, 15
- **GUN DETAILS:** AR-15 assault rifle, .22 rifle, and two shotguns
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** The guns had been legally purchased by his parents.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** As a juvenile, the shooter was prohibited from purchasing firearms, but it was lawful for him to possess long guns like those used in the incident.

Tulsa, OK, 1/7/13: During a robbery the shooters bound the hands of four women in an apartment at the Fairmont Terrace complex and shot each one in the head. The 3-year-old son of one of the victims was in the apartment at the time of the incident but was unharmed.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Cedric Dwayne Poore, 39 and James Stanford Poore, 32
- **GUN DETAILS:** .40 caliber pistol
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Both shooters had extensive criminal histories: Cedric Poore received a 35-year prison sentences in 1995 for armed robbery and James Poore received a 12-year sentence in 2000 for armed robbery with a firearm. Both were released in 2011, but likely remained prohibited from possessing firearms.

Newtown, CT (Sandy Hook Elementary School), 12/14/12: The shooter killed his

ER1205



mother in her home and then traveled to a nearby elementary school where he shot twenty-eight people, killing twenty-six of them, including twenty children, before killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Adam Peter Lanza, 20
- **GUN DETAILS:** A Bushmaster .223 assault-style rifle was used in the attack at the elementary school. A 10mm Glock handgun, a 9mm SIG Sauer handgun, and a shotgun were also recovered at the crime scene.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Lanza was carrying multiple high-capacity clips, reportedly enough ammunition to kill nearly every student at school.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** The guns were legally registered to Lanza's mother, who he shot and killed earlier in the day and with whom he lived.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Under Connecticut law, Lanza would have been prohibited from possessing handguns because he had not reached the legal age, 21. However, he would not have been prohibited from possessing a long gun like the Bushmaster rifle used in the shooting. Lanza's mental health was also scrutinized after the shooting, and while his social isolation had been noted, we did not find evidence that concerns had been brought to the attention of a public authority.

Tule River Reservation, CA, 12/8/2012: The shooter killed his mother and two uncles in the travel trailer where they lived and injured his young son; he then shot his two daughters, one fatally, while fleeing with them from the police. The gunman died after a shootout with police in which he also shot himself in the head.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Hector Celaya, 31
- **GUN DETAILS:** .38 caliber revolver
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Celaya had been imprisoned in 2008 for an assault and battery charge and was prohibited from having weapons as a condition of three years' probation. It is likely that this criminal record prohibited him from possessing firearms. He was subsequently arrested multiple times for driving while intoxicated, and was due in court in January 2013 to face a misdemeanor drug possession charge.

Detroit, MI, 12/4/2012: Three adults and one minor were shot to death in a house on the east side of the city before a fire broke out, apparently set by the shooter. There are no reports of arrests or suspects.

- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The assailants are unknown.

Northridge, CA, 12/02/2012: The shooter arrived at an unlicensed boarding house on Devonshire street, reportedly in search of his girlfriend, and after a dispute shot and killed four people



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outside.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Ka Pasasouk, 31
- **GUN DETAILS:** semiautomatic handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter was prohibited from possessing guns, having been convicted for car theft and felony robbery. While on probation in September 2012, he was arrested again for possession of methamphetamine. According to the district attorney, a prosecutor then released him on probation over the objection of probation officials, who believed he posed a threat to the safety of the community.
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** Permit holders were not prohibited from carrying guns in this area.

New Town, ND, 11/18/2012: The shooter murdered a woman and her three grandchildren in their home on Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. When confronted by police he stabbed himself in the neck and died of his injuries.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Kalcie Eagle, 21
- **GUN DETAILS:** .25-06 hunting rifle
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** The rifle did not belong to the shooter; police speculated that it may have belonged to a family member.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** In March 2012, Eagle was arrested in a stolen pickup truck after a high-speed chase with police. He pled guilty to felony unauthorized use of a vehicle, and was sentenced to a year in jail, with more than three years of supervised probation and more than \$45,000 in fines and restitution. Because of this offense, he was likely prohibited from possessing a firearm.

Minneapolis, MN, 9/27/12: The shooter killed six people and injured two at a signage business, from which he was fired earlier in the day, before killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Andrew John Engeldinger, 36
- **GUN DETAILS:** Glock 9mm semiautomatic handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Engeldinger fired at least 46 bullets during the shooting. At his home, police recovered packaging for 10,000 rounds of ammunition.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Engeldinger purchased the gun used in the shooting one year before at KGS Guns and Ammo in Minneapolis after passing a background check and obtaining a permit-to-purchase. Around the same time, Engeldinger purchased another, similar handgun that police recovered when searching his home.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Engeldinger had a concealed carry permit and was not prohibited from possessing a gun. But his family suspected he had paranoid schizophrenia and two years before the shooting they reached out on his behalf to the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Engeldinger did not pursue treatment.
- **ONLINE CONNECTION:** According to Minneapolis Police, Engeldinger may have purchased some or all of his stockpiled ammunition online from out-of-state dealers.

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Oak Creek, WI, 8/5/12: The shooter killed six people at a Sikh temple and injured three others, including a responding police officer, before killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Wade Michael Page, 40
- **GUN DETAILS:** 9mm semiautomatic handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Page reportedly bought three 19-round magazines when he purchased the gun.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Page acquired the gun at a local gun shop a week before the shooting.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Page was involved with the white supremacist movement but he does not appear to have been prohibited from purchasing a gun. He received a discharge from the army “under other than honorable conditions” and was demoted from sergeant to specialist, but this did not affect his access to firearms. Federal officials investigated Page’s ties to supremacist groups more than once prior to the shooting, but did not collect enough evidence to open an investigation.
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** Nothing restricted the possession of a firearm on the property. Wisconsin state law permits people to carry their guns in temples and other places of worship unless there is a sign or they have been personally notified that carrying firearms is prohibited by the property owner or occupant. Amardeep Kaleka, whose father founded the temple and was killed during the attack, confirmed that there was no such sign on the property.

Aurora, Co, 7/20/12: The shooter killed twelve and wounded fifty-eight in an attack on a suburban movie theater during a midnight screening of Batman.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** James Holmes, 24
- **GUN DETAILS:** Smith & Wesson AR-15 assault-style rifle, Remington 870 12-gauge shotgun, and two Glock .40 caliber handguns.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Holmes had a 100-round drum magazine for the AR-15 and reportedly only ceased firing with it when it jammed.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Holmes acquired the guns at local gun shops.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** While a student at the University of Colorado, Holmes was treated by the school psychiatrist, who expressed concern about his behavior and referred him to the university Behavioral Evaluation and Threat Assessment (BETA) team. They took no further action and he was never adjudicated mentally ill.
- **ONLINE CONNECTION:** Holmes purchased over 6,000 rounds of ammunition online.

Newton Falls, OH, 7/6/12: The shooter killed his girlfriend, another couple, and their son in two separate shootings, before being cornered by the police and killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Robert Brazzon, 55
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Brazzon had previously pled guilty to felony drug trafficking after police seized 47 guns from his home in 1999 (the guns were later returned to Brazzon’s brother and son following a



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court petition). But due to Ohio laws that provide for the restoration of felons' firearm rights, it is unclear whether Brazzon was prohibited from possessing firearms at the time of the shooting.

Tempe, AZ, 6/2/2012: The shooter killed his wife and three children inside of their home, then drove the bodies to a location in the Vekol Valley desert, where he lit the car on fire and shot himself. His wife had filed for a divorce earlier in the year but he had not vacated their shared residence. He was also reportedly undergoing treatment for a brain tumor.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** James Butwin, 47
- **GUN DETAILS:** Two guns were recovered in the vehicle, and the caliber of the shells for one matched those found in the house where the murders took place.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence that Butwin was prohibited from owning a gun.

Seattle, WA, 5/20/12: The shooter killed five people in a string of neighborhood shootings that began in a coffee shop, and later killed himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Ian Lee Stawicki, 40
- **GUN DETAILS:** At least one Para-Ordnance .45 caliber handgun – some reports say he carried two.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Stawicki legally purchased the weapon used in the shooting in addition to two others.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter was a concealed carry permit holder but had a history of mental illness and arrests. He was twice charged with misdemeanor assault but both cases were dismissed when the victims — his girlfriend and brother — refused to testify. Before the shooting, Stawicki's family attempted to have his concealed carry permit revoked. Stawicki's family had become concerned that his mental health had worsened. However, his family was rebuffed by authorities, who said they had no legal basis to revoke Stawicki's permit on claims about Stawicki's behavior alone.

Leivasy, WV, 5/19/2012: The shooter killed a man after a dispute over a debt for drugs, as well as his girlfriend and their two children.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** James Roy Belknap, 27
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** In 2007, Belknap pled guilty on charges of conspiracy to deliver cocaine and was sentenced to 5 years in prison. In exchange, prosecutors dismissed a grand jury indictment charging him with murder. He was therefore prohibited from possessing a gun.



Port St. John, FL, 5/15/12: The shooter attacked her four children — ages 12 to 17 — in her home, killing them before shooting and killing herself. An autopsy indicated that she had a blood alcohol level of .16 at the time of the shooting — twice the legal limit.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Tonya Thomas, 33
- **GUN DETAILS:** Taurus .38 caliber revolver
- **AMMO DETAILS:** She fired 18-hollow-point rounds during the incident, reloading the gun three times.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence she was prohibited from possessing a gun. The shooter was charged with misdemeanor battery in 2002 for striking the father of her children but it was later dropped.

Gilbert, AZ, 5/2/12: The shooter, formerly a member of the U.S. Marine Corps and a founder and leader of a border militia group, shot and killed four people including his girlfriend, before killing himself. At the time of the incident he was running for the office of Pinal County Sheriff.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Jason Todd (“J.T.”) Ready, 39
- **GUN DETAILS:** At least two handguns and a shotgun were recovered from the scene. Six-armor piercing grenades, which may not legally be possessed by civilians, were also recovered.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence that the shooter was prohibited from owning guns, even though he had a record of dangerous behavior. In 1992, he was arrested for damage to property and aggravated assault with a weapon and pled guilty to simple assault, a misdemeanor. He was court-martialed twice during his military service, the second resulting in a bad conduct discharge in 1996. In 2009, a woman filed an order of protection against him, but it was not active at the time of the shooting. Officers had also responded to multiple domestic violence calls from Ready’s home. Indeed, his girlfriend went to police headquarters on February 28, 2012 to make a complaint and report two domestic violence incidents, but she did not go to court to file for an order of protection.

Oakland, CA (Oikos University), 4/2/12: The shooter killed seven people at a Korean Christian college, where he had formerly been a student.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** One L. Goh, 43
- **GUN DETAILS:** .45 caliber handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Goh was armed with four magazines of ammunition, holding 10 rounds each.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** The gun was purchased legally in California two months before the shooting.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** None apparent, though Goh was expelled from the school for disciplinary problems.

Norcross, GA, 2/20/12: The shooter returned to a Korean spa from which he’d been kicked out after an altercation, where he shot and killed two of his sisters and their husbands before commit-



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ting suicide.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Jeong Soo Paek, 59
- **GUN DETAILS:** .45 caliber handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Police reported that he acquired the gun legally.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Paek does not appear to have been prohibited, although he had allegedly served two months in jail for assaulting his sister six years earlier. In 2006 she applied for a temporary protection order and described his intention to harm himself or others with guns.
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** We could find no indication that the property owner forbade possession of a firearm on their property.

Villa Park, IL, 1/17/2012: The shooter killed his girlfriend, her two sons, and her niece while they slept. After leaving the scene of the crime he shot himself and died of his injuries.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Cedric Anderson, 42
- **GUN DETAILS:** .357 Magnum handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Anderson has several drug-related offenses dating back to 1990, and in 2008 received probation for possessing a firearm without the required license. On December 29, 2011 was convicted of felony heroin possession, and was awaiting sentencing at the time of the massacre. He was therefore prohibited from possessing a gun.

Grapevine, TX, 12/25/11: The shooter killed his estranged wife, two children, and three other family members as they opened their Christmas presents, before killing himself. The shooter's wife had filed for bankruptcy in August 2010 and reportedly separated from him during the proceedings, moving to the apartment complex where the shooting took place.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Aziz Yazdanpanah, 56
- **GUN DETAILS:** 9mm and .40 caliber handguns
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** The 9mm was purchased in 1996 and registered to the shooter.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** In 1996, the shooter pled guilty to one count of subscribing to a false income tax return, and was fined \$1000 and placed on three years' probation. But police said the 9mm was legally registered to the shooter and there is no evidence that he was otherwise prohibited from purchasing a gun.

Emington, IL, 12/16/2011: The shooter killed her boyfriend and her three children before taking her own life in the backyard of their home.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Sara McMeen, 30

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- **GUN DETAILS:** Semi-automatic pistol
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooter was prohibited from owning a gun. But she reportedly suffered from bipolar disorder and postpartum depression, and did not take any medication. She also had a family history of mental illness and violence. In 1971, McMeen's father shot and killed his wife with a 12-gauge shotgun. He was found not guilty by reason of insanity, and diagnosed with schizophrenia with suicidal and homicidal tendencies.

Gargatha, VA, 12/15/11: The shooter killed two of his children, their mother, and the man she was living with before killing himself. The shooter was reportedly involved in a custody dispute with the woman at the time of her death.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Esteban Quintero-Gonzales, 37
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooter was prohibited from possessing a gun.

Bay City, TX, 11/30/11: The shooter and his wife argued in their mobile home, and when she exited he shot her three times in the front yard, injuring her, before killing his four children aged 2 to 5 and then killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Jose Avila-Alva, 24
- **GUN DETAILS:** .22 caliber revolver
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** The handgun was reported stolen in 2010.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter was not a legal resident of the U.S., and had been deported to Mexico in 2006 for unlawful entry, which would have prohibited him from purchasing a gun. One week earlier, on November 22, 2011, the shooter's wife filed an assault report against him and was taken to a crisis center by police, but she did not press charges.

Greensboro, NC, 11/20/2011: The shooter shot and injured a married man she had been having an affair with since 2008, injuring him. At some point that morning she also shot four children in her house, including her older son, a niece, a nephew, and a friend, and they all died of their injuries. She then picked up her son from a sleepover, shot and killed him, and turned the gun on herself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Mary Ann Holder
- **GUN DETAILS:** .38 caliber handgun



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- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooter was prohibited from possessing a gun. The wife of the man the shooter was having an affair with sought a restraining order against her earlier in 2011; the shooter responded by requesting a restraining order against the man and his wife. Both orders had expired.

Liberty, SC, 10/14/11: The shooter killed her ex-husband, two sons, and their step-grandmother. When investigators arrived, she told them one of her sons had committed the homicides and then killed himself, but this story was inconsistent with forensic evidence. Nine days after the shooting she was taken into custody and charged with four counts of homicide. She had reportedly taken out a \$700,000 life insurance policy for her family members with herself named as the beneficiary.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Susan Diane Hendricks, 48
- **GUN DETAILS:** .380 caliber handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** In April 2006, Susan Hendricks shot and killed Doyle “O’Brian” Teague in her home after he had allegedly entered uninvited and threatened her. No charges were filed against Hendricks at the time, and the case was never closed. There is no evidence that she was prohibited from possessing a gun in 2011.

Seal Beach, CA, 10/12/11: The shooter injured one and killed eight at a hair salon, including his ex-wife, before being taken into police custody.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Scott Evans Dekraai, 41
- **GUN DETAILS:** Dekraai carried 3 handguns – a 9 mm Springfield, a Heckler & Koch .45, and a Smith & Wesson .44 Magnum – and used at least two in the shooting.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** News articles say Dekraai was carrying “extra ammunition” when the shooting began.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** All three guns were purchased legally and registered in accordance with California law.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Dekraai was subject to a restraining order that specifically prohibited him from possessing guns, but the order expired in 2008. Dekraai had been diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and during a custody suit his ex-wife had filed court papers claiming that he was mentally unstable and had threatened to kill himself or someone else at least once.

Laurel, IN, 9/26/11: The shooter killed a man, the man’s estranged wife, their two children, and a neighbor. The male victim reportedly had sold the addictive pain-reliever Oxycontin to the shooter, and on the day of the murders they had argued over the price.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** David E. Ison, 46

ER1213



- **GUN DETAILS:** A .380 caliber handgun was used in the slayings. Another stolen .380 handgun and an AK-47 were recovered during the investigation.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter had a lengthy criminal record, including a conviction for armed robbery, which would have prohibited him from possessing a gun, and at the time of the murders was on probation for 10 counts of burglary.

Monongalia County, WV, 9/6/2011: The shooter killed five people and injured one before fleeing from the police and then killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Shayne Riggleman, 22
- **GUN DETAILS:** A .30-.30 rifle was used. A second rifle and a .22 caliber pistol were also recovered.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** In 2008, Riggleman was sentenced to 14 months in prison for armed robbery, an offense that would prohibit him from possessing firearms, though it is possible his rights were restored under West Virginia law. He had also been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and schizophrenia at Chestnut Ridge Hospital and his family had him committed on several occasions.

Carson City, NV (IHOP Shooting), 9/6/2011: The shooter killed four people at an IHOP restaurant, including three National Guard members, before killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Eduardo Sencion, 32
- **GUN DETAILS:** A Norinco Mak 90 assault rifle that had been illegally modified into a fully automatic machine gun. A Romarm/Cugir AK-47 type assault rifle and a Glock 26 semiautomatic handgun were also recovered.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Police recovered 450 rounds of AK-47 ammunition from Sencion's van and "box upon box" of additional ammunition at his home.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Five years earlier, the gun had been sold by a private party in California to an unknown buyer.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Sencion was taken into protective custody during a mental health commitment in April 2000 but no court order was involved and it remains unclear if a record of the incident was reported to the NICS database.
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** IHOP allows individual franchises to determine their own firearm policies, and this franchise allows concealed carrying of firearms on the premises.

Marion County, FL, 8/5/11: The shooter killed the mother of his child in her mother's home, his own 6-year-old sister, and two other acquaintances before setting the building on fire. Court records indicated he had smoked synthetic marijuana laced with cocaine prior to the murders. The gun was not immediately recovered.



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- **SHOOTER NAME:** James Edward Bannister, 31
- **GUN DETAILS:** Believed to be a .38 caliber revolver
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence that he had a prohibiting criminal record.

Wheatland, WY, 7/30/11: The shooter killed his three sons and his brother and shot and injured his wife before surrendering to police. His wife later reported he had become upset because he wanted to keep the curtains of their home drawn to prevent the neighbors from looking inside.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Everett E. Conant III
- **GUN DETAILS:** Two semiautomatic handguns were used in the shooting. A shotgun and a rifle were also recovered.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Police testified that about 50 rounds were fired during the incident.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The police reported that the shooter did not have a criminal record. There is no evidence to indicate he was prohibited from possessing a gun.

Wagener, SC, 7/3/2011: The shooter apparently went on a murder-suicide rampage, killing his wife, her twin sister, his mother-in-law, and his ex-girlfriend in two different residences before he was confronted by law enforcement and shot himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Kenneth Myers, 47
- **GUN DETAILS:** A 20-gauge shotgun was used in the massacre. Myers owned numerous weapons including an SKS, AK-47, two 9 mm handguns, a .22 caliber revolver, and a .38 caliber snub-nose pistol.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence that the shooter was prohibited from owning a gun. However, he reportedly had a history of violence, having threatened his mother-in-law with a rifle. In a suicide note, he blamed his wife's family for contributing to her drug problem.

Grand Prairie, TX, 6/23/11: The shooter killed his wife and four of her family members at his daughter's birthday party before killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Tan Do, 35
- **GUN DETAILS:** Reported to be a handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Tan Do had a history of domestic violence. His wife had obtained a protective order against him but had withdrawn it earlier that year against the advice of a prosecutor.

ER1215



Medford, NY, 6/9/11: The shooter killed four people at a pharmacy, Haven Drugs, and stole thousands of hydrocodone pills before fleeing in a vehicle. During the trial he acknowledged that he and his wife were addicted to prescription medication.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** David Laffer
- **GUN DETAILS:** A .45 caliber handgun was used in the shooting. Several other legally registered guns were also recovered from the shooter's home.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The gun was legally registered to the shooter, and there is no evidence he was prohibited from possessing a gun. But five months before the shooting, Suffolk County Detective Kenneth Ripp investigated an identity theft claim made by the shooter's mother, who said the shooter had stolen her debit card. After questioning the shooter and his mother, Ripp advised the Suffolk County Pistol License Bureau that the shooter was dangerous and that his guns should be confiscated. Despite Ripp's report, the guns were not removed.
- **GUN-FREE ZONE:** We could find no evidence that Haven Drugs posted a sign or had a policy prohibiting the carrying of firearms. Current employees declined to comment.

Yuma, AZ, 6/2/11: In a series of separate shootings over a five-hour period, a gunman shot and killed his ex-wife, three of her friends, and her attorney, before killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Carey H. Dyess, 73
- **GUN DETAILS:** Handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Dyess's ex-wife alleged there had been domestic abuse and a judge had issued an order of protection against him in 2006, but there is no evidence that he was a prohibited from possessing firearms at the time of the shooting.

Ammon, ID, 5/11/11: The shooter killed his two infant children, their mother, and her sister before setting fire to the house and shooting himself. He had separated from the victim several months before the incident, and in the week before the shooting he had sent her harassing text messages.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Gaylin Leirmoe
- **GUN DETAILS:** .45 caliber handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Eight shots were fired during the shooting.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** In October 2009, the shooter was charged with misdemeanor battery for domestic violence with no traumatic injury after hitting his girlfriend — the woman he would ultimately kill — at her birthday celebration. The charges were later dismissed. There is no evidence that he was prohibited from possessing a gun.



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Oak Harbor, Ohio, 4/16/11: The shooter killed his wife and three children, age 1 to 4, before killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Alan Atwater
- **GUN DETAILS:** .22 caliber rifle, shotgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter and his wife separately reported to friends that in the past he had held her against a wall and choked her. But there is no evidence he was prohibited from possessing a gun.

Willowbrook, CA, 2/11/11: Two brothers, their uncle, and their cousin were shot and killed by an unknown assailant on the patio of their home.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Unknown
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Witnesses reported that the shooting was loud and continuous. Police believe a semiautomatic weapon was used.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The assailant is unknown.

Minot, ND 1/28/11: The shooter, a Somali national, killed the mother of his child at her home — and then her brother, her mother, and her mother's boyfriend at a nearby home. The murder weapon was never recovered.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Omar Mohamed Kalmio, 28
- **GUN DETAILS:** Believed to be a handgun.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** In 2006, Kalmio was convicted of second-degree assault with a dangerous weapon and sentenced to a year in prison, which offense prohibited him from legally possessing a firearm.

Tucson, AZ, 1/8/11: The shooter attacked a constituent event hosted by Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, killing six and wounding fourteen, including Giffords, before he was subdued.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Jared Loughner, 22
- **GUN DETAILS:** 9mm Glock 19 semiautomatic handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** 33-round magazine
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Loughner passed a background check and purchased the Glock handgun at Sportsman's Warehouse in Tucson two months before the attack. Loughner also purchased a Harrington & Richardson shotgun in 2009; this gun was not used in the attack.

ER1217



- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Loughner had a history of mental illness and drug use. He was rejected from Army enlistment in 2008 after failing a drug test and admitting to drug use on his U.S. Army medical history application form, which should have prohibited Loughner from buying a gun for at least one year. However, Loughner successfully purchased a Harrington & Richardson shotgun in 2009, within a year of his Army rejection. Loughner's purchase of the Glock 19 handgun in 2010 violated the plain intent of federal law, which prohibits someone considered an/to be "unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance" from purchasing a gun, but the purchase was still allowed under current enforcement practices. Loughner was also suspended from Pima Community College in 2010 for erratic behavior, and exhibited other signs of mental instability in posts to websites.
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** It was lawful to carry a firearm in the area of the shooting. An armed bystander, Joe Zamudio, mistook someone else as the shooter and prepared to fire on him before he was stopped by other bystanders.

Boston, MA, 09/28/10: The shooter killed four and wounded one during a drug-related robbery.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Edward Washington, 33, and Dwayne Moore, 35, were both charged in the killings. Washington was acquitted. In Moore's first trial, the jury deadlocked 11-1 in favor of his guilt, but he was later convicted in a retrial.
- **GUN DETAILS:** .40 caliber Iberia handgun and 9mm Cobray semiautomatic. The Cobray has not been recovered, but the weapon was identified based on recovered bullets and shell casings.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** 14 rounds fired
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooters were prohibited from possessing guns.
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** Any person holding the appropriate license could lawfully carry a firearm in this area. As of 2012 there were an estimated 250,000 concealed weapons permit holders in Massachusetts, and neither state or local law prohibits them from carrying in the city of Boston.

Riviera Beach, FL 9/27/10: The shooter killed his estranged wife and four of his stepchildren in their home, injured one other, and then shot and killed himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Patrick Dell, 41
- **GUN DETAILS:** Handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** In May 2010, the shooter's wife obtained a restraining order, which was active at the time of the shooting and would have prohibited him from owning a gun. In December 2009, Dell has also been arrested on felony aggravated assault, and had been convicted of misdemeanor improper exhibition of a dangerous firearm. Police had responded to 34 calls from the household in the four years preceding the shooting. In April 2008, the shooter's wife had taken out another restraining order against Dell for abusive behavior.

Jackson, KY, 9/10/10: The shooter, reportedly enraged at how his wife prepared his eggs, fatally



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shot her, his stepdaughter, and three neighbors. He killed himself when the police arrived.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Stanley Neace, 47
- **GUN DETAILS:** Shotgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooter was prohibited from possessing a gun.

Chicago, IL, 9/2/10: The shooter murdered four individuals execution-style in a garage on South Kildare Avenue. Officials believe he was part of a drug-trafficking crew that had been involved in at least 10 other killings.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Raul Segura-Rodriguez, 36
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** While the shooter was reportedly an experienced criminal, there is no evidence of convictions that would have prohibited him from possessing a gun.

Lake Havasu City, AZ, 8/29/10: The shooter killed his ex-girlfriend, her boyfriend, and three others while they were celebrating her boyfriend's birthday and took his own life later that night.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Brian Diez, 26
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The gunman's girlfriend had taken out a restraining order against him earlier that year, which would likely prohibit him from purchasing or possessing a gun.

Buffalo, NY, 8/14/10: The shooter opened fire on a group of people outside a bar, killing four and wounding four others.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Riccardo McCray, 24
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** McCray had been arrested earlier that year on felony drug charges and the previous year for having a loaded rifle in his car. If he was found guilty of either crime, he would have been prohibited from possessing firearms.
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** We could find no indication that it was unlawful to carry a firearm in the area.

ER1219



There are an estimated 100,000 concealed weapon permit holders in New York and other than limiting a person's ability to carry when he is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, Buffalo does not add any additional requirements to state law.

Lanham, MD, 8/6/10: The shooter killed two children, their mother, and their paternal aunt in the home where they resided. Police said the shooter was involved in drug trafficking and the victims owed him money.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Darrell Lynn Bellard
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence that he was prohibited from possessing a gun.

Manchester, CT, 8/3/10: The shooter killed eight coworkers at a beer distributor and wounded two others before killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Omar Thornton, 34
- **GUN DETAILS:** Two Ruger SR9 9mm handguns
- **AMMO DETAILS:** The shooter allegedly carried two extra magazines and two extra boxes of ammunition with him to the attack.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no indication that he was prohibited from possessing firearms and the guns he used were registered to him.

Hialeah, FL, 6/6/10: The shooter killed four women, including his wife — who had just separated from him. He injured three others before shooting and killing himself. The shooting occurred in Yoyito-Cafe Restaurant, where the shooter's wife was employed as a waitress, and in the parking lot immediately outside.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Gerardo Regalado, 38
- **GUN DETAILS:** .45 caliber handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** The shooter had a concealed weapons permit.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence that the shooter was prohibited from owning a gun. However, relatives said the shooter had abused and terrorized women in the past, and had been imprisoned in Cuba for a particularly violent incident, but he did not have a criminal record in the United States.
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** We could find no indication that guns were prohibited in this area. Guns are prohibited in Florida restaurants only in areas primarily devoted to the serving of alcohol.



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Chicago, IL, 4/14/10: The shooter who had converted to Islam in prison killed his family for not going along with his conversion, fatally shooting his mother, pregnant wife, infant son, and two nieces, and injuring one other.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** James A. Larry, 33
- **GUN DETAILS:** Shotgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Larry was almost certainly prohibited from purchasing a gun, having recently served a prison term for a weapons charge. He had also recently pled no contest to misdemeanor battery against his wife.

Los Angeles, CA, 4/3/10: The shooter killed four and injured two at a San Fernando Valley restaurant after a dispute with other patrons. He was indicted in a separate investigation for engaging in the business of dealing firearms without a license and possession of a firearm with an obliterated serial number, having sold firearms to an informant working for federal agents the previous year.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Nerses Arthur Galstyan, 28
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unspecified handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooter was prohibited from possessing a gun.

Washington, DC, 03/30/10: Three gunmen killed four and wounded five in retaliation for another murder.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Nathaniel D. Simms, 26; Orlando Carter, 20, and unnamed 14-year-old juvenile.
- **GUN DETAILS:** An AK-47 assault rifle and 9mm and .45-caliber handguns
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The adults were reported to have lengthy criminal histories, which prohibited them from purchasing guns, and the 14-year-old was too young to purchase or own a gun.
-

New Orleans, LA, 3/26/10: The shooter killed his ex-girlfriend, her sister, and two children.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Damian Jordan, 22
- **GUN DETAILS:** Handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown

ER1221



- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Jordan was likely prohibited from possessing a gun due to a lengthy history of domestic abuse, though he had repeatedly pled down the crimes to simple battery.

Appomattox, VA, 1/19/10: The shooter killed eight family-members and acquaintances and fired at responding police officers – even forcing a helicopter to make an emergency landing – before surrendering. He wore a bulletproof vest during the attack.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Christopher Speight, 39
- **GUN DETAILS:** High-powered rifle
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter was a concealed carry permit holder and was not prohibited from possessing a gun.

Bellville, TX, 1/16/10: The shooter, angered after a household argument, fatally shot his mother, stepfather, sister, brother and niece.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Maron Thomas, 20
- **GUN DETAILS:** Handgun and shotgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooter was prohibited from possessing a gun.

Madison, WI, 12/3/2009: The shooter killed two women with whom he was involved in paternity cases, along with their daughters, before shooting himself in his car.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Tyrone Adair, 38
- **GUN DETAILS:** Two handguns were found inside the vehicle where Adair died, one of which matched the caliber of the ammunition used in the murders.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Police report that Adair bought a 9mm gun that was advertised on Craigslist. This gun was likely transferred in a private sale.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter was prohibiting from possessing firearms due to an active restraining order involving a third woman. He had also been arrested in March 2009 after a domestic incident, but charges were not filed in that case.

Lakewood, WA, 11/29/09: The shooter killed four police officers in a Tacoma Coffee shop, eluding police for two days before being killed as he fled.



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- **SHOOTER NAME:** Maurice Clemmons, 37
- **GUN DETAILS:** When he was killed, he was in possession of the handgun of one of the officers he had killed.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter was prohibited from purchasing a firearm, having been charged with at least 13 felonies across two states. He had posted bail for raping a child just six days before the attack.
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** The police officers were armed at the time of the shooting.

Osage, KS, 11/28/09: The shooter killed his estranged wife, her grandmother, and his two daughters in their home.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** James Kahler, 46
- **GUN DETAILS:** Assault rifle
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Kahler was charged with a misdemeanor domestic violence assault in March 2009. If convicted, he would have been prohibited from purchasing a firearm.

Jupiter, FL, 11/26/09: The shooter killed his two twin sisters, his aunt, and his cousin's daughter, and injured two other family members, during a Thanksgiving celebration. He eluded capture for over a month before authorities apprehended him.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Paul Merhige, 40
- **GUN DETAILS:** He used at least two handguns during the shooting.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Purchased at least six guns (including a .22 caliber handgun and a .40 caliber semi-automatic handgun), a high-powered rifle with a scope, and ammunition from two gun stores in South Florida.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter was involuntarily committed to mental health facilities at least three times in the decade before the killing, which prohibited him under federal law from possessing guns. But his records were not submitted to the NICS database. His parents reportedly knew he had ceased taking prescribed psychotropic medication in the weeks leading up the shooting. In addition, his sister Carla Merhige had requested a restraining order against him in 2006, but later withdrew the request. The shooter was able to obtain a concealed weapons permit.

Pearcy, AR, 11/12/09: Three shooters killed five people in their mobile homes and stole wheel rims, televisions, a handgun, and a vehicle. One of the shooters injured a police officer while he was being apprehended several days later.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Samuel Conway, Marvin Lamar Stringer, and Jeremy Pickney
- **GUN DETAILS:** .22 and .25 caliber handguns

ER1223



- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence that the shooters were prohibited from possessing guns.

Oklahoma City, OK, 11/9/2009: The shooter or shooters killed four people in a house before setting the building on fire. Two of the victims were pregnant. The crime was premeditated by two conspirators, and related to drugs they sold for one of the victims. It is unclear whether just one or both of the conspirators were present for the shooting, but both were charged with six counts of murder. Tyner surrendered to authorities a week after the killings. Phillips was arrested in Tulsa in April 2010 after allegedly attempting to sell two guns stolen from a police sergeant's home.

- **SHOOTERS:** David Allen Tyner (pled guilty), 31 and Denny Edward Phillips (pled not guilty), 34
- **GUN DETAILS:** Handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Two types of bullet cases were recovered at the crime scene.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Phillips was prohibited due to a lengthy criminal history including multiple felony convictions. Phillips was convicted in 1996 for assault with a deadly weapon, and other crimes including a jail escape. He was also convicted in 2010 for possession of a firearm by a felon. He was also convicted of aggravated assault and battery. There is no indication that Tyner was prohibited, though he was reportedly a member of a prison gang.

Fort Hood, TX, 11/5/09: The shooter killed thirteen and wounded thirty soldiers during an attack at the Fort Hood army base.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Nidal Malik Hasan, 39
- **GUN DETAILS:** A FN Five-seven handgun was used in the attack. A Smith and Wesson .357 revolver also recovered.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Hasan fired at least 220 rounds of ammunition and had 200 rounds in his pocket when he was detained.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Purchased legally at a local gun shop, Guns Galore.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter had links with terrorist organizations, but being placed on a terror watch list does not prohibit purchase or possession of firearms under current law.

Mount Airy, NC, 11/01/09: The shooter killed four people outside a television store before eventually surrendering to the police.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Marcos Chavez Gonzalez, 29
- **GUN DETAILS:** Assault rifle.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown



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- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter was a prohibited purchaser, having been convicted of kidnapping a minor in 2002.
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** It was lawful to carry a firearm in the area of the shooting.

Lawrenceville, GA, 08/27/09: The shooter killed his girlfriend, his daughter, and two others in a domestic dispute.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Richard Ringold, 44
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooter was prohibited from possessing a gun.

Kansas City, KS, 6/22/09: The shooter killed a woman with whom he had been romantically linked and three others at the house where she was staying. He had argued with the woman and followed her to the house.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Adrian Burks
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter was prohibited from possessing firearms. He had served 10 years in Kansas prisons for robbery, aggravated assault, and burglary. He also fatally shot a man in March 2009, but he was not charged in the incident, which his cousin later described as "self defense." In April 2009, he was charged with battery and a criminal threat against the sister of the man he killed and was ordered not to possess firearms.

Middletown, MD, 04/19/09: The shooter killed his wife and three children in their home before committing suicide.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Christopher Alan Wood, 34
- **GUN DETAILS:** .25-caliber handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooter was prohibited from possessing a gun.
- **GREEN HILL, AL, 4/7/2009:** The shooter killed his estranged wife, their teenage daughter, and two other relatives one day before his divorce proceedings were scheduled to take place. He then lit the house on fire and shot himself.
- **SHOOTER NAME:** Kevin Garner, 45

ER1225



- **GUN DETAILS:** handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooter was prohibited from owning a gun. In divorce documents, however, his wife cited physical and emotional abuse.

Graham, WA, 4/4/2009: After a dispute with his wife in which she told him she was ending their relationship, the shooter returned home and killed his five children. Police believe he then made an unsuccessful attempt to find his wife again and then killed himself in his car.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** James Harrison
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unspecified rifle
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence Harrison was prohibited from possessing a gun. Since 2001 the state had received five complaints about the shooter, including one for abuse in 2007 that stemmed from a slapping incident with one of his children. None of the complaints resulted in a domestic violence conviction. After the shooting, his wife said that she and her children had sustained years of abuse.

Binghamton, NY, 4/3/09: The shooter killed fourteen and wounded four at the American Civic Association where he had been taking English classes before killing himself. He wore a bullet-proof vest during the attack.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Jiverly A. Wong, 42
- **GUN DETAILS:** 9mm and .45 caliber Beretta handguns.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Allegedly fired 98 rounds during the attack. At least one magazine with a 30-round capacity was recovered at the scene.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** The guns were registered to his New York State pistol license.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Wong was not prohibited from possessing a gun, and had a New York State concealed carry permit. People who knew Wong said he exhibited no outward signs of mental instability, although a letter he wrote that was delivered to a newspaper after the shooting indicated he was paranoid and suffering from mental illness.

Carthage, NC, 3/29/09: The shooter opened fire at a nursing home where his estranged wife worked, killing eight and injuring three before he was shot and arrested by a police officer.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Robert Stewart, 45
- **GUN DETAILS:** .357 Magnum handgun and Winchester 1300 shotgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** The guns were acquired legally from a local sporting good store.



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- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no indication the Stewart was prohibited from possessing a gun.

Santa Clara, CA, 3/29/09: The gunman killed five family members and wounded two in an apparent murder-suicide.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Devan Kalathat, 45
- **GUN DETAILS:** Two .45 caliber pistols
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Purchased legally weeks before the incident.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no indication that Kalathat was prohibited from possessing a gun.

East Oakland, CA, 3/21/09: The shooter used a semiautomatic handgun to kill two police officers after they stopped his car and then fled on foot to an apartment where he killed two SWAT officers with an assault weapon and injured a third before being killed by police.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Lovelle Mixon
- **GUN DETAILS:** 9mm semiautomatic handgun and SKS assault-style rifle
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Police said the assault weapon had a high-capacity magazine.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** The shooter took part in a home invasion robbery in Modesto, CA, on February 21 2009 in which a rifle was reported stolen. Police did not comment on whether the stolen rifle was the one used in the shooting.
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter had a lengthy criminal history, including a conviction for armed battery, which would have prohibited him from possessing a gun, and he was on parole for assault with a deadly weapon at the time of the shootings.
- **GUN-FREE ZONE:** Two of the victims were shot on a public roadway — the 7400 block of Macarthur Boulevard in East Oakland — where no state law would have prohibited a citizen with the appropriate permit to carry a gun. All of the police officers killed in the incident were armed.

Raytown, MO, 3/16/09: The gunman shot and stabbed his former girlfriend, her boyfriend, and her two nephews, killing all four.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Gevante Anderson, 26
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooter was prohibited from possessing a gun.

Miami, FL, 3/15/09: At a birthday party, the shooter killed his estranged wife, her daughter, her daughter's boyfriend, and the boyfriend's grandmother. He then returned to his house where he set the building on fire and shot and killed himself.

ER1227



- **SHOOTER NAME:** Guillermo Lopez, 48
- **GUN DETAILS:** Semi-automatic handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooter was prohibited from possessing a gun.

Catawba, NC, 3/12/09: The gunman shot and stabbed a woman and her three children in their home. He later killed himself and his girlfriend after a police chase in Utah.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Chiew Chan Saevang, 38
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence the shooter was prohibited from possessing a gun.

Geneva County, AL, 3/10/09: The shooter killed ten, including four members of his family, before killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Michael Kenneth McLendon, 28
- **GUN DETAILS:** Bushmaster AR-15, SKS rifle, shotgun, and .38 pistol
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Police recovered additional ammunition from his vehicle after the shooting.
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter had no criminal record and there is no indication he was prohibited from possessing a gun.
- **NOT A GUN-FREE ZONE:** It was lawful to carry a firearm in the public intersection and gas station where two of the individuals were shot.

Cleveland, OH, 3/05/09: The shooter killed his new wife and four of her relatives before committing suicide.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Davon Crawford, 33
- **GUN DETAILS:** At least one semiautomatic handgun.
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** Crawford was likely prohibited from possessing a gun. He was convicted of manslaughter in 1995 and pled guilty to felonious assault with a firearm in 2005, though Ohio enables felons to restore their gun rights so it is possible he was no longer prohibited.

Brockport, NY, 02/14/2009: The shooter killed a nurse in the Lakeside Memorial Hospital



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parking lot and a motorist who intervened, and wounded the motorist's girlfriend. The shooter had been fired from the hospital after the nurse filed a sexual harassment complaint against him. He then drove 50 miles and killed another nurse — who had filed a similar complaint against the shooter — and her husband in their home.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Frank Garcia, 34
- **GUN DETAILS:** .40 caliber Glock handgun
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** There is no evidence that the shooter was prohibited from owning a gun. However, he had applied for concealed carry permits and been denied three times. In his 1995 application, he omitted information about his criminal record — including arrests for criminal possession of a weapon, assault, and harassment. In 2001 and 2006 he made further omissions, and was evaluated as lacking moral character. But in 2007 a judge reversed the denial and granted Garcia a concealed weapon permit.
- **GUN FREE ZONE:** We found no indication that permit holders were prohibited from carrying guns in this area at the time of the incident.

Wilmington, CA, 1/27/09: The shooter killed his wife and their five children before killing himself.

- **SHOOTER NAME:** Ervin Lupoe, 40
- **GUN DETAILS:** Unknown
- **AMMO DETAILS:** Unknown
- **GUN ACQUIRED:** Unknown
- **PROHIBITING CRITERIA:** The shooter did not have a criminal record and there is no indication he was prohibited from possessing a gun.

ER1229

Exhibit 60

ER1230



VIRGINIA TECH REVIEW PANEL



Mass Shootings at Virginia Tech

April 16, 2007

Report of the Review Panel

Presented to

**Governor Kaine
Commonwealth of Virginia**



AUGUST 2007

Chapter III

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

The following timeline provides an overview of the events leading up to the tragedy on April 16, and then the actions taken on April 16. The time scale switches from years to months to days and even to minutes as appropriate. This information is a reference source to use as one reads the chapters.

The information here was drawn from numerous interviews and written sources. The Cho family and Seung Hui Cho's school administrators, counselors, teachers, and medical and school records are the prime sources for his history prior to attending Virginia Tech.

Information obtained on his university years before the shootings came from interviews with faculty, counselors, administrators, police, courts, psychological evaluators, suitemates, and others. The panel also had access to many university, medical, and court records and to e-mails and other written materials involving Cho.

The timeline for the events of April 16 relied primarily on state and campus police reports and interviews, supplemented by interviews with survivors, university officials, emergency medical responders, hospitals and others.

The information on the aftermath drew on medical examiner records, interviews with families, and other sources.

Each aspect of the timeline is discussed further in the following chapters, with an evaluation as well as narration of events.

PRE-INCIDENTS: CHO'S HISTORY

1986–2000

1984 Seung Hui Cho is born to a family living in a small two-room apartment in Seoul, South Korea. He is an inordinately shy, quiet child, but no problem to his

family. He has serious health problems from 9 months to 3 years old, is frail, and after unpleasant medical procedures does not want to be touched.

1992 Cho's family emigrates to Maryland when he is 8 years old.

1993 The Cho family moves to Fairfax County, Virginia, when he is 9 years old. They work long hours in a dry-cleaning business.

1997 Seung Hui in the 6th grade continues to be very withdrawn. Teachers meet with his parents about this behavior. In the summer before he enters 7th grade, he begins receiving counseling at the Center for Multi-cultural Human Services to address his shy, introverted nature, which is diagnosed as "selective mutism." Parents try to socialize him more by encouraging extracurricular activities and friends, but he stays withdrawn.

1999 During the 8th grade, suicidal and homicidal ideations are identified by Cho's middle school teachers in his writing. It is connected to the Columbine shootings this year. (He references Columbine in school writings.) The school requests that his parents ask a counselor to intervene, which leads to a psychiatric evaluation at the Multicultural Center for Human Services. He is prescribed antidepressant medication. He responds well and is taken off the medication approximately one year later.

2000–2003 (High School)

Fall 2000 Cho starts Westfield High School in Fairfax County as a sophomore, after attending another high school at Centreville for a year. After review by the "local screening committee," he is enrolled in an

Individual Educational Program (IEP) to deal with his shyness and lack of responsiveness in a classroom setting. Therapy continues with the Multicultural Center for Human Services through his junior year. He has no behavior problems, keeps his appointments, and makes no threats. He gets good grades and adjusts reasonably to the school environment. Both the guidance office in school and the therapist feel he was successful.

June 2003 Cho graduates from Westfield High School with a 3.5 GPA in the Honors Program. He decides to attend Virginia Tech against the advice of his parents and counselors, who think that it is too large a school for him and that he will not receive adequate individual attention. He is given the name of a contact at the high school if he needs help in college, but never avails himself of it.

2003–2004 (Virginia Tech)

August 2003 Cho enters Virginia Tech as a business information systems major. Little attention is drawn to him during his freshman year. He has a difficult time with his roommate over neatness issues and changes rooms. His parents make weekly trips to visit him. His grades are good. He does not see a counselor at school or home. He is excited about college.

Fall 2004 Cho begins his sophomore year. Cho moves off campus to room with a senior who is rarely at home. Cho complains of mites in the apartment, but doctors tell him it is acne and prescribe minocycline. He becomes interested in writing and decides to switch his major to English beginning his junior year. He submits the paperwork late that sophomore year. His sister notes a growing passion for writing over the summer break, though he is secretive about its content. Cho submits a book idea to a publishing house.

2005 (Virginia Tech)

Spring 2005 Cho requests a change of major to English. The idea for a book sent to a New York publishing house is rejected. This seems to depress him, according to his family. He still sees no counselor at school or home, and exhibits no behavioral problems other than his quietness.

Fall 2005 Cho starts junior year and moves back into the dorms. Serious problems begin to surface. His sister notes that he is writing less at home, is less enthusiastic, and wonders if the publisher's rejection letter curbed his enthusiasm for writing and reversed his improving attitude. At school, Cho is taken to some parties by his suitemates at the start of the fall semester. He stabs at the carpet in a girl's room with a knife in the presence of his suitemates.

Professor Nikki Giovanni, Cho's poetry professor, is concerned about violence in his writing. She also asks him to stop taking pictures of classmates from a camera held under the desk. She offers to get him into another class and writes a letter to English Department Chair Lucinda Roy to create a record that could lead to removing Cho from her class.

Dr. Roy removes Cho from Professor Giovanni's class and tutors him one-on-one with assistance from Professor Frederick D'Aguiar. When Cho refuses to go to counseling, Dr. Roy notifies the Division of Student Affairs, the Cook Counseling Center, the Schiffert Health Center, the Virginia Tech police, and the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. Cho's problems are discussed with the university's Care Team that reviews students with problems.

November 27 A female resident of WAJ files a report with the Virginia Tech Police Department (VTPD) indicating that Cho had made "annoying" contact with her on the Internet, by phone, and in person. The

VTPD interviews Cho, but the female student declines to press charges. The investigating officer refers Cho to the school's disciplinary system, the Office of Judicial Affairs.

November 30 Cho calls Cook Counseling Center and is triaged (i.e., given a preliminary screening) by phone at following his interaction with VTPD police.

December 6 E-mails among resident advisors (RAs) reflect complaints by a female resident in Cochrane residence hall regarding instant messages (IMs) from Cho sent under various strange aliases. E-mails also report that he went in disguise to a female student's room (the event of November 27).

December 12 A female student from Campbell Hall files a report with the VTPD complaining of "disturbing" IMs from Cho. She requests that Cho have no further contact with her.

Cho does not keep a 2:00 p.m. appointment at Cook Counseling Center but is triaged by them again by phone that afternoon.

December 13 VTPD notifies Cho that he is to have no further contact with the second female student who complained. After campus police leave, Cho's suitemate receives an IM from Cho stating, "I might as well kill myself now." The suitemate alerts VTPD. The police take Cho to the VTPD where a prescreener from the New River Valley Community Services Board evaluates him as "an imminent danger to self or others." A magistrate issues a temporary detaining order, and Cho is transported to Carilion St. Albans Psychiatric Hospital for an overnight stay and mental evaluation.

December 14

7 a.m. The person assigned as an independent evaluator, psychologist Roy Crouse, evaluates Cho and concludes that he does not present an imminent danger to himself.

Before 11 a.m. A staff psychiatrist at Carilion evaluates Cho, concludes he is not a danger to himself or others, and recommends outpatient counseling. He gathers no collateral information.

11-11:30 a.m. Special Justice Paul M. Barnett conducts Cho's commitment hearing and rules in accordance with the independent evaluator, but orders follow-up treatment as an outpatient. Cho then makes and keeps an appointment with the campus Cook Counseling Center.

Noon The staff psychiatrist dictates in his evaluation summary that "there is no indication of psychosis, delusions, suicidal or homicidal ideation." The psychiatrist finds that "his insight and judgment are normal....Followup and aftercare to be arranged with the counseling center at Virginia Tech; medications, none." Cho is released.

3:00 p.m. Cho is triaged in person at the Cook Counseling Center for the third time in 15 days.

2006

January The Cook Counseling Center receives a psychiatric summary from St. Albans. No action is taken by Cook Counseling Center or the Care Team to follow up on Cho.

April 17 Cho's technical writing professor, Carl Bean, suggests that Cho drop his class after repeated efforts to address shortcomings in class and inappropriate choice of writing assignments. Cho follows the professor to his office, raises his voice angrily, and is asked to leave. Bean does not report this incident to university officials.

Spring Cho writes a paper for Professor Hicok's creative writing class concerning a young man who hates the students at his school and plans to kill them and himself. The writing contains a number of parallels

CHAPTER III. TIMELINE OF EVENTS

to the events of April 16, 2007 and the recorded messages later sent to NBC.

September 6–12 Professor Lisa Norris, another of Cho’s writing professors, alerts the Associate Dean of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, Mary Ann Lewis, about him, but the dean finds “no mention of mental health issues or police reports” on Cho. Professor Norris encourages Cho to go to counseling with her, but he declines.

Fall Professor Falco, another of Cho’s writing instructors, confers with Professors Roy and Norris, who tell him that Dr. Roy in Fall 2005 and Professor Norris in 2006 alerted the Associate Dean of Students, Mary Ann Lewis, about Cho.

2007

February 2 Cho orders a .22 caliber Walther P22 handgun online from TGSCOM, Inc.

February 9 Cho picks up the handgun from J-N-D Pawnbrokers in Blacksburg, across the street from the university.

March 12 Cho rents a van from Enterprise Rent-A-Car at the Roanoke Regional Airport, which he keeps for almost a month. (Cho videotapes some of his subsequently released diatribe in the van.)

March 13 Cho purchases a 9mm Glock 19 handgun and a box of 50 9mm full metal jacket practice rounds at Roanoke Firearms. He has waited the 30 days between gun purchases as required in Virginia. The store initiates the required background check by police, who find no record of mental health issues.

March 22 Cho goes to PSS Range and Training, an indoor pistol range, and spends an hour practicing.

March 22 Cho purchases two 10-round magazines for the Walther P22 on eBay.

March 23 Cho purchases three additional 10-round magazines from another eBay seller.

March 31 Cho purchases additional ammunition magazines, ammunition, and a hunting knife from Wal-Mart and Dick’s Sporting Goods. He buys chains from Home Depot.

April 7 Cho purchases more ammunition.

April 8 Cho spends the night at the Hampton Inn in Christiansburg, Virginia, videotaping segments for his manifesto-like diatribe. He also buys more ammunition.

April 13 Bomb threats are made to Torgersen, Durham, and Whittemore halls, in the form of an anonymous note. The threats are assessed by the VTPD; and the buildings evacuated. There is no lockdown or cancellation of classes elsewhere on campus. In retrospect, no evidence is found linking these threats to Cho’s later bomb threat in Norris Hall, based in part on handwriting analysis.

April 14 An Asian male wearing a hooded garment is seen by a faculty member in Norris Hall. She later (after April 16) tells police that one of her students had told her the doors were chained. This may have been Cho practicing. Cho buys yet more ammunition.

April 15 Cho places his weekly Sunday night call to his family in Fairfax County. They report the conversation as normal and that Cho said nothing that caused them concern.

THE INCIDENTS

April 16, 2007

5:00 a.m. In Cho’s suite in Harper Hall (2121), one of Cho’s suitemates notices Cho is awake and at his computer.

CHAPTER III. TIMELINE OF EVENTS

About 5:30 a.m. One of Cho's other suitemates notices Cho clad in boxer shorts and a shirt brushing his teeth and applying acne cream. Cho returns from the bathroom, gets dressed, and leaves.

6:47 a.m. Cho is spotted by a student waiting outside the West Ambler Johnston (WAJ) residential hall entrance, where he has his mailbox.

7:02 a.m. Emily Hilscher enters the dorm after being dropped off by her boyfriend (the time is based on her swipe card record).

About 7:15 a.m. Cho shoots Hilscher in her room (4040) at WAJ. He also shoots Ryan Christopher Clark, an RA. Clark, it is thought, most likely came to investigate noises in Hilscher's room, which is next door to his. Both of the victims' wounds prove to be fatal.

7:17 a.m. Cho's access card is swiped at Harper Hall (his residence hall). He goes to his room to change out of his bloody clothes.

7:20 a.m. The VTPD receives a call on their administrative telephone line advising that a female student in room 4040 of WAJ had possibly fallen from her loft bed. The caller was given this information by another WAJ resident near room 4040 who heard the noise.

7:21 a.m. The VTPD dispatcher notifies the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad that a female student had possibly fallen from her loft bed in WAJ. A VTPD officer is dispatched to room 4040 at WAJ to accompany the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad, which is also dispatched (per standard protocol).

7:24 a.m. The VTPD officer arrives at WAJ room 4040, finds two people shot inside the room, and immediately requests additional VTPD resources.

7:25 a.m. Cho accesses his university e-mail account (based on computer records). He erases his files and the account.

7:26 a.m. VT Rescue Squad 3 arrives on-scene outside WAJ.

7:29 a.m. VT Rescue Squad 3 arrives at room 4040.

7:30 a.m. Additional VTPD officers begin arriving at room 4040. They secure the crime scene and start preliminary investigation. Interviews of residents find them unable to provide a suspect description. No one on Hilscher's floor in WAJ saw anyone leave room 4040 after the initial noise was heard.

7:30–8:00 a.m. A friend of Hilscher's arrives at WAJ to join her for the walk to chemistry class. She is questioned by detectives and explains that on Monday mornings Hilscher's boyfriend would drop her off and go back to Radford University where he was a student. She tells police that the boyfriend is an avid gun user and practices using the gun. This leads the police to seek him as a "person of interest" and potential suspect.

7:40 a.m. VTPD Chief Flinchum is notified by phone of the WAJ shootings.

7:51 a.m. Chief Flinchum contacts the Blacksburg Police Department (BPD) and requests a BPD evidence technician and BPD detective to assist with the investigation.

7:57 a.m. Chief Flinchum notifies the Virginia Tech Office of the Executive Vice President of the shootings. This triggers a meeting of the university's Policy Group.

8:00 a.m. Classes begin. Chief Flinchum arrives at WAJ and finds VTPD and BPD detectives on the scene and the investigation underway. A local special agent of the state police has been contacted and is responding to the scene.

8:10–9:25 a.m. Chief Flinchum provides updated information via phone to the Virginia Tech Policy Group regarding progress made in

CHAPTER III. TIMELINE OF EVENTS

the investigation. He informs them of a possible suspect, who is probably off campus.

8:11 a.m. BPD Chief Kim Crannis arrives on scene.

8:13 a.m. Chief Flinchum requests additional VTPD and BPD officers to assist with securing WAJ entrances and with the investigation.

8:15 a.m. Chief Flinchum requests the VTPD Emergency Response Team (ERT) to respond to the scene and then to stage in Blacksburg in the event an arrest is needed or a search warrant is to be executed.

8:16–9:24 a.m. Officers search for Hilscher's boyfriend. His vehicle is not found in campus parking lots, and officers become more confident that he has left the campus. VTPD and BPD officers are sent to his home; he is not found. A BOLO (be on the lookout) report is issued to BPD and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office for his vehicle. Meanwhile, officers continue canvassing WAJ for possible witnesses. VTPD, BPD, and the Virginia State Police (VSP) continue processing the room 4040 crime scene and gathering evidence. Investigators secure identification of the victims.

8:19 a.m. Chief Crannis requests BPD ERT to respond for the same reason as the VTPD ERT.

8:20 a.m. A person fitting Cho's description is seen near the Duck Pond on campus.

8:25 a.m. The Virginia Tech Policy Group meets to plan on how to notify students of the homicides.

8:52 a.m. Blacksburg public schools lock their outer doors upon hearing of the incident at WAJ from their security chief, who had heard of the incident on police radio.

9:00 a.m. The Policy Group is briefed on the latest events in the ongoing dormitory homicide investigation by the VTPD.

9:01 a.m. Cho mails a package from the Blacksburg post office to NBC News in New York that contains pictures of himself holding weapons, an 1,800-word rambling diatribe, and video clips in which he expresses rage, resentment, and a desire to get even with oppressors. He alludes to a coming massacre. Cho prepared this material in the previous weeks. The videos are a performance of the enclosed writings. Cho also mails a letter to the English Department attacking Professor Carl Bean, with whom he previously argued.

9:05 a.m. Classes begin for the second period in Norris Hall.

9:15 a.m. Both police ERTs are staged at the BPD in anticipation of executing search warrants or making an arrest.

9:15–9:30 a.m. Cho is seen outside and then inside Norris Hall, an engineering building. He chains the doors shut on the three main entrances from the inside. No one reports seeing him do this.

9:24 a.m. A Montgomery County, Virginia deputy sheriff initiates a traffic stop of Hilscher's boyfriend off campus in his pickup truck. Detectives are sent to assist with the questioning.

9:25 a.m. A VTPD police captain joins the Virginia Tech Policy Group as police liaison and provides updates as information becomes available.

9:26 a.m. Virginia Tech administration sends e-mail to campus staff, faculty, and students informing them of the dormitory shooting.

9:31–9:48 a.m. A VSP trooper arrives at the traffic stop of the boyfriend and helps question him. A gunpowder residue field test is performed on him and the result is negative.

About 9:40 a.m.¹ until about 9:51 a.m. Cho begins shooting in room 206 in Norris Hall, where a graduate engineering class in Advanced Hydrology is underway. Cho kills Professor G. V. Loganathan and other students in the class, killing 9 and wounding 3 of the 13 students.

Cho goes across the hall from room 206 and enters room 207, an Elementary German class. He shoots teacher Christopher James Bishop, then students near the front of the classroom and starts down the aisle shooting others. Cho leaves the classroom to go back into the hall.

Students in room 205, attending Haiyan Cheng's class on Issues in Scientific Computing, hear Cho's gunshots. (Cheng was a graduate assistant substituting for the professor that day.) The students barricade the door and prevent Cho's entry despite his firing at them through the door.

Meanwhile, in room 211 Madame Jocelyne Couture-Nowak is teaching French. She and her class hear the shots, and she asks student Colin Goddard to call 9-1-1. A student tells the teacher to put the desk in front of the door, which is done but it is nudged open by Cho. Cho walks down the rows of desks shooting people. Goddard is shot in the leg. Student Emily Haas picks up the cell phone Goddard dropped. She begs the police to hurry. Cho hears Haas and shoots her, grazing her twice in the head. She falls and plays dead, though keeping the phone cradled under her head and the line open. Cho says nothing on entering the room or during the shooting. (Three students who pretend to be dead survive.)

9:41 a.m. A BPD dispatcher receives a call regarding the shooting in Norris Hall. The

dispatcher initially has difficulty understanding the location of the shooting. Once identified as being on campus, the call is transferred to VTPD.

9:42 a.m. The first 9-1-1 call reporting shots fired reaches the VTPD. A message is sent to all county EMS units to staff and respond.

9:45 a.m. The first police officers arrive at Norris Hall, a three-minute response time from their receipt of the call. Hearing shots, they pause briefly to check whether they are being fired upon, then rush to one entrance, then another, and then a third but find all three chained shut. Attempts to shoot open the locks fail.

About 9:45 a.m. The police inform the administration that there has been another shooting. University President Steger hears sounds like gunshots, and sees police running toward Norris Hall.

Back in room 207, the German class, two uninjured students and two injured students go to the door and hold it shut with their feet and hands, keeping their bodies away. Within 2 minutes, Cho returns. He beats on the door and opens it an inch and fires shots around the door handle, then gives up trying to get in.

Cho returns to room 211, the French class, and goes up one aisle and down another, shooting people again. Cho shoots Goddard again twice more.

A janitor sees Cho in the hall on the second floor loading his gun; he flees downstairs.

Cho tries to enter room 204 where engineering professor Liviu Librescu is teaching Mechanics. Librescu braces his body against the door yelling for students to head for the window. He is shot through the door. Students push out screens and jump or drop to grass or bushes below the window. Ten students escape this way. The next two students trying to escape are shot. Cho

¹The panel estimates that the shooting began at this time based on the time it took for the students and faculty in the room next door to recognize that the sounds being heard were gunshots, and then make the call to 9-1-1.

returns again to room 206 and shoots more students.

9:50 a.m. Using a shotgun, police shoot open the ordinary key lock of a fourth entrance to Norris Hall that goes to a machine shop and that could not be chained. The police hear gunshots as they enter the building. They immediately follow the sounds to the second floor.

Triage and rescue of victims begin.

A second e-mail is sent by the administration to all Virginia Tech e-mail addresses announcing that “A gunman is loose on campus. Stay in buildings until further notice. Stay away from all windows.” Four loudspeakers out of doors on poles broadcast a similar message.

Virginia Tech and Blacksburg police ERTs arrive at Norris Hall, including one paramedic with each team.

9:51 a.m. Cho shoots himself in the head just as police reach the second floor. Investigators believe that the police shotgun blast alerted Cho to the arrival of the police. Cho’s shooting spree in Norris Hall lasted about 11 minutes. He fired 174 rounds, and killed 30 people in Norris Hall plus himself, and wounded 17.

While the shootings at Norris Hall were occurring, police were taking the following actions in connection with the shootings at WAJ:

- Officers canvass WAJ for possible witnesses.
- VTPD, BPD, and VSP process the room 4040 crime scene and gather evidence.
- Officers search interior and exterior waste containers and surrounding areas near WAJ for evidence.
- Officers canvass rescue squad personnel for additional evidence or information.

- Police officials assign the additional responding law enforcement personnel.

At Norris Hall, the first team of officers begins—

- Securing the second floor.
- Triaging the 48 gunshot victims and aiding survivors in multiple classrooms.
- Coordinating rescue efforts to remove survivors from Norris Hall.
- Gathering preliminary suspect or gunman descriptions.
- Determining if additional gunmen exist.

9:52 a.m. The police clear the second floor of Norris Hall. Two tactical medics attached to the ERTs, one medic from Virginia Tech Rescue and one from Blacksburg Rescue, are allowed to enter to start their initial triage.

9:53 a.m. The 9:42 a.m. request for all EMS units is repeated.

10:08 a.m. A deceased male student is discovered by police team and suspected to be the gunman:

- No identification is found on the body.
- He appears to have a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.
- He is found among his victims in classroom 211, the French class.
- Two weapons are found near the body.

10:17 a.m. A third e-mail from Virginia Tech administration cancels classes and advises people to stay where they are.

10:51 a.m. All patients from Norris Hall have been transported to a hospital or moved to a minor treatment unit.

10:52 a.m. A fourth e-mail from Virginia Tech administration warns of “a multiple shooting with multiple victims in Norris

Hall,” saying the shooter has been arrested and that police are hunting for a possible second shooter.

10:57 a.m. A report of shots fired at the tennis courts near Cassell Coliseum proves false.

12:42 p.m. University President Charles Steger announces that police are releasing people from buildings and that counseling centers are being established.

1:35 p.m. A report of a possible gunshot near Duck Pond proves to be another false alarm.

4:01 p.m. President George W. Bush speaks to the Nation from the White House regarding the shooting.

5:00 p.m. The first deceased victim is transported to the medical examiner’s office.

8:45 p.m. The last deceased victim is transported to the medical examiner’s office.

Evening A search warrant is served for the residence of the first victim’s boyfriend. Investigators continue investigating whether he is linked to the first crime; the two crimes are not yet connected for certain.

POST-INCIDENT

April 17, 2007

9:15 a.m. VTPD releases the name of the shooter as Cho Seung Hui and confirms 33 fatalities between the two incidents.

9:30 a.m. VT announces classes will be cancelled “for the remainder of the week to allow students the time they need to grieve and seek assistance as needed.”

11:00 a.m. A family assistance center is established at The Inn at Virginia Tech.

2:00 p.m. A convocation ceremony is held for the university community at the Cassell Coliseum. Speakers include President

George W. Bush, Virginia Governor Tim Kaine (who had returned from Japan), Virginia Tech President Charles Steger, Virginia Tech Vice President for Student Affairs Zenobia L. Hikes, local religious leaders (representing the Muslim, Buddhist, Jewish, and Christian communities), Provost Dr. Mark G. McNamee, Dean of Students Tom Brown, Counselor Dr. Christopher Flynn, and poet and Professor Nikki Giovanni.

8:00 p.m. A candlelight vigil is held on the Virginia Tech drill field.

11:30 p.m. The first autopsy is completed.

April 18, 2007

8:25 a.m. A SWAT team enters Burruss Hall, a campus building next to Norris Hall, responding to a “suspicious event”; this proved to be a false alarm.

4:37 p.m. Local police announce that NBC News in New York received by mail this day a package containing images of Cho holding weapons, his writings, and his video recordings. NBC immediately submitted this information to the FBI. A fragment of the video and pictures are widely broadcast.

April 19, 2007

VT announces that all students who were killed will be granted posthumous degrees in the fields in which they were studying. (The degrees are subsequently awarded to the families at the regular commencement exercises.)

Virginia Governor Kaine selects an independent Virginia Tech Review Panel to detail the April 16 shootings.

Autopsies on all victims are completed by the medical examiner. The autopsy of Cho found no gross brain function abnormalities

CHAPTER III. TIMELINE OF EVENTS

and no toxic substances, drugs, or alcohol that could explain the rampage.

April 20, 2007

Governor Kaine declares a statewide day of mourning.

Exhibit 61

ER1242

Assault Weapons "Mass Produced Mayhem"



Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence October 2008

ER1243

Assault Weapons: "Mass Produced Mayhem"

**Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence
October 2008**



ER1245

October 2008

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence is a national non-profit organization working to reduce the tragic toll of gun violence in America through education, research, and legal advocacy. Through its project, *Gun Industry Watch*, the Brady Center works to monitor and publicly expose gun industry practices that contribute to gun violence, with the goal of bringing about life-saving industry reform. The programs of the Brady Center complement the legislative and grassroots mobilization efforts of its sister organization, the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence and its network of Million Mom March Chapters.

Assault Weapons: "Mass Produced Mayhem" was written by Brian J. Siebel. Thanks go to Robyn Steinlauf, Sarah McLemore, Molly Warren, Lindsay Brooker, Talesia Simon, Natalie Durham, and Elizabeth Haile for their assistance in preparing this report. If you have questions about any part of this report, or would like a copy, please write to *Gun Industry Watch*, Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, 1225 Eye Street, N.W., Suite 1100, Washington D.C. 20005. The report and other Gun Industry Watch reports are also available at www.bradycenter.org/gunindustrywatch and www.gunlawsuits.org.

A Note About the Title

The phrase "mass produced mayhem" is taken from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosive's description of assault weapons in its "Assault Weapons Profile" (April 1994).

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ER1246

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Executive Summary

Assault weapons are military-style weapons of war, made for offensive military assaults. It is no accident that when a madman, Gian Luigi Ferri, decided to assault the law offices at 101 California Street in San Francisco, he armed himself with two TEC-9 assault weapons with 50-round magazines, which enabled him to kill eight people and wound six others.¹ Or that the Columbine high school shooters, who killed 12 students and a teacher, included a TEC-9 assault pistol in their arsenal.² Or that the Branch-Davidians at Waco, Texas, accumulated an arsenal of assault weapons to prepare for battle against the federal government, including 123 AR-15s, 44 AK-47s, two Barrett .50 calibers, two Street Sweepers, an unknown number of MAC-10 and MAC-11s, 20 100-round drum magazines, and 260 large-capacity banana clips.³ Or that James Huberty used an UZI assault pistol and a shotgun to kill 21 people and wound 19 others at a McDonald's in San Ysidro, California.⁴ Or that Patrick Purdy used an AK-47 assault rifle to kill five children and wound 29 others and a teacher at an elementary school in Stockton, California. Equipped with a 75-round "drum" magazine, Purdy was able to shoot 106 rounds in less than two minutes.⁵ The list of horrific attacks goes on.⁶

The federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) has called assault weapons "mass produced mayhem."⁷ They have been weapons of choice for gangs, drug dealers, and mass killers. They have been used to slaughter innocents in numerous high-profile shootings, and have been used to outgun police officers on the streets. They are of no use for hunters and are counterproductive for lawful defense of one's home. Law enforcement throughout the nation has called for them to be banned. Presidents Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush did not agree on much, but they all supported an assault weapons ban.

For ten years, from 1994-2004, federal law banned these weapons of war. Although this now-expired law was limited in scope, and was circumvented by many gun manufacturers, it reduced the use of assault weapons in crime. The experience suggests that a stronger, more comprehensive law would enhance public safety even more.

In the four years since the federal ban expired, hundreds of people have been killed in this country with military-style assault weapons. This report lists incidents in which at least 163 people have been killed and 185 wounded in with assault weapons, including at least 38 police officers killed or wounded by them. Moreover, as these incidents are only those that we could find reported in the press, the actual tally of fatalities and injuries is almost certainly much higher.

Since the federal assault weapon expired in 2004, politicians from President George W. Bush to Senator John Warner have called for its renewal. But on this issue, the two major presidential candidates offer two starkly opposing views: Senator Barack



Obama has stated as recently as his convention acceptance speech that it is imperative that criminals be denied the use of assault weapons. Senator John McCain, who has opposed the NRA on gun shows and other issues, has been firm in his opposition to assault weapon bans. The question should be asked of the candidates, "Senator, why should civilians be allowed to wield these weapons of war?"

This report provides the factual basis for answering that question, and makes the evidentiary case for an assault weapons ban. The report also outlines how the availability of assault weapons to criminals has altered the balance of power on urban streets between police and criminals, placing police officers in grave risk of harm.

SWD M-10, M-11, M-11/9, and M-12 Assault Pistol



AK-47 Assault Rifle (Many variants)



Assault Weapons Are Designed to Slaughter People

Assault weapons are semiautomatic versions of fully automatic guns designed for military use. These guns unleash extraordinary firepower. When San Jose, California, police test-fired an UZI, a 30-round magazine was emptied in slightly less than two seconds on full automatic, while the same magazine was emptied in just five seconds on semiautomatic.⁸

As the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (“ATF”) has explained:

Assault weapons were designed for rapid fire, close quarter shooting at human beings. That is why they were put together the way they were. You will not find these guns in a duck blind or at the Olympics. **They are mass produced mayhem.**⁹

ATF has also described semiautomatic assault weapons as “large capacity, semi-automatic firearms designed and configured for rapid fire, combat use.... Most are patterned after machine guns used by military forces.”¹⁰ In short, as a Montgomery County, Alabama Sheriff has said: “[T]here’s only one reason for owning a gun like that – killing people. There’s no other use other than to kill people. That’s all they’re made for.”¹¹

Assault weapons have distinct features that separate them from sporting firearms.¹² While semiautomatic hunting rifles are designed to be fired from the shoulder and depend upon the accuracy of a precisely aimed projectile, the military features of semiautomatic assault weapons are designed to enhance their capacity to shoot multiple human targets very rapidly. Assault weapons are equipped with large-capacity ammunition magazines that allow the shooter to fire 20, 50, or even more than 100 rounds without having to reload. Pistol grips on assault rifles and shotguns help stabilize the weapon during rapid fire and allow the shooter to spray-fire from the hip position. Barrel shrouds on assault pistols protect the shooter’s hands from the heat generated by firing many rounds in rapid succession. Far from being simply “cosmetic,” these features all contribute to the unique function of any assault weapon to deliver extraordinary firepower. They are uniquely military features, with no sporting purpose whatsoever.¹³

Accordingly, ATF has concluded that assault weapons “are not generally recognized as particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes” and instead “are attractive to certain criminals.”¹⁴ An ATF survey of 735 hunting guides, conducted during the administration of President George H.W. Bush, found that sportsmen do not use assault weapons.¹⁵ These findings were confirmed in a second study performed by ATF under the Clinton Administration.¹⁶



A researcher hired by the Department of Justice to analyze the effect of the 1994 federal ban on assault weapons confirmed that the firepower of assault weapons gives them greater destructive potential. His analysis found that:

attacks with semiautomatics – including assault weapons and other semiautomatics equipped with large capacity magazines – result in more shots fired, more persons hit, and more wounds inflicted per victim than do attacks with other firearms.¹⁷

This contradicts the National Rifle Association's ("NRA") assertion that there are only "cosmetic" differences between the guns affected by the assault weapon ban and other firearms.

TEC-9, TEC-DC-9, and TEC-22 Assault Pistol



Steyr AUG Assault Rifle



Assault Weapons Threaten Law Enforcement and Terrorize Civilians

Since the federal assault weapons ban expired in September 2004, assault weapons have again flooded our streets, causing mayhem. Law enforcement agencies throughout the United States have reported an upward trend in assault weapons violence, forcing many police departments to invest in expensive assault weapons to keep from being outgunned by criminals. However, even with greater firepower and the availability of bulletproof vests, many officers have lost their lives to assault weapon attacks. Hundreds of civilians have also been victimized by assault weapons, many of them in multiple-victim attacks. In an appendix to this report, we list more than 200 assault weapons shootings and attacks that have occurred since the federal ban expired – and the list does not purport to be comprehensive. Assault weapons may not be used in the majority of crimes – handguns are – but they are disproportionately used in crime compared to their numbers in circulation. Moreover, assault weapons have special appeal to terrorists. They have no place in a civilized society.

Police Outgunned

Law enforcement has reported that assault weapons are the “weapons of choice” for drug traffickers, gangs, terrorists, and paramilitary extremist groups. As Los Angeles Police Chief William Bratton said:

There is a reason that these weapons are so appealing to criminals. They are designed to be easily concealed and kill as many people as possible as quickly as possible. Congress must act and act now to protect the American public and our police officers from these deadly weapons. This is about public safety and law enforcement.¹⁸

Law enforcement officers are at particular risk from these weapons because of their high firepower, which often leaves them outgunned by criminals. A researcher for the Department of Justice found that:

[A]ssault weapons account for a larger share of guns used in mass murders and murders of police, crimes for which weapons with greater firepower would seem particularly useful.¹⁹

Indeed, numerous law enforcement officers have been killed with high-firepower assault weapons.²⁰ In black sidebars on the following pages, we list ten cases of officers down since the federal assault weapons ban expired in September 2004. Unfortunately, there have been many more.²¹



OFFICERS DOWN

San Antonio, Texas. September 8, 2008.

A man shot two police officers with an assault rifle when the police attempted to arrest him. A standoff between the suspect and police followed, ending hours later when the suspect shot and killed himself.²²

Tucson, Arizona. June 1, 2008.

A man shot at several houses with an assault rifle, then lead police in pursuit across Tucson for more than an hour. During the chase, the gunman shot at police multiple times, fatally shooting one officer and injuring two Sheriff's deputies.²³

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. May 3, 2008.

Officer Stephen Liczbinski was shot and killed by an assault rifle as he was responding to a robbery at a Bank of America branch. Three men robbed the bank and were fleeing when Officer Liczbinski stopped their car and exited his patrol car. At that time, one of the bank robbers opened fire with an SKS assault rifle, striking Liczbinski numerous times. One suspect was eventually shot and killed by police and the other two were arrested and charged with murder.²⁴

Miami, Florida. September 13, 2007.

Police spotted a vehicle driving erratically and followed it until it stopped in a residential complex. The suspect got out and hopped a fence to the rear of the home; the officers exited their patrol car and went to the front of the home and were granted permission to search by a female resident. The suspect grabbed a high-powered, military-style assault rifle and fired at the police officers through a window, killing Officer Jose Somohano. The suspect then exited the house and shot three other officers as he escaped. The shooter was caught later that day but would not relinquish his assault rifle so he was shot and killed by police officers.²⁵

Floyd County, Indiana. June 18, 2007.

Two officers responded to a domestic disturbance call between a mother and her son. The officers were speaking with the mother on the driveway when the 15-year-old son ambushed both officers from an upstairs window and shot at them with a high-powered assault rifle. One officer was killed and the other was seriously wounded.²⁶

In addition, police departments have found that the ban's expiration has led to increased criminal access to assault weapons and levels of violent crime, forcing many to outfit their officers with assault rifles of their own.²⁷ An informal survey of about 20 police departments conducted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police revealed that since 2004, all of the agencies have either added assault weapons to patrol units or replaced existing weapons with military-style assault weapons.²⁸

"We're in an arms race," said Police Chief Scott Knight, chairman of the firearms committee of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.²⁹ Indeed, data collected from ATF found that, since 2005, the first full year after the federal ban on assault weapons expired, ATF recorded an 11% increase in crime gun tracings of AK-47-type assault weapons.³⁰

The Chicago Police Department reported a 10% increase in the number of assault weapons seized. Superintendent Phil Cline said, "[t]hese are guns that can shoot up to 30 rounds with a couple pulls of the trigger. And it puts our police in grave danger out there. So, we'd like still to see some kind of ban, either by the state or federally."³¹

In 2006, law enforcement in Miami noted the effect of the expiration of the assault weapons ban on the rash of crimes used with these now-legal weapons.



County state attorney Katherine Fernandez-Rundle stated that the AK-47 is the “favorite weapon” of dangerous gangs gaining influence in Miami.³² Miami-Dade Police Director Robert Parker stated “there was nothing positively gained by the lifting of the ban on assault weapons by the government.”³³

Just over a year later, Miami police said that the amount of assault weapons they recovered, and homicides using assault weapons, had continued to increase. While just four percent of homicides in Miami in 2004 were committed with assault weapons, in 2007, it was one in five.³⁴ “It’s almost like we have water pistols going up against these high-powered rifles,” said John Rivera, president of the Dade County Police Benevolent Association. “Our weaponry and our bulletproof vests don’t match up to any of those types of weapons.”³⁵

The death of Miami police officer Sgt. Jose Somohano - killed by a shooter wielding a MAK-90 three years to the day after the federal ban expired - prompted Miami Police Chief John Timoney for the first time to authorize officers to start carrying assault weapons. The Chief blamed the expiration of the federal ban for the current “arms race” between police and drug gangs using assault weapons:

This is really a failure of leadership at the national level. We are absolutely going in the wrong direction here. The whole thing is a friggin disgrace.³⁶

He added:

Two or three years ago, we had the lowest homicide rate since 1967 in Miami. Then the homicides skyrocketed with the availability of AK-47s. And it went from 3% of all homicides being committed with AKs, up to 9% two years ago, then 18% last year, and this year it is around 20%. And it’s going up.... We’re being flooded with these AK-47s.”³⁷

Shootings involving assault weapons were among the reasons U.S. Attorney R. Alexander Acosta set up an anti-gang task force of federal, state, and local law enforcement officials in Florida in 2007. Fifteen federal prosecutors were assigned to the effort. Said Acosta of assault weapons:

These bullets are very powerful: they go through walls, they go through cars, and if you just spray the general vicinity you’re going to get innocent bystanders. A shooting that might have been an injury previously is now a death.³⁸

Pittsburgh law enforcement also has noticed an increase in criminal use of assault weapons since the expiration of the ban. Firearms like the AK-47 and Soviet SKS Carbine have become the weapons of choice for street criminals. Pittsburgh’s Assistant Chief of Police William Mullen blamed the expiration of the ban for this



OFFICERS DOWN

Biloxi, Mississippi. June 5, 2007. A gunman with an AK-47 ambushed police officers in a shootout, killing one, then shooting himself. The gunman lured police by firing shots in the neighborhood and waiting. After shooting one officer, the gunman unloaded an additional round into the patrol car. The gunman had a cache of backup guns and ammunition waiting inside his home.³⁹

Chantilly, Virginia. May 8, 2006. A teenager with an AK-47 and 5 handguns engaged in a firefight at a police station in suburban Virginia, killing Detective Vicky Armel immediately and wounding two other officers, one of whom, Officer Michael Garbarino, died nine days later from his injuries.⁴⁰

Las Vegas, Nevada. February 1, 2006. A 22-year-old fired at least 50 rounds from an assault rifle, shooting two Las Vegas police officers and killing one, before being shot and killed by the surviving officer.⁴¹

Livingston County, Kentucky. June 2, 2005. A deputy was shot when he responded to a domestic disturbance call placed by a couple's 18-year-old daughter. When the officer entered the home, a male fired at least 8 rounds from an assault rifle at him, hitting him four times and killing him. The officer was able to fire one round which killed the gunman.⁴²

Ceres, California. January 9, 2005. A 19-year-old Marine armed with an SKS assault rifle shot two police officers, killing one, in a gun battle outside a liquor store.⁴³

increase and noted, "[t]here's a lot more assault weapons in the area in districts now than ever before."⁴⁴

In Houston, where homicides were up significantly in 2006, Police Chief Harold Hurtt said the AK-47 assault rifle had become "a weapon of choice" among warring gangs.⁴⁵

Palm Beach County police have noted an alarming trend of AK-47 use in violent crimes. Sheriff's Lieutenant Mike Wallace said: "It seems to be the weapon of choice right now. It's a weapon of war, and the function is to kill and maim. When somebody gets hit with that, it causes horrendous damage."⁴⁶ Sergeant Laurie Pfiel of the same office said: "[Criminals] don't have .38s anymore. They have AK-47s."⁴⁷

Martin County Sheriff's Office Captain Ed Kirkpatrick of Florida details the effect of criminal possession of assault weapons on effective law enforcement: "Everyone is taking more precautions. When you stop a car in the middle of the night, you [didn't] think about it. Now you do. These are very powerful weapons."⁴⁸

Franklin County, North Carolina Sheriff Pat Green said: "I've been in this business 25 years, and it's just getting worse," referring to a report that they have been finding more and more assault weapons at crime scenes in the state.⁴⁹ In South Carolina, Lieutenant Ira Parnell, head of the State Law Enforcement Division's firearms lab, noted that investigators are seeing an increase in criminal use of AK-47 and SKS assault rifles.⁵⁰

Fort Wayne, Indiana police reported a significant spike in seizures of assault weapons since the ban expired, from two in 2003, to nine in 2004, eight in 2005, 29 in 2006, and 20 in 2007. "[W]e're certainly seeing them more and more," said Police Chief Rusty York.⁵¹ Similarly, Omaha, Nebraska police seized 39 assault rifles in 2007, up from nine in 2006.⁵²



In San Francisco, Police Officers Association President Gary Delanges said: “Just about every crook you run into out there [who] is a drug dealer or a gang banger’s got one of these weapons. And it’s putting our officers’ lives at risk.”⁵³ Deputy Chief Morris Tabak displayed some of the seized assault weapons, including a .22 caliber gun modified to hold 100 rounds. “These are what could be described only as anti-personnel weapons,” he said.⁵⁴

Israeli Military Industries Action Arms UZI Assault Rifle



Civilians Massacred

Assault weapons have been used to perpetrate some of the most horrific crimes, including mass murders, ever committed in the United States. Some of the most infamous ones are cited in the Executive Summary of this report. Unfortunately, this gruesome death toll has grown since the expiration of the 10-year federal ban on assault weapons.

As can be seen from the following examples, assault weapons have been used to kill civilians engaged in common activities of life, in all types of circumstances and places. The Appendix lists more than 200 examples from just the last four years.

- **Teens slaughtered at a swimming hole in Wisconsin**

On July 31, 2008, a man used an assault rifle to massacre a group of teenagers, killing three and injuring a fourth near Niagara, Wisconsin. The teens were gathered along a river to go swimming when the gunman emerged from surrounding woods and began shooting.⁵⁵



- **Apartment employees shot by a disgruntled tenant in Virginia**

On March 19, 2008, in Virginia Beach, Virginia, a man shot five people, killing two, with an AK-47 assault rifle and .9mm handgun before killing himself. The man was about to be evicted from his apartment and targeted the apartment complex's employees in his attack.⁵⁶

- **Churchgoers gunned down in Colorado**

On December 9, 2007, a man armed with an assault rifle attacked a missionary training center in Arvada and a church in Colorado Springs. He killed two people and injured two others in Arvada, and killed two and injured three others, including two teenage sisters, in Colorado Springs. He was injured by a security guard and then shot himself.⁵⁷

- **Mall shoppers massacred in Nebraska, Washington, and New York**

On December 5, 2007, nine people were shot to death and five others were injured after a 20-year-old shooter, armed with a military-style assault rifle, attacked shoppers in a department store in an Omaha, Nebraska mall.⁵⁸

On November 20, 2005, a 20-year-old male opened fire in a Tacoma, Washington mall, wounding six. The shooter took four hostages, all of whom were released unharmed.⁵⁹

On February 13, 2005, a gunman fired more than 60 shots from an AK-47 assault rifle in the Hudson Valley Shopping Mall in Ulster, New York, wounding two and causing tens of thousands of dollars of damage before being apprehended. A few hours earlier, the shooter had purchased armor-piercing ammunition from a nearby Wal-Mart.⁶⁰

- **Birthday party celebrants spray-fired in Louisiana**

On September 15, 2007, at least 28 bullets were fired from an AK-47 at an outdoor birthday party for five-year-old twins in the courtyard of a housing complex in Kenner, Louisiana. A 19-year-old was killed and three children were wounded, ages 7, 8 and 13.⁶¹

- **Pregnant woman and child shot while sleeping in Illinois**

On June 25, 2006, in Calumet City, Illinois, a 22-year old pregnant woman and her three-year old son were shot and killed while they were sleeping when an unknown gunman fired 30 rounds from an AK-47 into their home at 1:15 a.m.⁶²



- **Family massacred in a home robbery in Indiana**

On June 2, 2006, in Indianapolis, Indiana, seven family members, four adults and three children, were shot and killed in their home by a robber armed with an assault rifle. Nearly 30 shell casings were found.⁶³

- **Two young girls shot in their homes in Illinois**

On March 11, 2006, 10-year-old Siretha White was killed by a shot to her head as she was celebrating her birthday in her living room. A spray of bullets from an assault weapon peppered the house from a nearby fight.⁶⁴

Just over a week earlier, on March 3, 2006, a stray bullet from an assault rifle struck a 14-year-old honor student as she was looking out the window of her home, killing her instantly.⁶⁵

- **College students murdered while camping in Florida**

On January 7, 2006, two college students camping in the Ocala National Forest in Florida were randomly targeted by a man who shot and killed them with a stolen AK-47.⁶⁶

- **Domestic violence leads to mass shootout on courthouse steps in Texas and triple-slaying in Ohio**

On February 25, 2005, in Tyler, Texas, a gunman who was reportedly fighting with his ex-wife over child support for their two youngest children, shot over 50 rounds from an SKS assault rifle on the steps of his local courthouse, killing his ex-wife and a bystander. The shooter's 23-year-old son and three law enforcement officers were wounded in a shootout.⁶⁷

Just a day earlier in Akron, Ohio, a man shot and killed his girlfriend and her seven-year-old son using an AR-15 assault weapon, then fired more than 100 rounds at a dozen law enforcement officers as he fled the murder scene. The gunman was arrested the next morning inside the apartment of a Kent State University student, who he also murdered with the AR-15 assault weapon. Police subsequently seized 21 weapons kept by the suspect, including an Uzi and an AK-47.⁶⁸

- **Hunters gunned down in the woods in Wisconsin**

On November 21, 2004, near Hayward, Wisconsin, a 36-year-old man opened fire with an SKS semiautomatic rifle, killing six members of a hunting party and wounding two after being asked to leave another hunter's property.⁶⁹



Crime Use Disproportionate

The firepower of assault weapons makes them especially desired by violent criminals and especially lethal in their hands. Prior to the Act, although assault weapons constituted less than 1% of the guns in circulation,⁷⁰ they were a far higher percentage of the guns used in crime. ATF's analysis of guns traced to crime showed that assault weapons "are preferred by criminals over law abiding citizens eight to one.... Access to them shifts the balance of power to the lawless."⁷¹

In arguing against assault weapon bans, the NRA and its supporters have cited Justice Department studies based on surveys of state and federal prisoners to claim that assault weapons are used in only 2% of crimes nationally. These studies, however, actually confirm the disproportionate use of assault weapons in crime. More than 80% of these prisoners used *no firearm* in the commission of their crime. Within the category of inmates who used guns to commit crimes, semiautomatic assault weapons were actually used in 6.8% of state prosecutions and 9.3% of federal prosecutions.⁷² Both percentages are much higher than the estimated 1% of guns in circulation that are assault weapons.⁷³

In addition, research by Dr. Garen Wintemute of the University of California at Davis has found that gun buyers with criminal histories were more likely to buy assault weapons than buyers without such histories. Wintemute further found that the more serious the offender's crimes, the more likely he is to buy assault weapons. Assault weapon buyers also are more likely to be arrested after their purchases than other gun purchasers.⁷⁴

Fabrique Nationale FN/FAL, FN/LAR, and FNC Assault Rifle



Terrorists Armed

As our nation wages a war on terrorism – at home and abroad – one salient fact is especially unassailable: terrorists and assault weapons go together. The assault weapon's capacity to mass-murder within a matter of seconds makes it an ideal weapon for domestic and foreign terrorists alike. The oft-seen file footage of Osama Bin Laden,



aiming his AK-47 at an unknown target, is now a familiar reminder of the incontrovertible connection between terrorism and assault weapons.

After America's bombing of terrorist camps in Afghanistan after 9/11, the *Chicago Tribune* reported that, among the mounds of rubble found at a training facility in Kabul for a radical Pakistan-based Islamic terrorist organization, was a manual entitled "How Can I Train Myself for Jihad" containing an entire section on "Firearms Training."⁷⁵ Tellingly, the manual singles out the United States for its easy availability of firearms and advises al-Qaeda members living in the United States to "obtain an assault weapon legally, preferably AK-47 or variations." Further, the manual sets forth guidelines for how would-be terrorists should conduct themselves in order to avoid arousing suspicion as they amass and transport firearms.

As the following examples indicate, terrorists have sought and obtained assault weapons in the U.S.

- **Conspirators armed to attack within the United States**

On May 7, 2007, five New Jersey men were indicted for conspiring to attack the United States Army base at Fort Dix, NJ. Over several months, the conspirators managed to stockpile numerous assault weapons, along with shotguns and various other small arms, and used these weapons in tactical training for their attack. The men had also arranged to purchase five fully automatic AK-47s and several M-16s at the time of their arrest.⁷⁶

On March 16, 2005, in New York, Artur Solomonyan, an Armenian, and Christian Dewet Spies, of South Africa, were indicted for smuggling a small arsenal of assault weapons into the U.S. from Russia and Eastern Europe. The two men, who had entered the U.S. illegally, stored these weapons in storage lockers in New York, Los Angeles, and Fort Lauderdale. When approached by an FBI informant with ties to terrorist organizations, Solomonyan and Spies offered to sell him AK-47s and machine guns, along with RPG-launchers, mines, and other military-grade ordnance.⁷⁷

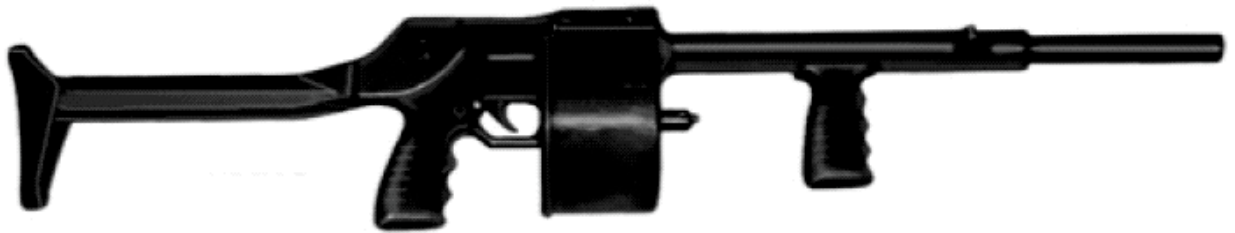
In late April 2004, Michael J. Breit of Rockford, Illinois, was arrested after firing his AK-47 in his apartment. Federal agents recovered seven guns, more than 1,300 rounds of ammunition, pipe bomb making components and other explosives, a list of government officials and political and public figures with the word "marked" written next to them, and a written plan for 15 heavily armed men to kill 1,500 people at a Democratic presidential event. Breit's library included *The Turner Diaries*, the anti-government cult novel that inspired Timothy McVeigh, and *Guns, Freedom and Terrorism*, the book authored by NRA CEO Wayne LaPierre, investigators said.⁷⁸

In September 2001, Ben Benu, Vincente Pierre and his wife were arrested in Virginia for illegally buying assault weapons and other guns. The arrests were part of the post-September 11th sweep of terrorism suspects. They were alleged to be part of a militant group called Muslims of America (also linked to a terrorist group called Al



Fuqra). They bought guns including an SKS assault rifle, a 9mm pistol, and AK-47 ammunition.⁷⁹

Street Sweeper/Striker 12 Assault Shotgun



- **Arming terrorists and criminals abroad with assault weapons bought here**

On May 6, 2008, Phoenix gun dealer George Iknadosian and two associates were arrested after receiving a shipment of weapons intended for sale to a Mexican drug cartel. An undercover investigation by ATF indicated that Iknadosian sold at least 650 AK-47 assault rifles for trafficking to Mexico but that the actual number might have been closer to 1,000. Such weapons feed the on-going conflict between drug traffickers and Mexican authorities, a conflict which resulted in more than 2,000 law enforcement deaths in an 18-month period.⁸⁰

Over several months in 2006, Adan Rodriguez purchased more than 100 assault rifles, along with many other weapons, from Dallas area gun shops on behalf of Mexican drug traffickers who paid him in cash and marijuana. Rodriguez's arrest was one of several key arrests in a five-year crack-down on weapons smuggling to Mexico. AK-47's, AR-15's, and other high-powered assault weapons, obtained either at gun shows or through straw purchasers, fuel an on-going war between major Mexican cartels and police and military officials. Over 4,000 people were killed in this drug-related violence during an 18-month period in 2007-2008.⁸¹

On September 10, 2001, Ali Boumelhem was convicted on a variety of weapons charges plus conspiracy to ship weapons to the terrorist organization Hezbollah in Lebanon. He and his brother had purchased an arsenal of shotguns, hundreds of rounds of ammunition, flash suppressors and assault weapons components at Michigan gun shows. Had it not been for a police informant, these purchases would have eluded any scrutiny.⁸²

Stephen Jorgensen purchased hundreds of firearms, including AK-47 clones called MAK-90s, with plans to ship them overseas from Tampa, Florida. Jorgensen bought 800 MAK-90s, loading them on to small planes. US customs officials say the guns were headed to the FARK guerilla movement in Colombia, a group on the U.S. terrorism watch list. Jorgensen was caught because he illegally exported the guns.⁸³



In June 2001 federal agents arrested Keith Glaude when he tried to purchase 60 AK-47 assault rifles and 10 machine guns in Florida. He told authorities that he intended to ship the guns to an Islamic extremist group in his native Trinidad. Previously, that group had acquired over 100 assault weapons in Florida that it used in a 1990 attempt to overthrow the government of Trinidad and Tobago.⁸⁴

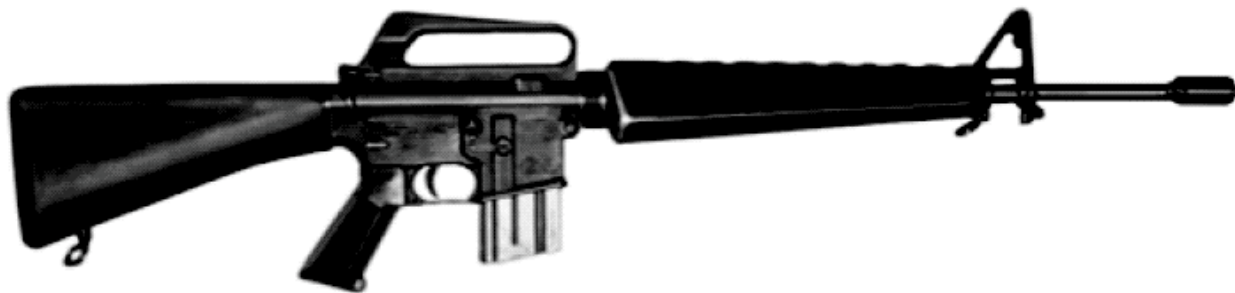
- **Using assault weapons in terrorist attacks**

Over a period of weeks in 2002, John Mohammed, a convicted felon, and his juvenile cohort, Lee Boyd Malvo, terrorized the entire metropolitan Washington, D.C. area by engaging in a series of sniper attacks on randomly-selected victims. In all, they shot 16 victims with a Bushmaster XM-15 E2S .223 caliber semiautomatic assault rifle that one of the snipers allegedly shoplifted from a Tacoma, Washington gun store. Each of the victims was randomly gunned down while going about simple activities of daily living, like closing up a store after work,⁸⁵ filling a car with gas at a service station,⁸⁶ mowing a lawn,⁸⁷ or loading one's car in a mall parking lot.⁸⁸ Both shooters have been convicted of their offenses.

On March 1, 1994, terrorist Rashid Baz opened fire on a van of Hasidic students crossing the Brooklyn Bridge, killing one student and wounding another. Baz used a Cobray M-11 assault pistol in the crime. He assembled it from a mail-order kit.⁸⁹

On January 25, 1993, Pakistani national Mir Aimal Kasi killed 2 CIA employees and wounded 3 others outside the entrance to CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia. Kasi used a Chinese-made semiautomatic AK-47 assault rifle equipped with a 30-round magazine purchased from a Northern Virginia gun store.⁹⁰ After fleeing the country, he was arrested in Pakistan in June 1997 and convicted by a Virginia jury in November of that year.⁹¹

Colt AR-15 Assault Rifle



Assault Weapons Have No Sporting or Self-Defense Purpose

Prior to passage of the federal assault weapons ban, the importation of certain types of assault weapons from overseas was banned during the Reagan and George H.W. Bush Administrations. These import bans were ordered by ATF under the 1968 Gun Control Act, which bars the importation of guns that are not “particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes.”⁹²

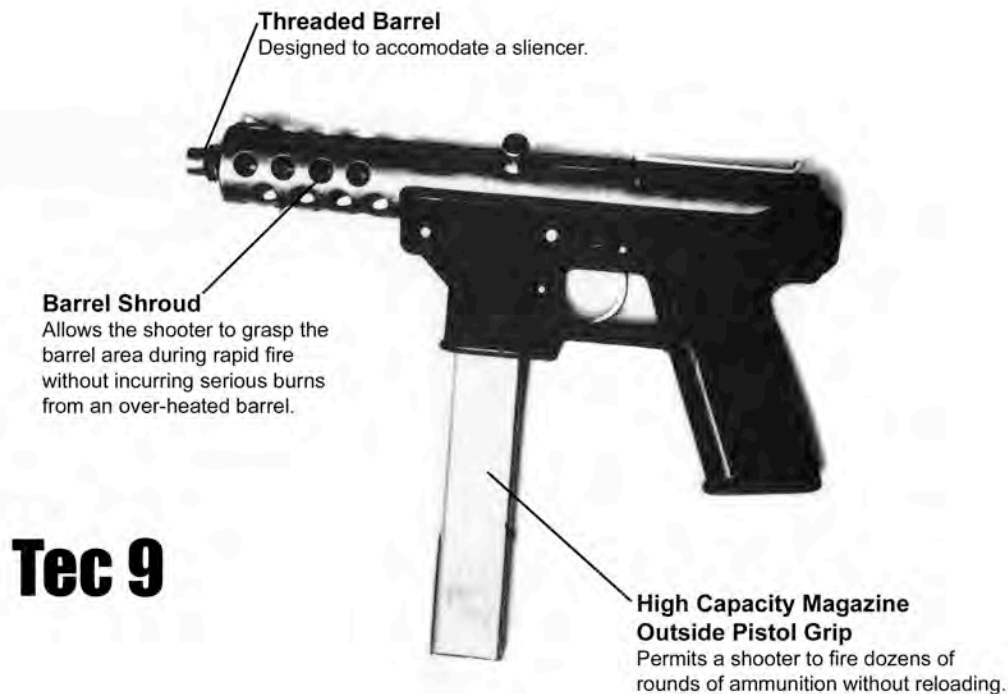
Under the Reagan Administration, ATF blocked the importation of certain models of shotguns that were not suitable for sporting purposes. In 1989, during the George H.W. Bush Administration, ATF expanded this list to permanently ban the importation of 43 types of semiautomatic assault rifles that were also determined not to have a sporting purpose. Later, in 1998, President Clinton banned the importation of 58 additional foreign-made “copycat” assault weapons in order to close a loophole in the existing import ban.⁹³

Assault weapons, as opposed to hunting rifles, are commonly equipped with some or all of the following combat features that have no sporting value:

- **A high-capacity ammunition magazine** enabling the shooter to continuously fire dozens of rounds without reloading. Standard hunting rifles are usually equipped with no more than three or four-shot magazines.
- **A folding or telescoping stock**, which sacrifices accuracy for concealability and for mobility in close combat.
- **A pistol grip or thumbhole stock**, which facilitates firing from the hip, allowing the shooter to spray-fire the weapon. A pistol grip also helps the shooter stabilize the firearm during rapid fire.
- **A barrel shroud**, which allows the shooter to grasp the barrel area to stabilize the weapon, without incurring serious burns, during rapid fire.
- **A flash suppressor**, which allows the shooter to remain concealed when shooting at night, an advantage in combat but unnecessary for hunting or sporting purposes. In addition, the flash suppressor is useful for providing stability during rapid fire, helping the shooter maintain control of the firearm.
- **A threaded barrel designed to accommodate a flash suppressor or silencer**. A silencer is useful to assassins but clearly has no purpose for sportsmen. Silencers are also illegal.
- **A barrel mount designed to accommodate a bayonet**, which obviously serves no sporting purpose.



Combat Hardware Commonly Found on Assault Weapons
Assault weapons generally include features that are useful for offensive assaults on people, but have no sporting or self-defense function. Some of these are shown below.



- **A grenade launcher or flare launcher**, neither of which could have any sporting or self-defense purpose.
- **A shortened barrel** designed to reduce the length of an assault rifle to make it more concealable. This reduces accuracy and range.⁹⁴

In addition to utilizing military features useful in combat, but which have no legitimate civilian purpose, assault weapons are exceedingly dangerous if used in self defense, because the bullets many of the weapons fire are designed to penetrate humans and will penetrate structures, and therefore pose a heightened risk of hitting innocent bystanders. As Jim Pasco, executive director of the Fraternal Order of Police has explained: **“An AK-47 fires a military round. In a conventional home with dry-wall walls, I wouldn’t be surprised if it went through six of them.”**⁹⁵ A bullet fired in self-defense that penetrated a home’s walls, could strike bystanders in neighboring rooms, apartments, or houses.

High capacity magazines containing more than 10 rounds, which were also banned as part of the Federal Assault Weapons Act, are also not useful for self-defense, as former Baltimore County Police Department Colonel Leonard J. Supenski has testified:

The typical self-defense scenario in a home does not require more ammunition than is available in a standard 6-shot revolver or 6-10 round semiautomatic pistol. In fact, because of potential harm to others in the household, passersby, and bystanders, too much firepower is a hazard. Indeed, in most self-defense scenarios, the tendency is for defenders to keep firing until all bullets have been expended.⁹⁶

Assault weapons were designed for military use. They have no legitimate use as self-defense weapons.



Sportsman Jim Zumbo Speaks Out "Assault" Rifles are "Terrorist" Rifles

A long-standing writer for *Outdoor Life* magazine, Jim Zumbo, created a huge controversy within the gun lobby when he admitted in an online blog that assault rifles have no place as hunting weapons. Zumbo wrote:

"I must be living in a vacuum. The guides on our hunt tell me that the use of AR and AK rifles have a rapidly growing following among hunters, especially prairie dog hunters. I had no clue. Only once in my life have I ever seen anyone using one of these firearms.

I call them 'assault' rifles, which may upset some people. Excuse me, maybe I'm a traditionalist, but I see no place for these weapons among our hunting fraternity. I'll go so far as to call them 'terrorist' rifles. They tell me that some companies are producing assault rifles that are 'tackdrivers.'

Sorry, folks, in my humble opinion, these things have no place in hunting. We don't need to be lumped into the group of people who terrorize the world with them, which is an obvious concern. I've always been comfortable with the statement that hunters don't use assault rifles. We've always been proud of our "sporting firearms.

This really has me concerned. As hunters, we don't need the image of walking around the woods carrying one of these weapons. To most of the public, an assault rifle is a terrifying thing. Let's divorce ourselves from them. I say game departments should ban them from the prairies and woods."⁹⁷

Israel Military Industries Action Arms Galil Assault Rifle



"Dangerous and Unusual Weapons" Are Not Protected by the Second Amendment

The Second Amendment does not provide constitutional protection for military-style assault weapons. In *District of Columbia v. Heller*,⁹⁸ the Supreme Court recently ruled that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to keep and bear arms for self-defense in the home.⁹⁹ However, the Court also went out of its way to indicate that the right is limited in a number of ways. One limitation, the Court held, is that not all "arms" are protected.

We also recognize another important limitation on the right to keep and carry arms. [U.S. v.] *Miller* said, as we have explained, that the sorts of weapons protected were those "**in common use at the time.**" We think that limitation is fairly supported by the historical tradition of prohibiting carrying of "**dangerous and unusual weapons.**"¹⁰⁰

Assault weapons are certainly "dangerous and unusual weapons" according to any reasonable analysis of that phrase. They are military-style offensive weapons designed to slaughter human beings.¹⁰¹ This differentiates them from all hunting rifles and shotguns, as well as common handguns, which are often used in crime but have also been used in self-defense.

Moreover, assault weapons have never been "in common use" at **any** time. As semi-automatic versions of machine guns developed for use during the World Wars of the 20th Century, they are a relatively recent invention. In addition to being banned by the federal government for 10 years, they have been banned in several states.¹⁰² Plus, ATF has twice concluded, after thorough analyses in 1989 and 1998, that assault weapons have no "sporting purpose."¹⁰³ This conclusion has blocked them from being imported into the United States.

Another factor suggesting that the Second Amendment does not protect assault weapons is that state supreme courts have consistently upheld the constitutionality of assault weapon bans as reasonable regulations designed to protect public safety under broadly-worded right-to-bear-arms provisions in state constitutions.¹⁰⁴ The *Heller* Court relied on these state constitutional provisions, many of which were adopted in the 18th and 19th centuries, to support its interpretation that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to bear arms. Courts construing the Second Amendment, post-*Heller*, can be expected to apply a similar standard of review, and uphold a federal assault weapons ban.



A Strong Federal Assault Weapons Ban Should Be Enacted

In response to mass shootings and mounting public pressure, Congress finally passed a nationwide ban on assault weapons in 1994. In hearings on the bills, the Senate Judiciary Committee explained the need to:

address the carnage wrought by deadly military-style assault weapons on innocent citizens and the law enforcement officers who seek to protect us all. Recent events illustrate again, and with chilling vividness, the tragedy that results from the wide and easy availability of guns with fire power that overwhelm our police, of weapons that have no place in hunting or sport and whose only real function is to kill human beings at a ferocious pace.¹⁰⁵

Those factors are just as prevalent today. Indeed, after 9/11, the need may be greater.

Unfortunately, the 1994 statute's scope and effectiveness were limited in several important ways. First, the law included a 10-year sunset provision allowing it to lapse when it was not re-enacted in 2004. Second, the law contained a list of assault weapons banned by make and model, but this list was not comprehensive. Third, the statute also banned guns by reference to their military features, but required guns to have **two** of these features (in addition to being semiautomatic firearms capable of accepting a detachable, high-capacity ammunition magazine) in order to be banned. The requirement of two military features created a loophole that allowed gun makers to continue manufacturing and selling stripped-down assault weapons.¹⁰⁶

The result was a piece of legislation that was valuable at keeping many of the most dangerous assault weapons out of criminals' hands, but one that also had an opening for gun manufacturers to evade the ban. Some manufacturers evaded the ban by developing guns, like the Bushmaster XM-15, Intratec's AB ("After Ban")-10, and Olympic Arms PCR ("Politically Correct Rifle"), with only minor changes in features to banned weapons.

Effect of the 1994 Ban

According to a study published by the Brady Center in 2004 entitled *On Target: The Impact of the 1994 Federal Assault Weapons Act*, the federal assault weapons ban reduced the incidence of assault weapons use in crime. In the five-year period (1990-1994) before enactment of the ban, assault weapons named in the Act constituted 4.82% of the crime gun traces ATF conducted nationwide. In the post-ban period after 1995,¹⁰⁷ these assault weapons made up only 1.61% of the guns ATF has traced to crime – a drop of 66% from the pre-ban rate.¹⁰⁸ Moreover, ATF trace data showed a steady year-by-year decline in the percentage of assault weapons traced, suggesting that the longer the statute was in effect, the less available these guns became for



criminal misuse. Indeed, the absolute number of banned assault weapons traced also declined. An initial report issued by the Department of Justice supported these findings.¹⁰⁹ These findings were further supported in a later report by one of the same researchers.¹¹⁰

This analysis was based on crime gun trace data compiled by ATF of more than 1.4 million crime guns recovered across the United States between 1990 and 2001.¹¹¹ If the ban had not been enacted, and had the banned assault weapons continued to make up the same percentage of crime gun traces as before the Act's passage, it was estimated that approximately 60,000 more of the banned assault weapons would have been traced to crime in the 10 years the law was in effect. Former ATF officials at Crime Gun Solutions, LLC, including the former Special Agent in Charge of ATF's National Tracing Center, analyzed the data for the Brady Center.

On Target also looked at the problem of “copycat” assault weapons developed by the gun industry to enable the continued sale of high-firepower weapons. The study found that industry efforts to evade the federal ban through the sale of these “copycat” weapons was able to diminish, but not eliminate, the 1994 Act's beneficial effects. Even including copycats of the federally banned guns, there was still a 45% decline between the pre-ban period (1990-1994) and the post-ban period (1995 and after) in the percentage of ATF crime gun traces involving assault weapons and copycat models.

The lesson to be drawn from this study is that a new assault weapons ban should be passed to reduce criminal use of these dangerous weapons, but it should be stronger and more comprehensive than the original federal ban to reduce indirect evasion through the manufacture of “copycat” weapons. One model for a strong assault weapons ban is the law California enacted in 2000 that bans military-style weapons capable of accepting high-capacity ammunition magazines that have even a single combat feature.¹¹² Representative Carolyn McCarthy has introduced similar strong assault weapons legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives.¹¹³

Support by Law Enforcement, the Public, and Presidents

The law enforcement community has long supported strong assault weapons bans. Every major national law enforcement organization in the country supported the Federal Assault Weapons Act and urged its renewal, including the Law Enforcement Steering Committee, Fraternal Order of Police, National Sheriffs' Association, International Association of Chiefs of Police, Major City Chiefs Association, International Brotherhood of Police Officers, National Association of Police Organizations, Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association, National Black Police Association, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, Police Executive Research Forum, and Police Foundation.

In poll after poll, the American people, regardless of party affiliation, have consistently supported a federal ban on assault weapons. In an ABC/Washington Post poll conducted in August-September 1999, 77% of adults supported a nationwide ban



on the sale of assault weapons.¹¹⁴ That same percentage held firm through the end of 2003 when an NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll found that 78% of adults nationwide expressed support for renewing the federal ban.¹¹⁵ In September 2004, just after the assault weapons ban expired, a Harris poll found that a substantial majority of Americans, 71%, favored reinstatement of the ban.¹¹⁶ As more time has passed without a federal assault weapons ban in effect, support for a ban has grown. For example, a 2007 poll from Illinois found that 80% of voters favored banning semiautomatic assault weapons.¹¹⁷ Newspaper editorial boards have also continued their strong support for getting assault weapons off our nation's streets.¹¹⁸

Presidents across the political spectrum have supported an assault weapons ban. Former Presidents Ford, Carter, and Reagan wrote Congress in support of the 1994 ban to "urge you to listen to the American public and to the law enforcement community and support a ban on the further manufacture of these weapons."¹¹⁹ In 2004, Presidents Ford, Carter, and Clinton wrote to urge re-authorization of the ban.¹²⁰ President George W. Bush also stated that he supported the ban and would sign its reauthorization if it passed Congress.

- **Senator Obama Opposes Assault Weapons for Civilians, While Senator McCain Supports Them**

Of the Presidential candidates, Senator Barack Obama supports banning assault weapons. He also addressed the issue in his acceptance speech to the 2008 Democratic Convention, saying, "The reality of gun ownership may be different for hunters in rural Ohio than they are for those plagued by gang violence in Cleveland, but don't tell me we can't uphold the Second Amendment while keeping AK-47s out of the hands of criminals."

Senator John McCain has consistently opposed an assault weapon ban, saying it "represented an arbitrary restriction on the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens."



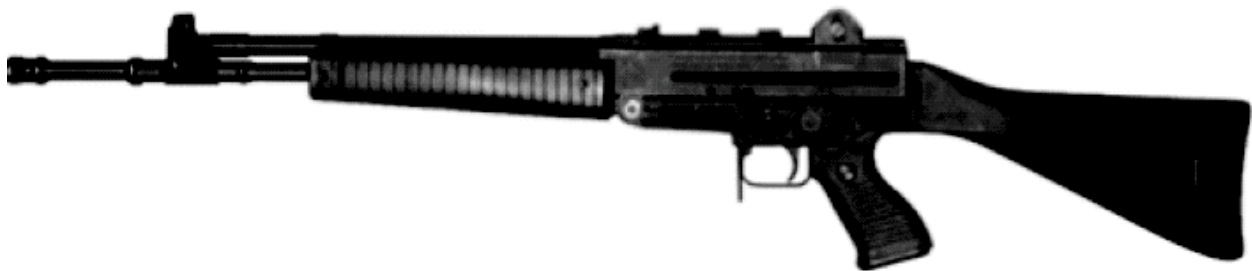
Conclusion

Assault weapons are weapons of war that are sought after and used by street gangs, drug dealers, and terrorists, but are of no use to law-abiding persons who own guns for sporting purposes and self-defense. Law enforcement and an overwhelming majority of the American public realize that these guns have no place in civilian hands, and should be banned. For 10 years, America attempted to limit the mayhem caused by assault weapons and the high-capacity ammunition magazines that they utilize. Although the gun industry worked hard to evade the federal ban by marketing assault weapons stripped of enough features to get by, gun makers were not wholly effective at neutralizing the federal ban's effect. Even accounting for the industry's evasive efforts, the use of assault weapons in crime declined substantially. Unfortunately, President Bush and the 108th Congress allowed it to lapse.

We need to enact a new, stronger federal assault weapons ban to keep these dangerous guns off the streets – a law that will ban all military-style weapons and with no sunset provision.

The lives of our law enforcement officers and our citizens hang in the balance.

Beretta AR 70 Assault Rifle



APPENDIX: Examples of Assault Weapon Violence Since Federal Ban Expired

- **North Tulsa, Oklahoma. October 6, 2008.** A man accidentally shot his roommate with an SKS assault rifle. The victim and shooter were arguing with the victim's estranged wife and another man when the shooter fired warning shots, hitting his roommate inadvertently.¹
- **Madison, Illinois. October 6, 2008.** A 12-year-old boy died after getting caught in the middle of a gunfight. More than 40 shots were fired as a man with an assault rifle exchanged fire with gunmen in cars.²
- **Springfield, Missouri. October 4, 2008.** A 21-year-old shot two men with an AR-15 Assault Rifle during an argument at a nightclub.³
- **Kansas City, Missouri. October 2, 2008.** Two men, one armed with an assault rifle, shot at two undercover police officers. The officers returned fire, injuring the two assailants.⁴
- **Brownsville, Texas. September 30, 2008.** Two men armed with an AK-47 Assault Rifle and .38 revolver shot multiple rounds at a group of men gathered outside a home twice in one night. There was a long-standing argument between the shooters and one of the victims. Nobody was hurt in either incident.⁵
- **Battle Creek, Michigan. September 28, 2008.** A felon with an assault weapon shot two teenagers in retaliation for a shooting several weeks prior.⁶
- **Jackson, Mississippi. September 26, 2008.** Two men armed with an assault rifle shot repeatedly at a house, hitting a woman and a one year old boy inside.⁷
- **Lenoir, North Carolina. September 21, 2008.** A former police officer and army veteran, who was armed with an assault rifle, shot two sheriff's deputies, killing one of them.⁸
- **San Antonio, Texas. September 18, 2008.** A gunman with an AK-47 assault rifle fired more than 15 rounds at a home, hitting a woman sleeping inside twice.⁹

¹ *Man accidentally shot by roommate*, KJRH- TV 2, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Oct. 6, 2008.

² *12 Year Old Shot Dead In Madison, Illinois Overnight*, ASSOCIATED PRESS, Oct. 7, 2008.

³ Dirk Vanderhart, *Shooting prompted by conflict over woman, hat*, SPRINGFIELD NEWS-LEADER, Oct. 7, 2008.

⁴ *KCMO Officers Fired on with Assault Rifle*, WDAF-TV 4, Kansas City, Missouri, Oct. 2, 2008.

⁵ *Police: 10-year grudge prompts downtown shooting*, BROWNSVILLE HERALD, Oct. 3, 2008.

⁶ Trace Christenson, *B.C. man faces attempted murder charge*, BATTLE CREEK ENQUIRER, Oct. 2, 2008.

⁷ *2 men charged in shooting denied bond*, ASSOCIATED PRESS, Oct. 2, 2008.

⁸ Dee Henry, *Armed and dangerous*, HICKORY DAILY HERALD, Sept. 22, 2008.



- **Charlotte, North Carolina. September 15, 2008.** Two people were sitting in a car outside an apartment building when a man shot at them with an assault rifle. One person in the car was hit twice and the other individual was injured by shattered glass.¹⁰
- **Houston, Texas. September 9, 2008.** One person died and two were injured in an overnight shooting. The assailants were carrying several weapons, including an assault rifle.¹¹
- **San Antonio, Texas. September 8, 2008.** A man shot two police officers with an assault rifle when the police attempted to arrest him. A standoff between the suspect and police followed, ending hours later when the suspect shot and killed himself.¹²

Tulsa, Oklahoma. September 7, 2008. A gunman with an assault weapon opened fire on a car carrying five teenagers home from church. Four of the five passengers were hit: Donovan Crutcher died from his wounds, Adrion Crutcher sustained damage to his spinal cord, Jeremy Williams lost the sight in his left eye, and Jahmal Bryant was in the intensive care unit. Four days later, a suspect was arrested in connection with the shooting.¹³

- **Birmingham, Alabama. September 5, 2008.** A man shot and killed his landlord with an SKS assault rifle after the two argued over stolen property.¹⁴
- **Dayton, Ohio. August 26, 2008.** A 31-year-old man sustained severe leg injuries when he was shot multiple times with an assault rifle.¹⁵
- **Hope Mills, North Carolina. August 25, 2008.** An 18-year-old shot a man in the head with an assault rifle. The victim was leaving the shooter's house by car, along with a woman and baby, when the incident occurred.¹⁶
- **Miami, Florida. August 23, 2008.** An intoxicated customer was shot with an AK-47 assault rifle after being kicked out of a strip club. The shooter was then shot by another man, who was also carrying an assault rifle.¹⁷

⁹ *Shooter Opens Fire On Home, Sleeping Woman Hit Twice*, WOAI – TV 4 San Antonio, Sept. 18, 2008.

¹⁰ *Apartment Complex Evacuated After Double Shooting*, WSOC-TV 9, Sept. 16, 2008.

¹¹ *Suspects in Triple Shooting Had Assault Rifle, Multiple Weapons*, FOX 26 TV Houston, Sept. 10, 2008.

¹² *SAPD Details Monday Shooting Investigation*, KSAT12-TV, San Antonio, Texas, Sept. 10, 2008.

¹³ *Arrest made in deadly drive-by*, TULSA WORLD, Sept. 12, 2008.

¹⁴ *Landlord Killed After Argument Over Stolen Copper*, NBC13-TV, Birmingham, Alabama, Sept. 8, 2008.

¹⁵ *Man Targeted By Shooter With Assault Rifle*, WHIO-TV, Dayton, Ohio, Aug. 27, 2008.

¹⁶ *Three charged in Hope Mills shooting*, THE FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER, Aug. 28, 2008.

¹⁷ *2 Dead in Shootout At Strip Club*, NBC6-TV, Miami, Florida, Aug. 23, 2008.



- **Youngsville, North Carolina. August 22, 2008.** A 12-year-old boy accidentally shot an 11-year-old neighbor with an AK-47 assault rifle.¹⁸
- **San Antonio, Texas. August 20, 2008.** A man was chased by a group of young men outside an apartment complex and was shot twice with an assault rifle.¹⁹
- **West Valley City, Utah. August 15, 2008.** Three men in an SUV shot at another car with an assault rifle and then led police on a high-speed chase. The police recovered drugs, alcohol, live casings, and an assault rifle from the car.²⁰

Newark, New Jersey. August 14, 2008. 15-year-old Bukhari Washington was killed after a bullet fired from a Chinese-made Norinco SKS assault rifle struck his bed while he slept. The gun was fired accidentally when its owner, 19-year-old Terrance Perry, was “fiddling” with it in the apartment below. Washington was a student at Christ the King Preparatory School and interned at a nursing home for people with HIV and AIDS.²¹

- **Birmingham, Alabama. August 11, 2008.** A 17-year-old girl was in a car that was sprayed by bullets from an AK-47. The girl exited the car and tried to run home when she was shot twice, once in the chest and again in her left hand, severing it. She died moments later from her injuries.²²
- **New Orleans, Louisiana. August 10, 2008.** One man was injured and another man died after being shot with an AK-47 assault rifle.²³
- **New Orleans, Louisiana. August 8, 2008.** A gunman carrying an assault rifle shot two people.²⁴
- **Niagara, Wisconsin. July 31, 2008.** A man with an assault rifle massacred a group of teenagers, killing three and injuring a fourth. The group was gathered along a river to go swimming when the gunman emerged from surrounding woods and began shooting.²⁵

¹⁸ Sheriff says boy, 11, shot with AK-47, THE NEWS & OBSERVER, Aug. 24, 2008.

¹⁹ Man Chased Down and Shot to Death, WOAI-TV, San Antonio, Texas, Aug. 21, 2008.

²⁰ Shooting triggers high-speed chase; 3 arrested, THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE, Aug. 15, 2008.

²¹ Jonathan Schuppe, *Senseless Shot, Random Death: Respected teen is slain in bed, to Newark’s grief*, THE STAR-LEDGER, Aug. 15, 2008.

²² Dan Barry, *Gunshot, then silence: And the sorrow spreads*, NEW YORK TIMES, Aug. 17, 2008.

²³ Nicole Dungca & Ramon Antonio Vargas, *Two die Sunday in separate slayings*, THE TIMES-PICAYUNE, Aug. 11, 2008.

²⁴ Leslie Williams, *Mob scene follows double shooting*, THE TIMES-PICAYUNE, Aug. 9, 2008.

²⁵ Niagara, Wisconsin shooting suspect caught, THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, Aug. 1, 2008.



- **Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. July 31, 2008.** Two men with an assault rifle shot and killed two cousins as they talked outside a home.²⁶
- **Orlando, Florida. July 30, 2008.** A man with an assault rifle shot and killed two teenagers and another man over stolen property.²⁷
- **Dallas, Texas. July 29, 2008.** A Dallas Morning News deliveryman was shot multiple times with an assault rifle while delivering papers early in the morning. His 14-year-old son was with him, but was not injured.²⁸
- **Kansas City, Missouri. July 28, 2008.** Three men broke into a home and held up the occupants at 1:30 in the morning. The men were armed with an assault rifle with a bayonet attached.²⁹
- **Detroit, Michigan. July 27, 2008.** Three people died, including a 17-year-old girl, after being shot with an assault rifle while leaving a bar.³⁰
- **Salt Lake City, Utah. July 26, 2008.** A 19-year-old airman shot a 22-year-old with an assault rifle after the two argued at a nightclub. The airman shot another person several months earlier.³¹
- **Chattanooga, Tennessee. July 24, 2008.** Two men armed with an SKS assault rifle shot a 28-year-old man in the head and back.³²

Oakland, California. July 23, 2008. 23-year-old Amanda Hunter was killed when she was accidentally shot in the head with an assault rifle. Hunter was attempting to remove the weapon from her home when it fell to the ground and fired. Her boyfriend, the owner of the weapon and a convicted felon, was arrested for weapons related charges including being a felon in possession of a firearm.³³

- **New Orleans, Louisiana. July 15, 2008.** A man died after being shot repeatedly with an AK-47 while asleep in his trailer.³⁴

²⁶ Jill King Greenwood, *72 killings set bloody pace in city, county*, PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW, Aug. 2, 2008.

²⁷ Vincent Bradshaw & Willoughby Mariano, *Flurry of bullets near Orlando playground kills three*, THE ORLANDO SENTINEL, July 31, 2008.

²⁸ Scott Goldstein, *Father, son survive shooting during News delivery*, THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS, Aug. 7, 2008.

²⁹ Mike Rice, *Home invasion robbery reported in Gladstone*, KANSAS CITY STAR, July 28, 2008.

³⁰ Candice Williams, *Girl, 17, two men fatally shot outside Detroit bar*, THE DETROIT NEWS, July 27, 2008.

³¹ *Airman's arrest for shooting not his first*, STANDARD-EXAMINER, July 29, 2008

³² Jacqueline Koch, *Police investigate assault-rifle shooting*, CHATTANOOGA TIMES FREE PRESS, July 25, 2008.

³³ *Oakland woman killed when assault rifle accidentally fires*, July 24, 2008, available at: http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_9977524 (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

³⁴ Ramon Antonio Vargas, *AK-47 fire kills sleeping former rapper*, THE TIMES PICAYUNE, July 16, 2008.



- **Daytona Beach, Florida. July 13, 2008.** A distraught man fired 30 rounds into the side of an occupied building with an AK-47 assault rifle.³⁵
- **Eatonville, Florida. July 8, 2008.** A father and son were shot during a robbery with an AK-47 assault rifle.³⁶
- **Youngstown, Ohio. July 8, 2008.** A man beat up and attempted to shoot his girlfriend with an assault weapon.³⁷
- **Edwardsville, Illinois. July 7, 2008.** Two 19-year-olds repeatedly shot at a sheriff's deputy with an assault weapon as he pursued them during a car chase.³⁸
- **Van Buren, Michigan. July 6, 2008.** Two 19-year-olds with an assault rifle shot and killed a man they had argued with earlier.³⁹
- **Beaumont, Texas. July 5, 2008.** One person was injured when a man shot an assault rifle into a crowd standing outside a nightclub.⁴⁰
- **Dallas, Texas. July 4, 2008.** A gunman shot at an apartment building with an AK-47 assault rifle, killing a 17-year-old girl inside. The gunman had been arguing with the girl's stepfather outside.⁴¹
- **Buena Vista, Michigan. July 3, 2008.** A gunman shot an AK-47 multiple times into a car carrying two teenage girls, hitting one in the leg.⁴²

³⁵ Julie Murphy, *Outlaws clubhouse shot up. Police: man fires 30 rounds, accuses members of rape*, DAYTONA BEACH NEWS JOURNAL, July 17, 2008.

³⁶ *Shooting may be linked to Orlando Incident*, WESH.COM, Orlando, FL, July 8, 2008, available at: <http://www.wesh.com/print/16817435/detail.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

³⁷ *Man charged with assault over domestic dispute*, VINDY.COM, July 9, 2008, available at: <http://www.vindy.com/news/2008/jul/09/man-charged-with-assault-over-domestic-dispute/> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

³⁸ Sandord J. Schmidt, *Two accused of shooting at deputy*, THE TELEGRAPH.COM, July 8, 2008, available at: http://www.thetelegraph.com/news/county_15966___article.html/madison_accused.html (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

³⁹ Susan L. Oppat, *2 Van Buren teens charged in slaying*, THE ANN ARBOR NEWS, July, 10, 2008.

⁴⁰ Heather Nolan, *Beaumont police seek help in investigating shooting at night club*, BEAUMONTENTERPRISE.COM, July 7, 2008, available at: http://www.beaumontenterprise.com/news/local/beaumont_police_seek_public_s_help_in_investigaton_07-07-2008_10_43_01.html (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁴¹ Seema Mathur, *Teen hit by stray bullet at dallas apartment*, CBS11TV.COM, July 6, 2008, available at: <http://cbs11tv.com/local/dallas.teen.shot.2.764557.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁴² *Buena Vista gunman fires AK-47, strikes girl*, WNEM.COM, July 8, 2009, available at: <http://www.wnem.com/print/16821122/detail.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).



Warsaw, North Carolina. July 2, 2008. 18-year-old high school football star Derrick Barden was killed after being shot with an AK-47. Three teenagers were charged with his death, which occurred as a group of people played with an AK-47 outside of an apartment complex.⁴³

- **Adairsville, Georgia. June 29, 2008.** A man carrying an AK-47 assault rifle shot a woman twice in the chest during a robbery attempt.⁴⁴
- **Overtown, Florida. June 28, 2008.** A 15-year-old died after he was shot with an assault weapon during a drive-by shooting.⁴⁵
- **Mobile, Alabama. June 27, 2008.** A 6-year-old boy was shot three times and a man twice when a group of men fired AK-47 and SKS assault weapons at the two cars they were riding in.⁴⁶
- **Powhatan, Virginia. June 25, 2008.** A 17-year-old with an assault weapon shot and killed an 18 year old after the two argued.⁴⁷
- **Powhatan County, Virginia. June 24, 2008.** An 18-year-old high school student was shot and killed with an assault rifle following an altercation at a gas station. A juvenile was also wounded in the shooting.⁴⁸
- **Anderson, South Carolina. June 22, 2008.** A man fired more than 30 rounds from an assault rifle at a group of people, killing a 16-year-old who was hit three times and wounding a man.⁴⁹
- **Opa Locka, Florida. June 22, 2008.** A man shot an AK-47 assault rifle at a business, injuring three people inside.⁵⁰

⁴³ Steve Herring, *Three teens charged in player's shooting*, GOLDSBORO NEWS-ARGUS, July 9, 2008.

⁴⁴ Hayden Jennings, *Suspect arrested in Adairsville shooting*, ROMENEWSWIRE.COM, June 30, 2008, available at: <http://www.romenewswire.com/index.php/2008/06/30/suspect-arrested-in-adairsville-shooting/> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁴⁵ David Ovalle, *2 deaths raise 2008 homicides to 136*, THE MIAMI HERALD, July 2, 2008.

⁴⁶ Ron Colquitt, *Four suspects denied bail*, THE PRESS-REGISTER, June 28, 2008.

⁴⁷ *Authorities: Powhatan teen's killer was 17-year-old*, INRICH.COM, June 30, 2008, available at: <http://www.inrich.com/cva/ric/news.PrintView.-content-articles-RTD-2008-06-30-0195.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁴⁸ Linda Dunham & Reed Williams, *Suspects in fatal shooting surrender: Sheriff: Trio wanted in Powhatan teen's death face murder charges; suspected weapon found*, RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH, June 29, 2008.

⁴⁹ Craig Stanley, *Westside student, shooting victim, is remembered*, INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM, June 27, 2008, available at: <http://www.independentmail.com/news/2008/jun/27/westside-student-shooting-victim-remembered/> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁵⁰ *3 shot in Opa Locka*, NBC6.NET, June 22, 2008, available at: <http://www.independentmail.com/news/2008/jun/27/westside-student-shooting-victim-remembered/> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).



- **Little Rock, Mississippi. June 21, 2008.** A man died after being shot in the head with an AK-47 assault rifle. The gunman and victim had argued over a dice game.⁵¹
- **Elyria, Ohio. June 14, 2008.** A woman died after being shot with an AK-47 assault rifle during a robbery.⁵²
- **Miami, Florida. June 13, 2008.** A man shot six people at a graduation party with an assault rifle. One of the victims died.⁵³
- **Lavaca County, Texas. June 11, 2008.** A 14-year-old boy died after being accidentally shot by his grandfather with an AK-47 assault rifle.⁵⁴
- **Longview, Texas. June 10, 2008.** A man opened fire with an AK-47 assault rifle after arguing with his girlfriend, injuring three people, including a 7-year-old girl.⁵⁵
- **Wilkes, North Carolina. June 6, 2008.** A 17-year-old was seriously injured after being shot with an AK-47 assault rifle. Several teenagers were playing with the gun when it was fired.⁵⁶
- **Shreveport, Louisiana. June 1, 2008.** A 25-year-old man was seriously injured after being shot multiple times with an assault rifle while in his car.⁵⁷
- **Tucson, Arizona. June 1, 2008.** A man shot at several houses with an assault rifle, then lead police in pursuit across Tucson for more than an hour. During the chase, the gunman shot at police multiple times, fatally shooting one officer and injuring two Sheriff's deputies.⁵⁸

⁵¹ Tim Doherty, *Foxworth man held in slaying* THE HATTIESBURG AMERICAN, June 24, 2008.

⁵² Matt Suman, *AK-47 used in deadly Gas USA robbery*, THEMORNINGJOURNAL.COM, June 25, 2008 available at:

http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19801129&BRD=1699&PAG=461&dept_id=46371&rfi=6 (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁵³ *Teen shot and killed while leaving graduation party*, WSVN.COM, Miami Gardens, FL, available at: <http://www.wsvn.com/news/articles/local/MI88522/> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁵⁴ *Teen shot, killed in hunting accident*, KSAT.COM, June 12, 2008, available at:

http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19801129&BRD=1699&PAG=461&dept_id=46371&rfi=6 (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁵⁵ *3 wounded in Longview gunfire*, THE DALLS MORNING NEWS, June 10, 2008.

⁵⁶ *Wilkes teens play with rifle, one shot*, GOBLUERIDGE.NET, June 9, 2008, available at:

http://www.goblueridge.net/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3821&Itemid=1 (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁵⁷ Katrina Webber, *Violent weekend in Shreveport leaves 3 with gunshot wounds*, KSLA NEWS 12, June 2, 2008, available at: <http://www.ksla.com/Global/story.asp?S=8410023&nav=0RY5RQCK> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁵⁸ Brady McCombs & Alexis Huicochea, *Officer on life support after crosstown pursuit*, ARIZONA DAILY STAR, June 2, 2008.



- **New Orleans, Louisiana. May 26, 2008.** Two people were injured when a gunman carrying an AK-47 assault rifle fired more than twenty rounds at them.⁵⁹
- **Jackson, Mississippi. May 26, 2008.** Five people were shot, one fatally, at a Memorial Day barbecue. A man left the party after an argument and returned with an assault rifle and fired indiscriminately into the crowd.⁶⁰
- **Shreveport, Louisiana. May 19, 2008.** A 15-year-old shot a 14-year-old with an assault weapon.⁶¹
- **Brooklyn, Connecticut. May 14, 2008.** A 16-year-old boy with Asperger syndrome shot an assault rifle near a group of people playing basketball in a park who he had argued with earlier.⁶²
- **Miami, Florida. May 14, 2008.** A man was shot multiple times after his car was sprayed with bullets from an assault weapon.⁶³
- **San Jacinto, California. May 12, 2008.** A SWAT team was called in after a man and woman armed with assault rifles shot at security guards and then Sheriff's deputies. The two were killed in the resulting shootout.⁶⁴
- **Raceland, Louisiana. May 12, 2008.** Three men attacked three other men in their car, killing all three. Each victim was shot multiple times with an AK-47 assault rifle.⁶⁵

Calabash, North Carolina. May 8, 2008. James Murdock, 25, was killed in a drive-by shooting. Murdock was sitting in a car when a dark SUV pulled up and fired at him with an assault rifle. He died at the scene. Two men were charged with the murder.⁶⁶

- **San Jacinto, California. May 8, 2008.** A 26-year-old man shot at Sheriff's deputies with an assault rifle. The man was killed when the policemen returned fire.⁶⁷

⁵⁹ *Pair gunned down by AK-47*, WDSU.COM, May 27, 2008, available at:

<http://www.wdsu.com/news/16401761/detail.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁶⁰ Kathleen Baydala, *Man arrested in fatal holiday party shooting*, THE CLARION LEDGER, May 28, 2008.

⁶¹ *Arrest made in shooting of 14 year old boy*, KSLA NEWS 12, May 20, 2008, available at:

http://www.ksla.com/Global/story.asp?S=8350809&nav=menu50_11_16_4 (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁶² Dustin Racioppi & Don Bond, *Conn. teen with autism held in assault rifle shooting*, THE METRO WEST DAILY NEWS, May 15, 2008, available at:

<http://www.metrowestdailynews.com/archive/x2118739287/Conn-teen-with-autism-held-in-assault-rifle-shooting> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁶³ *Man shot with high-powered assault weapon*, LOCAL 10 NEWS, May 14, 2008, available at:

<http://www.local10.com/print/16261614/detail.html> (last visited Sept. 29, 2008).

⁶⁴ Gillian Flaccus, *Deputies kill 2 in gun battle on Calif. Reservation*, ASSOCIATED PRESS ARCHIVE, May 14, 2008.

⁶⁵ Raymond Legendre, *Grand jury to consider Raceland triple-slaying case*, THE COURIER, August 11, 2008.

⁶⁶ Shannan Bowen, *Two charged in Calabash murder*, STAR-NEWS, May 20, 2008.



- **Ripon, Wisconsin. May 6, 2008.** A 19-year-old accidentally shot and killed an 18-year-old friend with an assault rifle while the two were at a friend's house.⁶⁸

Stafford, Virginia. May 5, 2008. Aaron Poseidon Jackson shot his children, 1-year-old Aaron and 2-year-old Nicole, with a .38 caliber handgun, then shot their mother, Latasha Thomas, with an AK-47. When police arrived at the home, Jackson, wearing a bulletproof vest and surrounded by guns and ammunition, was found dead from a self inflicted gunshot wound.⁶⁹

- **Burien, Washington. May 4, 2008.** A man died when he was shot in the head with an assault rifle after arguing with the shooter in a bar. The shooter left after the initial incident but returned with the gun.⁷⁰
- **Chicago, Illinois. May 4, 2008.** A college student died after being shot with an assault rifle when she was caught in crossfire from a gang while in a car.⁷¹
- **Cordova, New Mexico. May 4, 2008.** A man killed his 17-month-old son by shooting him in the chest with an assault rifle.⁷²
- **Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. May 3, 2008.** A police officer was shot and killed by an assault rifle as he was responding to a bank robbery. Three men robbed the bank and were fleeing when the officer stopped their car and exited his patrol car. At that time, one of the bank robbers opened fire with an SKS assault rifle, striking the officer numerous times. One suspect was eventually shot and killed by police and the other two were arrested and charged with murder.⁷³
- **San Antonio, Texas. May 2, 2008.** Two teens armed with an assault rifle shot at a man after he tried to stop a fight between groups of teenagers.⁷⁴

⁶⁷ Jose Arballo Jr., Steve Fetbrandt & Michelle DeArmond, *Soboba member killed in gun battle with deputies*, THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE, May 8, 2008.

⁶⁸ *Teen charged with negligent homicide in Ripon shooting posts bond*, NBC 15 NEWS, Feb. 29, 2008, available at: <http://www.nbc15.com/home/headlines/15839617.html> last visited (Sept. 29, 2008).

⁶⁹ Keith Epps & Ellen Biltz, *Gunman heavily armed*, FREDERICKSBURG.COM, May 7, 2008, available at: <http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2008/052008/05072008/377460> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁷⁰ Casey McNerthney, *Man shot after Burien bar fight dies*, SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER, May 5, 2008.

⁷¹ Annie Sweeney & Stefano Esposito, *We had so many plans*, THE CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, May 6, 2008.

⁷² Isaac Paul Vasquez, *Police allege father killed son*, KFOXTV.COM, May 4, 2008, available at: <http://www.kfoxtv.com/news/16157794/detail.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁷³ Joseph A. Gambardello, *Liczbinski suspect's girlfriend to stand trial*, PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, July 17, 2008; *Officer shot, killed after bank robbery*, NBC 10.COM, May 3, 2008; See Sergeant Stephen Liczbinski, www.odmp.org, available at: <http://www.odmp.org/officer/19359-sergeant-stephen-liczbinski> (last visited Sept. 30, 2008).

⁷⁴ *Man shot at after breaking up fight*, KSAT TV 12, May 2, 2008, available at: <http://www.ksat.com/news/16136482/detail.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).



- **Compton, California. April 29, 2008.** A 19-year-old with an assault rifle exchanged fire with Sheriff's deputies. No one was injured in the incident.⁷⁵
- **Chicago, Illinois. April 21, 2008.** The owner of a plumbing company was shot in the stomach by an employee using an AK-47 and died as a result. The employee also shot at three police officers later in the evening.⁷⁶
- **York, Pennsylvania. April 11, 2008.** A man died after he was shot multiple times with an assault rifle. The victim and shooter had argued earlier.⁷⁷
- **Miami, Florida. April 5, 2008.** A 16-year-old boy died and his mother was injured when they were shot with an assault rifle outside of their home by people they had previously argued with.⁷⁸
- **Sharonville, Ohio. April 3, 2008.** A 14-year-old girl was shot in the leg when a man fired an assault weapon randomly into the street. The bullet went through a car door and hit the victim.⁷⁹
- **Miami, Florida. April 3, 2008.** A 20-year-old with over thirteen firearms, including four AK-47s, and more than 5,000 rounds of ammunition, was arrested after threatening over the internet that he was going to carry-out a Virginia Tech style massacre.⁸⁰
- **Tarpon Springs, Florida. March 30, 2008.** A man fired several rounds from an assault weapon toward another man who was exiting his car.⁸¹
- **Donaldsonville, Louisiana. March 22, 2008.** A five-year-old boy and a man were injured after being shot with an assault rifle on the street.⁸²
- **Virginia Beach, Virginia. March 19, 2008.** A man shot five people, killing two, with an AK-47 assault rifle and .9 mm handgun before killing himself. The man was

⁷⁵ *Suspect arrested in connection to Compton shootout*, CBS2.COM, May 1, 2008, available at: <http://cbs2.com/local/Compton.Shooting.Arrest.2.713125.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁷⁶ Lisa Donovan et. al., *SWAT will go on patrol*, CHICAGO SUN TIMES, Apr. 22, 2008.

⁷⁷ Kristin Thorne, *York man killed in shooting involving assault rifle*, ABC27 NEWS, Apr. 11, 2008, available at: <http://cfc.whtm.com/printstory.cfm?id=510600> (last visited Sept. 29, 2008).

⁷⁸ *Teen killed, mother injured in shooting*, NBC6.NET, Apr. 6, 2008, available at: <http://www.nbc6.net/news/15806302/detail.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁷⁹ *Teenage girl accidentally shot in Sharonville*, WCPO 9 NEWS, Apr. 3, 2008, available at: http://www.wcpo.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=c473d379-e54d-4b46-a24d-397f12369149 (last visited on Sept. 29, 2008).

⁸⁰ *Police: Man threatened to re-enact Virginia Tech-style killings*, ASSOCIATED PRESS, Apr. 4, 2008.

⁸¹ *Tarpon Springs man arrested in assault rifle attack*, TBO.COM, Mar. 31, 2008, available at: <http://suncoastpasco.tbo.com/content/2008/mar/31/tarpon-springs-man-arrested-assault-rifle-attack/> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁸² Samuel Irvin, *Sheriff promises to boost patrols*, THE ADVOCATE, Mar. 27, 2008 available at: <http://www.2theadvocate.com/news/17040851.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).



about to be evicted from his apartment and targeted the apartment complex's employees in his attack.⁸³

- **Chattanooga, Tennessee. March 15, 2008.** A man fired more than 20 rounds from an assault rifle at another man outside of an apartment building. The victim was not hit.⁸⁴
- **Baton Rouge, Louisiana. March 7, 2008.** A 16-year-old male shot his father in the arm with an AK-47 and was placed in juvenile detention on one count of attempted murder.⁸⁵
- **Kansas City, Missouri. March 5, 6, 7, 2008.** One man was killed and three injured during a drive-by shooting of a tire store. The shooters used two .223-caliber assault rifles, one of which had two large drum magazines and could fire 100 bullets without reloading. Police pursued the shooters, who were eventually apprehended, and were shot at with the same assault rifles. The following day, three retaliatory shootings occurred; the day after, one retaliatory shooting occurred in which a woman was shot seven times in the chest and torso.⁸⁶
- **Roanoke, Virginia. February 29, 2008.** A car chase ended when the driver pulled over and began shooting at police with an SKS assault rifle. The police shot and seriously wounded the driver. None of the police were seriously injured.⁸⁷

Gainesville, Georgia. February 19, 2008. 52-year old Mary Bailey was killed after being shot with an AK-47. Bailey was sleeping on the sofa when her 19-year old son, Derrick Bailey, cleaned his assault weapon and it fired. Derrick claims he did not know the weapon was loaded.⁸⁸

- **Marrero, Louisiana. February 16, 2008.** An 18-year-old was killed and a 16-year-old wounded after being shot with an AK-47 multiple times. The shooter fired more than 20 rounds at the two victims.⁸⁹
- **Pulaski, Kentucky. February 9, 2008.** A man fired more than 50 rounds from his assault rifle into a mobile home and garage after arguing with the owner. The homeowner received only minor injuries in the incident.⁹⁰

⁸³ *Gunman in mass shooting identified*, WVEC 13 NEWS, Mar. 20, 2008, available at: http://www.wvec.com/news/vabeach/stories/wvec_local_031908_vb_shooting.79dfc43.html (last visited Sept. 29, 2008).

⁸⁴ Amy Katcher, *East Lake shootout caught on tape*, WDEF NEWS 12, Mar. 26, 2008, available at: http://wdef.com/news/east_lake_shootout_caught_on_tape/03/2008 (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁸⁵ *Police and fire briefs*, BATON ROUGE ADVOCATE, Mar. 8, 2008.

⁸⁶ Christine Vendel, *Heavy firepower in KC: Officers outgunned by suspects*, KANSAS CITY STAR, Mar. 8, 2007.

⁸⁷ Jessica Marcy, *Shots end U.S. 220 chase in Roanoke County*, WWW.ROANOKE.COM, Mar. 1, 2008, available at: <http://www.roanoke.com/news/roanoke/wb/152736> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁸⁸ *Gainesville teen: 'I shot my mother'*, WSBTV.COM, Feb. 19, 2008, available at: <http://www.wsbtv.com/news/15345707/detail.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁸⁹ *Harvey teen booked with murder*, THE TIMES PICAYUNE, Feb. 19, 2008.



- **Phoenix, Arizona. February 9, 2008.** A 17-year-old died and a 23-year-old was injured after being shot with an assault rifle during an attack by four men.⁹¹
- **Indianapolis, Indiana. February 8, 2008.** An 8-year-old girl died after being shot in the head when someone sprayed her house with bullets from an assault weapon.⁹²
- **Macon, Georgia. February 4, 2008.** A man fired over 70 rounds from an assault rifle into the front of a house, killing the woman at the door. The man was looking for the woman's son but shot her after learning he was not at home.⁹³
- **Cleveland, Tennessee. February 2, 2008.** A 20-year-old man died after being shot several times with an assault rifle as he exited a car. The gunman shot at the other people in the car and at a nearby house as well.⁹⁴
- **Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. January 28, 2008.** A 12-year-old girl was killed and her mother badly injured after they were shot with an AK-47 assault rifle. The two were visiting a family member when an assailant sprayed the house with dozens of bullets.⁹⁵
- **Camp Hill, Alabama. January 22, 2008.** A 19-year-old shot a 17-year-old in the face with an assault rifle after the two argued over the stolen weapon.⁹⁶
- **Miami, Florida. January 20, 2008.** Three cousins were injured when dozens of rounds were fired from an assault rifle into their car. One of the cousins was left brain-dead.⁹⁷
- **Carmichael, California. January 16, 2008.** A 24-year-old man was shot with an assault rifle in a drive-by shooting and died.⁹⁸

⁹⁰ *Eubank man jailed following hail of bullets fired into residence*, WKYT.COM, Feb. 9, 2008, available at: <http://www.wkyt.com/home/headlines/15476381.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁹¹ David Biscobing, *Teen gunned down in Phoenix with rifle*, EAST VALLEY TRIBUNE, Feb. 9, 2008.

⁹² *Community mourns eight-year-old's shooting death*, WTHR 13 NEWS, Feb. 26, 2008, available at: <http://www.wthr.com/Global/story.asp?S=7853369> (last visited Sept. 29, 2008); *Man charged in 8-year-old's shooting death*, WTHR 13 NEWS, Feb. 27, 2008, available at: <http://www.wthr.com/Global/story.asp?s=7865668> (last visited Sept. 29, 2008).

⁹³ Ashley Tusan Joyner, *Woman died after man sprays home with bullets*, THE MACON TELEGRAPH, Feb. 6, 2008.

⁹⁴ Ryan Harris, *Bradley murder victim identified*, CHATTANOOGA TIMES FREE PRESS, Feb. 5, 2008.

⁹⁵ Michael Hasch, *Girl, 12, killed as 40 shots blast into North Side home*, THE PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW, Jan. 29, 2008.

⁹⁶ *Teen shot in face by assault rifle*, WTVM.COM, Jan. 22, 2008, available at: http://www.wtvm.com/Global/story.asp?S=7757100&nav=menu91_2 (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

⁹⁷ David Ovalle, *Little Haiti: Gun violence tears family*, THE MIAMI HERALD, January 24, 2008.

⁹⁸ *Two Carmichael killings may be connected*, KCRA.COM, Jan. 16, 2008, available at: <http://www.kcra.com/news/15067608/detail.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).



- **Louisville, Kentucky. January 14, 2008.** A man carrying an assault rifle fired several rounds at a police officer during a traffic stop. The officer was not injured.⁹⁹
- **North Miami Beach, Florida. January 8, 2008.** An off-duty Miami police detective was killed by a man who shot him with an AK-47 assault rifle as he sat in his car.¹⁰⁰
- **Merrillville, Indiana. December 31, 2007.** A 25-year-old man shot a 20-year-old man with an assault rifle. The shooter asked the victim and another man to leave his apartment after they argued, then followed them outside and shot the victim multiple times.¹⁰¹

Little Rock, Arkansas. December 29, 2007. 6-year-old Kanya Weathersby was shot at least 7 times by gunmen outside her home as she was lying in bed. Police believe at least one assault rifle was used to fire 50 or more rounds at her home. The following day, Kanya died when her family made the decision to take her off life support.¹⁰²

- **Ozark, Alabama. December 29, 2007.** An 18-year-old man repeatedly shot a 22-year-old man using a SKS assault rifle after the two argued. The 22-year-old died from his injuries.¹⁰³
- **Southington, Connecticut. December 24, 2007.** One man shot another in the head with an assault rifle, killing him, after the two argued.¹⁰⁴
- **Arvada & Colorado Springs, Colorado. December 9, 2007.** One man with an assault rifle attacked a missionary training center in Arvada and a church in Colorado Springs. He killed two people and injured two others in Arvada, and killed two and injured three others in Colorado Springs. He died after being shot by a security guard and then shooting himself.¹⁰⁵

⁹⁹ 4th arrest made in SWAT case, WLKY.com, Jan. 14, 2008, available at: <http://www.wlky.com/news/15048297/detail.html> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

¹⁰⁰ David Quinones, *Dispute boils over mourning of detective*, MIAMI HERALD, Jan. 19, 2008; See Detective James Walker, [www.odmp.org](http://www.odmp.org/officer/19128-detective-james-walker), available at: <http://www.odmp.org/officer/19128-detective-james-walker> (last visited Sept. 30, 2008).

¹⁰¹ *M'ville man charged in shooting*, THETIMESONLINE.COM, Jan. 4, 2008, available at: http://www.thetimesonline.com/articles/2008/01/04/news/lake_county/doc88e35a05299f4540862573c600061f09.txt (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

¹⁰² *Girl, 6, dies after being shot 7 times – Ark. police search for suspects, motive*, MEMPHIS COMMERCIAL APPEAL, Jan. 1, 2008.

¹⁰³ *Ozark shooting suspect surrenders*, PRESS-REGISTER, Jan. 1, 2008.

¹⁰⁴ Chris Velardi, *\$2million bond for Southington murder suspect*, WTNH.COM, Jan. 2, 2008, available at: <http://www.wtnh.com/global/story.asp?s=7566985> (last visited on Sept. 29, 2008).

¹⁰⁵ Erin Emery, *Report details church shooting, the document chronicles the days leading up to the Dec. 9 deaths of four young people*, DENVER POST, Mar. 13, 2008.



- **Omaha, Nebraska. December 5, 2007.** Nine people were shot to death and five others were injured after a 20-year-old shooter, armed with a military-style assault rifle, attacked shoppers in a department store in a Nebraska mall.¹⁰⁶
- **Arden, South Carolina. December 4, 2007.** One man was injured when he was shot at close range in the leg and foot with an AK-47 assault rifle.¹⁰⁷
- **Memphis, Tennessee. November 13, 2007.** One man was killed and another injured after an unidentified man opened fire on a grocery store parking lot with an AK-47 assault rifle.¹⁰⁸
- **Vallejo, California. November 4, 2007.** One man died after being shot several times with an assault rifle while arguing with two other men. Witnesses of the shooting pursued the shooters by car and were also shot at, although none were injured.¹⁰⁹
- **Crandon, Wisconsin. October 7, 2007.** An off-duty Sheriff's deputy killed six and wounded a seventh person when he burst into a pizza party and started shooting with an assault weapon. The shooter later killed himself as the police closed in.¹¹⁰
- **West Palm Beach, Florida. September 18, 2007.** Two men were killed and another injured when they were attacked in their car by two men carrying a handgun and an assault rifle. The suspects shot at the police as they escaped.¹¹¹
- **New Orleans, Louisiana. September 15, 2007.** At least 28 bullets were fired from an AK-47 at an outdoor birthday party for 5-year-old twins in the courtyard of a public housing complex. A 19-year-old was killed and three children were wounded, ages 7, 8 and 13.¹¹²
- **Miami, Florida. September 13, 2007.** Police spotted a vehicle driving erratically and followed it until it stopped in a residential complex. The driver got out and hopped a fence to the rear of the home; the officers exited their patrol car and went to the front of the home where they were granted permission to search by a female resident. The suspect grabbed a high-powered, military-grade rifle and fired at the police officers through a window, killing one officer, then exited the house and shot

¹⁰⁶ *The American Way*, REGISTER-GUARD, Dec. 17, 2007.

¹⁰⁷ Clarke Morrison, *Arden man gets 12 years for assault rifle shooting*, THE CITIZEN-TIMES, Aug. 8, 2008.

¹⁰⁸ Chris Conley & Jody Callahan, *Drive-by shooting kills 1—police search for two gunmen in B-52 Market incident*, MEMPHIS COMMERCIAL APPEAL, Nov. 13, 2007.

¹⁰⁹ Henry K. Lee, *Two suspects sought in Vallejo homicide*, SFGATE.COM, Nov. 10, 2007, available at: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2007/11/10/BAUJT9HSA.DTL> (last visited Sept. 26, 2008).

¹¹⁰ Todd Richmond, *Crandon mass murder-suicide: Questions linger in killing of seven, officials tight-lipped despite suspect's death*, ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS, Dec. 4, 2007.

¹¹¹ *2 killed in West Palm shootings, suspects escape on foot after one fires at police officer pursuing them*, SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL, Sept. 19, 2007.

¹¹² Mary Sparacello, *Housing Authority reining in parties, Kenner shooting leads to regulations*, THE TIMES PICAYUNE, Oct. 11, 2007.



three other officers as he escaped. The shooter was caught later that day but would not relinquish his assault rifle so he was shot and killed by police officers.¹¹³

- **Aiken, South Carolina. September 12, 2007.** A 20-year-old man died after being shot multiple times with an assault rifle by a 19-year-old when they were having an argument.¹¹⁴
- **Rome, Georgia. August 26, 2007.** One man was killed and a woman seriously injured inside their home. The shooter was found with an AK-47, from which several clips of ammunition had been emptied, and a 12-gauge shotgun when police arrived at the scene.¹¹⁵
- **Treme, Louisiana. August 13, 2007.** Two men were killed and another was seriously wounded as a shooter sprayed the crowd with an AK-47 assault rifle at a recreational league basketball game.¹¹⁶
- **Dallas, Texas. August 12, 2007.** One person was killed and three others wounded in a shooting outside a poetry/coffee shop. The gunman, who used an assault rifle, fled the scene.¹¹⁷

Hialeah, Florida. August 5, 2007. Eric Lopez, 38, was fatally shot in his home, and his wife, Olga, was shot in the leg. The incident began around noon when gunmen entered their home and began firing with a military-style semi-automatic weapon. Police arrested four people in connection with the shooting.¹¹⁸

- **Oakland, California. August 4, 2007.** A gunman with an assault rifle unleashed a barrage of bullets at a van parked on a North Oakland street, killing one man who lived nearby and wounding his brother and their friend. The gunman then fled.¹¹⁹
- **Orangeburg, South Carolina. July 19, 2007.** A man brandishing an assault rifle shot a woman once in the leg. The man was charged with assault and battery with intent to kill.¹²⁰

¹¹³ David Ovalle et al., *The murder and the manhunt started in a South Miami-Dade townhouse, zigzagged...*, MIAMI HERALD, Sept. 15, 2007.

¹¹⁴ Michelle Guffey, *Police seek murder suspects*, THE AUGUSTA CHRONICLE, Sept. 19, 2007.

¹¹⁵ *Man goes on shooting rampage, kills one, severely injures another*, ROMENEWSWIFE.COM, available at: <http://www.romenewswire.com/index.php/2007/08/26/police-on-scene-of-possible-murder-in-west-rome/> (last visited Sept. 29, 2008).

¹¹⁶ Richard A. Webster, *Soaring murder rate in New Orleans undermines recovery strides*, NEW ORLEANS CITY BUSINESS, Aug. 20, 2007.

¹¹⁷ Marissa Alanis, *Peacekeeper is killed outside club, police say: Dallas 3 others injured as gunman fires assault rifle into crowd*, DALLAS MORNING NEWS, Aug. 13, 2007.

¹¹⁸ Laura Figueroa, *Hialeah: 4 charged in 'crime of passion'*, MIAMI HERALD, Aug. 7, 2007.

¹¹⁹ *Two more slain in Oakland weekend violence*, THE OAKLAND TRIBUNE, Aug. 5, 2007.

¹²⁰ Richard Walker, *Woman recovering after being shot with AK-47*, THE TIMES AND DEMOCRAT, July 20, 2007.



- **North Augusta, South Carolina. July 15, 2007.** Twenty-one bullets were shot from an assault rifle into a home, hitting a 14-year-old boy sleeping inside. The bullets reportedly came from a car outside, tore through a foosball table, couch, and the wall to a back bedroom, where they pierced furniture, blasted a TV to the floor, and hit the boy.¹²¹
- **Floyd County, Indiana. June 18, 2007.** Two officers responded to a domestic disturbance call between a mother and her son. The officers were speaking with the mother on the driveway when the 15-year-old son ambushed both officers from an upstairs window and shot at them with a high powered assault rifle. One officer was killed and the other was seriously wounded.¹²²
- **Biloxi, Mississippi. June 5, 2007.** A gunman with an AK-47 ambushed police officers in a shootout, killing one, then shooting himself. The gunman lured police by firing shots in the neighborhood and waiting. After shooting one officer, the gunman unloaded an additional round into the patrol car. The gunman had a cache of backup guns and ammunition waiting inside his home.¹²³
- **Dallas, Texas. March 23, 2007.** A Dallas police officer was killed when he was struck in the neck and chest by an assault weapon as he approached a suspect's car.¹²⁴
- **Metairie, Louisiana. February 27, 2007.** Two AK-47s were among several guns fired into a Metairie apartment that resulted in four men being shot, one fatally and another critically.¹²⁵
- **Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. February 13, 2007.** A gunman used an assault weapon to kill 3 and wound another before killing himself.¹²⁶
- **Palm Beach County, Florida. January 1, 2007.** An 8-month-old baby boy was shot in his car seat after his mom parked in front of a drug house and rivals opened fire with assault rifles.¹²⁷
- **New Bedford, Massachusetts. December 12, 2006.** Three people were killed and two police officers were injured when a gunman opened fire at the Foxy Lady strip

¹²¹ Meredith Anderson, *North Augusta 14-year-old shot*, WRDW 12 NEWS, July 16, 2007, available at: <http://www.wrdw.com/home/headlines/8526357.html> (last visited on Sept. 29, 2008).

¹²² See Officer Frank Charles Denzinger, odmp.org, available at: <http://www.odmp.org/officer/18926-officer-frank-charles-denzinger> (last visited Sept. 30, 2008).

¹²³ Ryan LaFontaine, *Gunman had a large arsenal, Police say Asher used AK-47*, SUN HERALD, June 9, 2007.

¹²⁴ Tanya Eiserer et al., *Dallas officer dies after shootout*, THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS, Mar. 24, 2007.

¹²⁵ Michelle Hunter, *Cops say victim not innocent bystander*, THE TIMES PICAYUNE, Feb. 28, 2007.

¹²⁶ Larry King & Joseph A. Gambardello, *Investor rage, lethal trap*, PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, Feb. 14, 2007.

¹²⁷ Rochelle E.B. Gilken, *County has most homicides since '89*, PALM BEACH POST, Jan. 6, 2008.



club; the shooter was fatally shot. One of the weapons used was described as an AR-15.¹²⁸

- **Westboro, Massachusetts. December 2, 2006.** Police seized a semiautomatic assault rifle from the bedroom closet of a young Shrewsbury man who posted threatening internet messages and who claimed to admire one of the Columbine High School killers.¹²⁹
- **Newport, Kentucky. November 19, 2006.** A fight at a nightclub led to four people being shot that evening. A 23-year-old was shot several times and left for dead on a bridge. An hour later, police found a 20-year-old man shot dead in his vehicle. Two other people were taken to the hospital with gunshot wounds and police recovered casings from an assault weapon.¹³⁰
- **Chicago, Illinois. October 30, 2006.** Members of the New Breed Street gang shot at Chicago police officers with an AK-47 from their car, injuring one officer. One gang member was killed and another critically wounded in the shoot-out.¹³¹
- **Palm Beach County, Florida. August 15, 2006.** A 50-year-old landscaper was shot at least 15 times as he walked toward a house to collect money for completed yard work. The shooters used assault weapons in the drive-by and police say the shooters mistook the victim for a gang member.¹³²
- **Chapel Hill, North Carolina, July 29, 2006.** A gunman with an assault rifle shot a man multiple times outside a nightclub, killing him. The shooter fled in a getaway car and later turned himself in.¹³³

¹²⁸ Jessica Heslam, *Strip club gunman at 'crossroads', killer bid farewell in cell phone messages*, BOSTON HERALD, Dec. 14, 2006.

¹²⁹ Kevin Keenan, *State police seize weapons*, WORCESTER TELEGRAM & GAZETTE, Dec. 2, 2006.

¹³⁰ *A fight at a Northern Kentucky nightclub lead to a wild shooting spree*, WLEX TV 18, Lexington, KY, Nov. 19, 2006, available at: <http://www.lex18.com/Global/story.asp?S=5704257&nav=EQ1p> (last visited Oct. 2, 2008).

¹³¹ Lisa Donovan et al., *Shoot-out 'looked like a movie': Cops kill 2 men they say were about to execute gang rivals*, CHICAGO SUN TIMES, Oct. 31, 2006.

¹³² Tim Collie, *Two members offer a look inside a South Florida gang*, SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL; July 22, 2007; Jerome Burdi, *'Innocent victim' killing unsolved, family awaits arrest in 2006 Boynton drive-by shooting*, SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL, Aug. 20, 2007.

¹³³ *Chapel Hill nightclub under review after fatal shooting*, WRAL.COM, July 31, 2006, available at: <http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/1056918/> (last visited Sept. 29, 2008).



St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana. June 27, 2006. 25-year-old Kelvin Thomas Jr. died after being shot in the abdomen with an assault rifle. Alonzo Bolden, 20, was arrested and booked with second-degree murder in connection with the shooting. Police believe the two men were engaged in an argument that was part of a long-running feud and ended with Bolden firing multiple shots at Thomas at close range. Thomas had three young children.¹³⁴

- **Calumet City, Illinois. June 25, 2006.** A 22-year-old pregnant woman and her 3-year-old son were shot and killed while they were sleeping when an unknown gunman fired 30 rounds from an AK-47 into their home at 1:15 a.m.¹³⁵
- **St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana. June 20, 2006.** A man who had killed a deputy police officer and injured another during a crime spree broke into the house of an 81-year-old man and held him hostage with an AK-47 until he eventually gave himself up and released the hostage.¹³⁶
- **Metairie, Louisiana. June 15, 2006.** Police attempted to serve a man with an emergency committal order but the man barricaded himself in his home and engaged in a 12-hour standoff with police. Seven hours into the standoff, the man shot and wounded two Sheriff's deputies with an assault rifle.¹³⁷
- **Reno, Nevada. June 12, 2006.** An owner of a gun shop, with a license to carry concealed weapons and access to a cache of guns, stabbed his wife to death and then shot the family court judge presiding over his divorce with a Bushmaster .223 high-powered assault rifle with sniper capabilities. The judge survived.¹³⁸
- **Howard County, Maryland. June 8, 2006.** County police officers were shot at by a man wielding an assault rifle whom they were attempting to serve a warrant on.¹³⁹
- **Norman, Oklahoma. June 7, 2006.** Two men opened fire on a Native American gathering of over 300 with an SKS assault rifle, killing one man and injuring another.¹⁴⁰

¹³⁴ Allen Powell II, *Garyville man held in fatal shooting, Deputies suspect long-running feud*, THE TIMES PICAYUNE, June 27, 2006.

¹³⁵ Tom Rybarczyk, *Calumet City reels after spray of bullets*, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, June 26, 2006.

¹³⁶ Allen Powell II, *Mourners salute slain St. John deputy*, NEW ORLEANS TIMES PICAYUNE, June 21, 2006.

¹³⁷ Michelle Hunter & Walt Philbin, *2 deputies wounded in Metairie standoff*, THE TIMES PICAYUNE, June 16, 2006.

¹³⁸ FOX NEWS, June 24, 2006.

¹³⁹ Tyrone Richardson, *Man found guilty of murder attempt*, BALTIMORE SUN, Oct. 29, 2006.

¹⁴⁰ Tom Blakely, *Pair arraigned in Sunday crowd shooting*, THE NORMAN TRANSCRIPT, June 7, 2006.



- **Miami, Florida. June 6, 2006.** Three men were killed and another injured when the van they were riding in was shot numerous times by assault weapons. About 50 rounds were fired into the van.¹⁴¹
- **Indianapolis, Indiana. June 2, 2006.** Seven family members, four adults and three children, were shot and killed in their home by a robber armed with an assault rifle. Nearly 30 shell casings were found.¹⁴²
- **San Diego, California. June 2, 2006.** A 17-year-old was wounded in an accidental workplace shooting when the teen's co-worker brought an AK-47 to work and was unaware that there was a live round inside the rifle's chamber.¹⁴³
- **New Milford Township, Pennsylvania. May 27, 2006.** Two brothers were camping with their wives and children when they were awakened by gunshots coming from a neighbor's property at 3:00 a.m. The brothers knew the neighbor so they went to his house to ask him to stop shooting. The neighbor, armed with a shotgun, told the two brothers to leave and then told his stepson to pick up an AR-15 rifle. The brothers were both shot in the stomach and wounded severely.¹⁴⁴
- **West Palm Beach, Florida. May 17, 2006.** Two men carrying AK-47 assault rifles ordered a man out of his car at gun-point, mugged him, and ripped off his pants.¹⁴⁵
- **Kingston, Tennessee. May 14, 2006.** A deputy sheriff and another individual were shot and killed by high-powered assault rifles. The deputy had 33 gunshot wounds.¹⁴⁶
- **Port Salerno, Florida. May 12, 2006.** A deputy sheriff was shot and wounded with an AK-47 assault rifle.¹⁴⁷

¹⁴¹ David Ovalle, *Ambush takes lives of 3 men*, MIAMI HERALD, June 6, 2006.

¹⁴² Ashley M. Heher, *Suspect in slaying of 7 family members surrenders / Indianapolis police say he had nowhere else to go*, HOUSTON CHRONICLE, June 4, 2006.

¹⁴³ Debbi Farr Baker, *Man accidentally shoots co-worker*, SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE, June 3, 2006.

¹⁴⁴ Nyier Abdou, *Somerville brothers still hospitalized after shooting: Pa. Man charged with assaulting rescue squad members during family camping trip*, THE STAR-LEDGER, May 31, 2006.

¹⁴⁵ *Digest*, SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL, May 17, 2006.

¹⁴⁶ Duncan Mansfield, *'Anti-government' man sought in ambush of Tennessee deputy*, CHARLESTON GAZETTE, May 13, 2006.

¹⁴⁷ Leon Fooksman, *Police fearful of violent crime trend: AK-47 shootings*, SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL, May 13, 2006.



Fort Worth, Texas. May 9, 2006. 16-year-old Derick Giles, an innocent bystander, was killed after being shot in the abdomen in the crossfire of a gang shooting outside a convenience store. Five minutes later, one man was shot in the leg and another in the foot during a second drive-by shooting. One hour and half later, a 50-year-old woman was shot in the shoulder by gunfire from a high-powered assault weapon as she stood in her kitchen.¹⁴⁸

- **Chantilly, Virginia. May 8, 2006.** A teenager with an AK-47 and 5 handguns engaged in a firefight at a police station, killing a female detective immediately and wounding two other officers, one of whom died nine days later from his injuries.¹⁴⁹
- **Los Angeles, California. May 8, 2006.** Police arrested a man and found over 20 assault weapons in his home after the man fired multiple rounds in the air while driving through his neighborhood with a semiautomatic pistol. The man had his young son in the car with him.¹⁵⁰
- **Oskaloosa, Iowa. May 5, 2006.** A 17-year-old shot his 13-year-old friend in the chest with a military-style rifle and then shot himself.¹⁵¹
- **West Palm Beach, Florida. April 28, 2006.** Shots were fired into an apartment at 6:00 in the morning, hitting one man in the right leg and left knee. Seventeen shell casings from an AK-47 were found at the scene.¹⁵²

West Palm Beach, Florida. April 27, 2006. An AK-47 was used to shoot 24-year-old David Paulk and his 16-year-old sister. Mr. Paulk was critically injured and died four days later. The next day, the alleged gunman, Brandon Williams, was shot in the back with an assault rifle and taken to the hospital, where he was treated and left before police were able to find cause to arrest him.¹⁵³ However, he was arrested soon after.¹⁵⁴

¹⁴⁸ Deanna Boyd, *Teen killed in shooting at convenience store*, FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM, May 9, 2006.

¹⁴⁹ Ian Urbina, *Fatal police station attack shocks tranquil community*, NEW YORK TIMES, May 10, 2006; *Officer Killed*, BOSTON GLOBE, May 18, 2006.

¹⁵⁰ *Man said to be on 'edge of Armageddon'*, LONG BEACH PRESS-TELEGRAM, May 9, 2006.

¹⁵¹ AP-News Agenda, Broadcast News, May 5, 2006.

¹⁵² *Police Blotter*, PALM BEACH POST, Apr. 29, 2006; Jerome Burdi, *Rash of shootings hits city in 2 days*, SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL, Apr. 29, 2006.

¹⁵³ Jerome Burdi, *Rash of shootings hits city in 2 days*, SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL, Apr. 29, 2006; Jerome Burdi, *New task force seeks man suspected in 2 shootings*, SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL, Apr. 30, 2006; *Police Blotter*, PALM BEACH POST, Apr. 30, 2006.

¹⁵⁴ Nirvi Shah, *West Palm slaying suspect jailed after Pensacola stop*, PALM BEACH POST, May 8, 2006.



- **Oakland, California. March 19, 2006.** A gunman with an AK-47 opened fire on an apartment building, filling it with bullets and killing a 49-year-old man.¹⁵⁵
- **Lake Worth, Florida. March 17, 2006.** A man angry over an argument with a woman, shot the woman and her roommate with an AK-47 and left the victims in the doorway of their home.¹⁵⁶
- **Chicago, Illinois. March 11, 2006.** A 10-year-old girl was killed by a shot to her head as she was celebrating her birthday in her living room. A spray of bullets from an assault weapon peppered the house from a nearby fight.¹⁵⁷
- **Chicago, Illinois. March 3, 2006.** A stray bullet from an assault rifle struck a 14-year-old honor student as she was looking out the window of her home, killing her instantly.¹⁵⁸
- **Las Vegas, Nevada. February 1, 2006.** A 22-year-old fired at least 50 rounds from an assault rifle, shooting two Las Vegas police officers and killing one, before being shot and killed by the surviving officer.¹⁵⁹
- **Brooklyn, New York. January 20, 2006.** A man was arrested after firing at least two rounds from an Uzi at two members of the New York Police Department.¹⁶⁰
- **Ocala, Florida. January 7, 2006.** Two college students who were camping in the Ocala National Forest were randomly targeted by a man who shot and killed them with a stolen AK-47.¹⁶¹
- **Indianapolis, Indiana. January 2, 2006.** A man dubbed the “Tec-9 Robber” was arrested after being wanted in connection with as many as 23 robberies in four months of fast food restaurants, convenience stores, and gas stations.¹⁶²
- **Caddo Parish, Louisiana. January 1, 2006.** A 19-year-old was arrested after he was found hiding in an alley with an assault weapon. He faces two counts of aggravated assault on a police officer and potential charges for riddling a house with bullets, injuring a man.¹⁶³

¹⁵⁵ Henry K. Lee, *Oakland: Two new slayings brings homicide total to 30*, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE, Mar. 21, 2006.

¹⁵⁶ Kevin Deutsch, *Man arrested in assault-rifle shooting*, PALM BEACH POST, Mar. 17, 2006.

¹⁵⁷ Gov. Blagojevich, *victims' families, advocates urge lawmakers in Springfield to pass statewide assault weapons ban*, US STATE NEWS, Mar. 23, 2006.

¹⁵⁸ Charles Sheehan, *Neighborhood buries another child*, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, Mar. 19, 2006.

¹⁵⁹ Omar Sofradzija, *Processions to honor Prendes*, LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, Feb. 7, 2006.

¹⁶⁰ Veronika Belenkaya et al., *Uzi maniac shot by cops. Tied to 3 attacks on city's finest*, NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, Jan. 22, 2006.

¹⁶¹ Stephen Kudak & Sarah Lundy, *Cops: Suspect admits killing 2 campers in Ocala forest*, ORLANDO SENTINEL, Jan. 28, 2006.

¹⁶² CBS 8 WISH, Indianapolis, IN, Jan. 5, 2006.

¹⁶³ CBS 12 KSLA, Shreveport, LA, Jan. 2, 2006.



- **Harper Woods, Michigan. December 31, 2005.** A 40-year-old man was shot sixteen times with an assault weapon while standing on his front porch around 3:15 p.m. and died from his injuries. His wife and daughters were in the house at the time of the shooting. His murder, occurring on the last day of the year, was the first murder of 2005 in his town.¹⁶⁴
- **Miami, Florida. December 28, 2005.** A man dressed in all black used an assault weapon to fire multiple rounds into a house killing a 20-year-old man and injuring another man who was hit in the leg.¹⁶⁵
- **Fortville, Indiana. December 13, 2005.** A man slapped a female relative and fired a round from an assault weapon into his driveway then barricaded himself in his house and threatened to shoot anyone who came to the door. When the 8-hour standoff ended, police found more than 10 weapons in the home.¹⁶⁶
- **Tacoma, Washington. November 20, 2005.** A 20-year-old male opened fire in a Tacoma mall, wounding six. The shooter took four hostages, all of whom were released unharmed.¹⁶⁷

San Francisco, California. October 14, 2005. 22-year-old Derna Wysinger and his two-year-old son, Naemon, were killed when a man opened fire on their car with an assault weapon. The toddler's mother, Jazmanika Ridout, was shot in the foot and survived. The family was leaving the home of the toddler's great aunt, who had been babysitting Naemon so that Wysinger and Ridout could go on a date.¹⁶⁸

- **North Braddock, Pennsylvania. August 12, 2005.** A man was found dead, shot in the back and head. Police found assault rifle bullet casings near the body.¹⁶⁹
- **Denton County, Texas. August 9, 2005.** In a night-long standoff at his home, a man fired his SKS assault rifle at police to avoid being arrested. After shooting an officer in the leg and refusing to negotiate, police shot and killed the suspect.¹⁷⁰
- **New Orleans, Louisiana. August 8, 2005.** While driving, a man was shot and killed when an occupant of another car opened fire with an AK-47 assault rifle.¹⁷¹

¹⁶⁴ NBC 51 WDIV, Detroit, MI, Jan. 4, 2006.

¹⁶⁵ *Man killed in early morning shooting*, MIAMI HERALD, Dec. 28, 2005.

¹⁶⁶ *Eight-hour standoff ends peacefully*, THEINDYCHANNEL.COM, Dec. 13, 2005 available at: <http://www.theindychannel.com/news/5524484/detail.html> (last visited Sept. 29, 2008).

¹⁶⁷ *Suspect: 'follow screams', Man opens fire at mall in Tacoma; 6 wounded*, AKRON BEACON JOURNAL, Nov. 22, 2005.

¹⁶⁸ Christopher Heredia, *San Francisco police ask public for help in finding shooting suspect*, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE, Oct. 16, 2005.

¹⁶⁹ Michael Hasch, *Shooting victim was teen suspect's uncle*, PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE REVIEW, Aug. 17, 2005.

¹⁷⁰ Domingo Ramirez Jr., *Trooper is shot; suspect is killed*, FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM, Aug. 9, 2005.



- **West Palm Beach, Florida. June 25, 2005.** A man was killed and his 9-year-old daughter severely wounded when a man fired into their parked car with an assault weapon that police believe had been converted to fully automatic.¹⁷²
- **Cincinnati, Ohio. June 22, 2005.** Assailants armed with SKS-type assault rifles sprayed over forty armor-piercing bullets in twenty seconds, hitting two women leaving a grocery store.¹⁷³
- **Livingston County, Kentucky. June 2, 2005.** A deputy was shot when he responded to a domestic disturbance call placed by a couple's 18-year-old daughter. When the officer entered the home, a male fired at least 8 rounds from an assault rifle at him, hitting him four times and killing him. The officer was able to fire one round which killed the gunman.¹⁷⁴
- **Fresno, California. May 31, 2005.** A man fired at least eight shots from an assault rifle at two veteran police officers sitting in their patrol car outside the police K-9 facility. The police later found a partially loaded 30 round magazine in the assailant's car.¹⁷⁵
- **Kansas City, Missouri. May 29, 2005.** After being pulled over for a routine traffic stop, a recently fired elementary school janitor shot a Highway Patrol trooper nine times with a 9 mm assault rifle.¹⁷⁶
- **Tulsa, Oklahoma. May 29, 2005.** A gunman fired more than 20 shots from an assault rifle at an apartment building security guard, wounding the guard and hitting his car and surrounding buildings.¹⁷⁷
- **Camden, New Jersey. May 21, 2005.** A mother of three young children was killed by a stray bullet fired from an AK-47 during a shoot-out.¹⁷⁸
- **Jackson, Mississippi. May 18, 2005.** A man fired at least 17 shots from an SKS assault rifle and 9 mm pistol at police during a traffic stop.¹⁷⁹

¹⁷¹ Walt Philbin, *Three men killed in seven hours: All are shot to death on New Orleans streets*, NEW ORLEANS TIMES PICAYUNE, Aug. 9, 2005.

¹⁷² *Gun owners trade in arms, W. Palm Beach shootings spark city buyback*, SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL, July 10, 2005.

¹⁷³ *Two wounded in West End*, CINCINNATI POST, June 24, 2005.

¹⁷⁴ *Livingston County Kentucky Deputy Sheriff killed in gunfight*, LMPD.com, June 3, 2005, available at <http://www.lmpd.com/index.php?name=News&file=article&sid=291&theme=AutoPrint> (last visited Sept. 30, 2008).

¹⁷⁵ *Two held in assault-rifle attack on two officers*, FRESNO BEE, June 1, 2005.

¹⁷⁶ *Accused man tells trooper he's sorry*, KANSAS CITY STAR, May 30, 2005.

¹⁷⁷ *Security guard at apartment is shot*, TULSA WORLD, May 29, 2005.

¹⁷⁸ *Two more men arraigned in fatal street shoot-out*, THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, June 1, 2005.

¹⁷⁹ *Bond denied for man in shootout*, SUN HERALD, July 20, 2005.



Clayton County, Georgia. April 23, 2005. High school senior Larry Bishop Jr. was killed, and three other teens were wounded, when a gunman opened fire on a group of partygoers. 18-year old Artavious Rashad Abercrombie was arrested in connection with the crime.¹⁸⁰

- **Miami, Florida. April 10, 2005.** Three men were injured during a dispute in a strip club parking lot when a fourth man fired an AK-47 at them.¹⁸¹
- **Canton, Texas. April 8, 2005.** A man shot his son's football coach in the chest with an AK-47 after a dispute.¹⁸²
- **Houston, Texas. April 8, 2005.** Two robbers armed with AK-47s fired nearly twenty rounds at police during a shoot-out outside a pawnshop.¹⁸³
- **New Orleans, Louisiana. March 27, 2005.** A woman was shot in the chest outside her apartment with an AK-47 when she refused to give her purse to two armed robbers.¹⁸⁴

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. March 16, 2005. 16-year- old Keith Watts was killed, and two other students were injured, when a shooter fired at least eight rounds from an AK-47 into their parked vehicle.¹⁸⁵

- **Dallas, Texas. March 15, 2005.** Three people were killed after a man fired an assault rifle at them through the sunroof of his car.¹⁸⁶
- **Schertz, Texas. March 3, 2005.** After being pulled over, a man fired more than 30 bullets from a handgun and AK-47 at a state police officer.¹⁸⁷
- **Tyler, Texas. February 25, 2005.** A gunman with a history of domestic violence and a felony conviction, who was reportedly fighting with his ex-wife over child support for their two youngest children, shot over 50 rounds from an SKS assault rifle on the steps of his local courthouse when his ex-wife exited the building. His ex-wife was killed along with a bystander who tried to shoot the gunman. The shooter's 23-year-old son and three law enforcement officers were wounded during the shooting, including a 28-year-old deputy who was in grave condition. The

¹⁸⁰ *Teen faces murder charge*, THE ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION, May 28, 2005.

¹⁸¹ *Pair of early-morning shootings leave six hurt*, MIAMI HERALD, April 11, 2005.

¹⁸² *Gunman attacks coach at school*, FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM, April 8, 2005.

¹⁸³ *Pawnshop heist ends in bloody shootout*, HOUSTON CHRONICLE, April 7, 2005.

¹⁸⁴ *Jeff woman shot in struggle with thief*, THE TIMES-PICAYUNE, March 29, 2005.

¹⁸⁵ *Schools need permission to shield kids from threats*, PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE, March 18, 2005.

¹⁸⁶ *Police say revenge went awry for slaying suspects*, DALLAS MORNING NEWS, March 18, 2005.

¹⁸⁷ *Man indicted in Schertz shootout*, SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS, March 24, 2005.



gunman fled the scene but was pursued and shot by police when he exited his car and shot toward officers.¹⁸⁸

- **Los Angeles, California. February 24, 2005.** A disgruntled Los Angeles municipal employee opened fire with an AK-47 after being reprimanded at work, killing his supervisor and another employee.¹⁸⁹

Akron, Ohio. February 24, 2005. A man shot and killed his girlfriend and her seven year old son using an AR-15 assault rifle, then fired more than one-hundred rounds at a dozen law enforcement officers as he fled the murder scene. The gunman was arrested the next morning inside the apartment of a Kent State University student, who he also murdered with the AR-15 assault rifle. Police subsequently seized 21 weapons kept by the suspect, including an Uzi and an AK-47.¹⁹⁰

- **Las Vegas, Nevada. February 15, 2005.** A suspected murderer fled from police as his girlfriend fired an assault rifle with a 100 round magazine at pursuing police vehicles. The man was wanted in connection with a drug related murder and for a nonfatal shooting. The man also had convictions for attempted manslaughter and armed robbery, and was suspected of shooting at a Louisiana police officer five months earlier.¹⁹¹
- **Ulster, New York. February 13, 2005.** A gunman fired more than 60 shots from an AK-47 assault rifle in the Hudson Valley Shopping Mall, wounding two and causing tens of thousands of dollars of damage before being apprehended. A few hours earlier, the shooter had purchased armor-piercing ammunition from a nearby Wal-Mart.¹⁹²
- **Lebanon, Tennessee. February 10, 2005.** A second grade student found a Tec-9 inside a closet and brought it to school in his backpack, where it was confiscated by police. The gun was not fired but sixteen bullets were discovered in the magazine.¹⁹³
- **Dayton, Ohio. January 31, 2005.** Three teens were shot with a Russian-made assault rifle following an argument at a grocery store.¹⁹⁴

¹⁸⁸ Bill Hanna & Jack Douglas Jr., *Rampage in Tyler leaves three dead, four wounded*, FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM, Feb. 25, 2005; Jack Douglas Jr. & Bill Hanna, *Police order emergency trace on weapon used in shootings*, FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM, FEB. 26, 2005.

¹⁸⁹ *2 Are Shot to Death at Maintenance Yard*, LOS ANGELES TIMES, Feb. 25, 2005.

¹⁹⁰ Ed Meyer, *Police eye semiautomatic rifles, Brimfield officials want to be prepared after recent shooting rampage that killed 3 people*, AKRON BEACON JOURNAL, Feb. 24, 2005.

¹⁹¹ Brian Haynes, *Wild chase ends in arrests*, LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, Feb. 19, 2005.

¹⁹² *Mall Gunman Had Columbine Fixation, an Official Says*, THE NEW YORK TIMES, Feb. 15, 2005.

¹⁹³ WKRN TV NEWS 2, Nashville, TN, Feb. 10, 2005.

¹⁹⁴ Kelli Wynn, *Assault weapon used in shooting, police say*, DAYTON DAILY NEWS, Feb. 2, 2005.



- **Ravena, Ohio. January 21, 2005.** Three people were killed, including a mother and her seven year old son, when a man fired at least 18 bullets from an assault rifle.¹⁹⁵

Jackson, Tennessee. January 11, 2005. Donna Renee Jordan, 31, David Gordon, 41, and Jerry Hopper, 61, were killed when Jordan's estranged husband, David Jordan, opened fire in a Tennessee Department of Transportation maintenance garage. Two other employees, Larry Taylor and James Goff, were shot and wounded. When David Jordan was arrested shortly after the shootings, police found an SKS assault rifle, a 12-gauge shotgun, and two pistols in his truck. Jordan's wife, whom he shot four times, left behind two children and two stepchildren.

- **Ceres, California. January 9, 2005.** A 19-year-old Marine armed with an SKS assault rifle shot two police officers, killing one, in a gun battle outside a liquor store.¹⁹⁶
- **Newington, Connecticut. December 31, 2004.** A former correction officer used a fully automatic M-16 to fatally shoot a Newington policeman after the officer responded to a domestic disturbance call.¹⁹⁷
- **New Orleans, Louisiana. December 23, 2004.** A mentally challenged 19-year-old was chased through the streets with a high-powered assault rifle before being gunned down outside his former elementary school.¹⁹⁸
- **Hayward, Wisconsin. November 21, 2004.** After being asked to leave another hunter's property, a 36-year-old man opened fire with an SKS semiautomatic rifle, killing six members of a hunting party and wounding two.¹⁹⁹
- **Oak Creek, Wisconsin. November 5, 2004.** A man wearing body armor and armed with a machine gun fled the hotel room where he murdered his girlfriend, firing 30 to 40 rounds down the hotel hallway, killing one man and injuring two others.²⁰⁰
- **Portland, Oregon. October 28, 2004.** A 31-year-old aimed two machine guns out his front window to guard the marijuana growing operation run from his home, which was less than 400 feet from an elementary school. Police seized 29 guns from his home, including several AK-47s and Uzis, a MAC-10 submachine gun and a .50

¹⁹⁵ Stephen Dyer, *Murder suspect pleads insanity*, AKRON BEACON JOURNAL, Feb. 8, 2005.

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¹⁹⁹ *Wisconsin Shooting Rampage*, ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS, Nov. 23, 2004.

²⁰⁰ *2 dead, 2 wounded in hotel shootings*, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINAL, Nov. 6, 2004.



caliber anti-aircraft gun. He was later sentenced to more than eight years in prison.²⁰¹

- **Minneapolis, Minnesota. October 21, 2004.** A store clerk died after being shot in the chest with an assault rifle during a botched robbery attempt.²⁰²
- **Oakland, California. September 22, 2004.** A 16-year-old honor student was killed on the sidewalk near her home after being struck by errant assault rifle fire.²⁰³

²⁰¹ Local news – Washington County, THE OREGONIAN, May 4, 2006.

²⁰² *3 teens charged with clerk's slaying*, ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS, Nov. 2, 2004.

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⁷ ATF, *Assault Weapons Profile* 19 (1994)

⁸ Judith Bonderman, *In Search of Justice: Compensation for Victims of Assault Weapon Violence*, 20 PRODUCT SAFETY & LIABILITY REP. 25 (June 26, 1992). There are numerous examples of test-firing that display the firepower of semi-automatic assault weapons on YouTube. See, e.g., <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCMEqCPCvV4>; <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cYRsPzUYMM4>; and <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A75O0-QoJlI>.

⁹ ATF, *Assault Weapons Profile*, *supra* note 7, at 19 (emphasis added).

¹⁰ *Id.*

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¹⁶ Dep't of Treasury, *Study on the Sporting Suitability of Modified Semiautomatic Assault Rifles*, *supra* note 14.

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²³ Brady McCombs & Alexis Huicochea, *Officer on life support after crosstown pursuit*, ARIZONA DAILY STAR, June 2, 2008.

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²⁶ See Officer Frank Charles Denzinger, [odmp.org](http://www.odmp.org), available at: <http://www.odmp.org/officer/18926-officer-frank-charles-denzinger> (last visited Sept. 30, 2008).

²⁷ See, e.g., Brittany Wallman, *Fort Lauderdale police to carry assault rifles in cars*, SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL, June 4, 2008; Ronnie Garrett, *Long guns on patrol: Officers find it takes more than a handgun, a badge and handcuffs to protect the public and themselves*, OFFICER.COM, May 20, 2008; David C. Lipscomb, *D.C. to arm police with assault rifles*, WASHINGTON TIMES, May 8, 2008, 'Arms race' has police carrying deadlier guns: Officers armed with increasingly powerful tools, ASSOCIATED PRESS, Mar. 22, 2008; Katie Fretland, *Sheriff's office upgrades to counter criminals*, ORLANDO SENTINEL, Oct. 4, 2007,

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⁸⁶ Premkumar A. Walekar of Olney, Maryland, a 54-year-old male cabdriver, was shot and killed with the Bushmaster assault rifle at a Mobil gas station in Aspen Hill, Maryland on October 3rd.

⁸⁷ James L. “Sonny” Buchanan, Jr. of Abingdon, VA, a 39-year-old landscaper, was shot and killed with the Bushmaster assault rifle while mowing grass at a car dealership in White Flint, Maryland On October 3.

⁸⁸ Linda Franklin, a 47-year-old FBI employee was shot and killed with the Bushmaster assault rifle while loading packages with her husband in their car in the parking garage of a Home Depot in Seven Corners Shopping Center in Fairfax County, Virginia On October 14.

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⁹⁹ The Court was careful to announce only a limited Second Amendment right that was tied to guns used for self-defense in the home. *Id.* at 2821-22. "[W]hatever else [the Second Amendment] leaves to future evaluation, it surely elevates above all other interests the right of law-abiding, responsible citizens to use arms in defense of hearth and home." *Id.* at 2821. "[T]he enshrinement of constitutional rights necessarily takes certain policy choices off the table. These included the absolute prohibition of handguns held and used for self-defense in the home." *Id.* at 2822. "In sum, we hold that the District's ban on handgun possession in the home violates the Second Amendment, as does its prohibition against rendering any lawful firearm in the home operable for the purpose of immediate self-defense." *Id.* at 2821-22.

¹⁰⁰ *Id.* at 55.

¹⁰¹ See *infra* p. 1, *Assault Weapons are Designed to Slaughter People*.

¹⁰² Those include California, which passed the nation's first statewide ban in May 1989, as well as New Jersey (1990), Hawaii (1991), Connecticut (1993), Maryland (1994), Massachusetts (1998), and New York (2000). California expanded its ban in 2000 to include all semiautomatic rifles or pistols that have the ability to accept a detachable magazine and contain any one of a series of military-style features similar to the list found in the federal ban. CAL. PENAL CODE § 12276.1.

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¹⁰⁷ The data available at the time of the study went up through the end of 2001.

¹⁰⁸ The conclusions in the On Target study were similar to an analysis of assault weapons traced to crime done for United States Senators Dianne Feinstein and Charles Schumer. This analysis showed that the proportion of banned assault weapons traced to crime dropped by more than 65% while the ban was in effect, according to ATF crime gun trace data. See report released on Nov. 5, 2003, *available at* <http://feinstein.senate.gov/03Releases/r-assaultweepsrate1.htm>.

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Exhibit 62

JUNE 2011



Violence Policy Center

The Militarization of the U.S. Civilian Firearms Market

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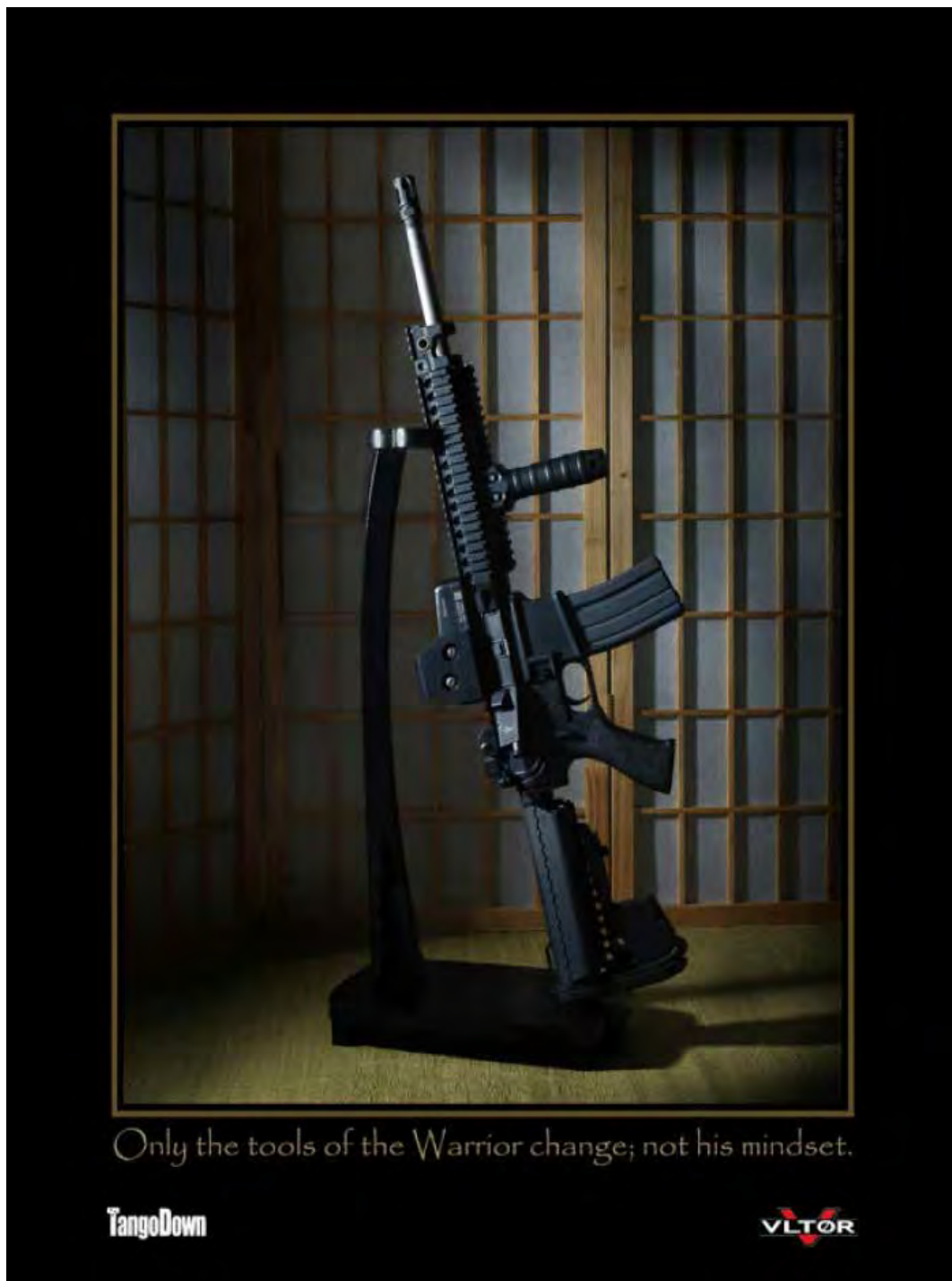
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Firearms accessories manufacturer TangoDown claims on its website that it "...exists for one reason. To design, develop and manufacture the highest quality products for the warriors of the United States Armed Forces." However, many of its products—like the poster reproduced above—and its advertising are aimed at the militarized civilian market.

www.tangodown.com/td_pages/p_about.html



Sgt. Brandon Paudert (left) and Officer Bill Evans (right) of the West Memphis (Arkansas) Police Department were shot to death May 20, 2010, following a traffic stop. The shooter, 16-year-old Joseph Kane, was armed with an AK-47 semiautomatic assault rifle. Kane and his father, Jerry, were killed in a gunfight with police in a nearby Walmart parking lot. The Kanes were reportedly members of the anti-government Sovereign Citizens Movement.

"Brandon and Bill had no chance against an AK-47," [West Memphis Police Chief Bob] Paudert said. "They were completely outgunned. We are dealing with people who rant and rave about killing. They want government officials dead. We had a 16-year-old better armed than the police."

"West Memphis police chief says officers' pistols were no match for heavily armed teenager,"
The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, TN), May 25, 2010

"Sovereign Citizens Movement members leave two police officers dead in shootout,"
NBC News Transcripts, July 5, 2010

KEY FINDINGS

The civilian firearms industry in the United States has been in decline for several decades. Although the industry has enjoyed periods of temporary resurgence, usually primed by “fear marketing”—encouraging people to buy guns by stoking fear of crime, terrorism, violent immigrants, or government control, for example—the long-term trend for the manufacturers of guns for civilians has been one of steady decline.

Selling militarized firearms to civilians—i.e., weapons in the military inventory or weapons based on military designs—has been at the point of the industry’s civilian design and marketing strategy since the 1980s. Today, militarized weapons—semiautomatic assault rifles, 50 caliber anti-armor sniper rifles, and armor-piercing handguns—define the U.S. civilian gun market and are far and away the “weapons of choice” of the traffickers supplying violent drug organizations in Mexico.

The flood of militarized weapons exemplifies the firearms industry’s strategy of marketing enhanced lethality, or killing power, to stimulate sales. The resulting widespread increase in killing power is reflected in the toll of gun death and injury in the United States—a relentless count that every year takes 10 times the number of lives as the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.¹

Militarization has baleful consequences beyond the “routine” toll of murders, suicides, and unintentional deaths. Military-style weapons are a favored tool of organized criminals such as gangs and drug traffickers, and violent extremists. Semiautomatic assault weapons—especially inexpensive AK-47 type imports—are increasingly used in attacks against law enforcement officers in the United States.

The pernicious effects of the militarized U.S. civilian gun market extend well beyond the borders of the United States. Lax regulation and easy access to these relatively inexpensive military-style weapons has resulted in their being smuggled on a large scale from the U.S. to criminals throughout the Western Hemisphere—including Mexico, Canada, Central America, the Caribbean, and parts of South America—as well as to points as far away as Afghanistan, the Balkans, and Africa.

This study surveys the rise of the militarized civilian gun market, examines its impact on public health, safety, and crime in the United States and the world, and refutes the gun lobby’s recent attempt to “rebrand” semiautomatic assault weapons as “modern sporting rifles.”

"MILITARIZATION" — WHAT IS IT?

The verb "militarize" means "to give a military character to" something.² The gun industry has given a "military character" to guns in the U.S. civilian market by—

- **Selling on the civilian market guns that are identical to guns used by the armed forces of the United States and other countries.** These firearms include such sophisticated weapons as the Barrett 50 caliber anti-armor sniper rifle and the FN Herstal Five-seveN 5.7mm pistol.



The Barrett Firearms 50 caliber anti-armor sniper rifle used in combat (above) is sold without meaningful regulation in the U.S. civilian gun market.



**BUY ANY
FN FIVE-SEVEN
AND YOUR FIRST
200 SHOTS ARE
FREE!**

Purchase any new
FN Five-seveN pistol before
March 31, 2008 and receive
200 rounds of FN 5.7x28mm
SS197SR ammunition
(a \$90.00 value)
ABSOLUTELY FREE!

Visit www.fnusa.com
for complete details on
this limited time offer!

FN M210 7.62x51MM NATO MEDIUM MACHINE GUN

BUILT FOR THEM.

The FN Five-seveN USG pistol offers carbine ballistic performance in a handgun. Today FN provides 70% of the small arms used by U.S. Military Forces around the globe. FN is the name you can trust. **JUST LIKE THEY DO.**

REAL WORLD PRODUCTS.
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BUILT FOR YOU.

THE FN FIVE-SEVEN USG IS AVAILABLE IN 5.7X28MM
- FN Five-seveN USG AUTOLOADING HANDGUN SHOWN -

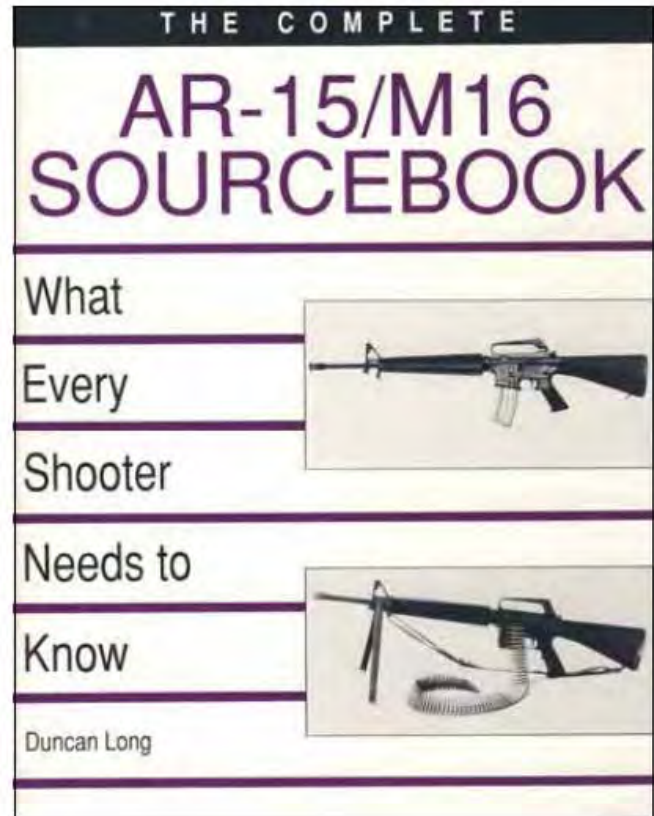
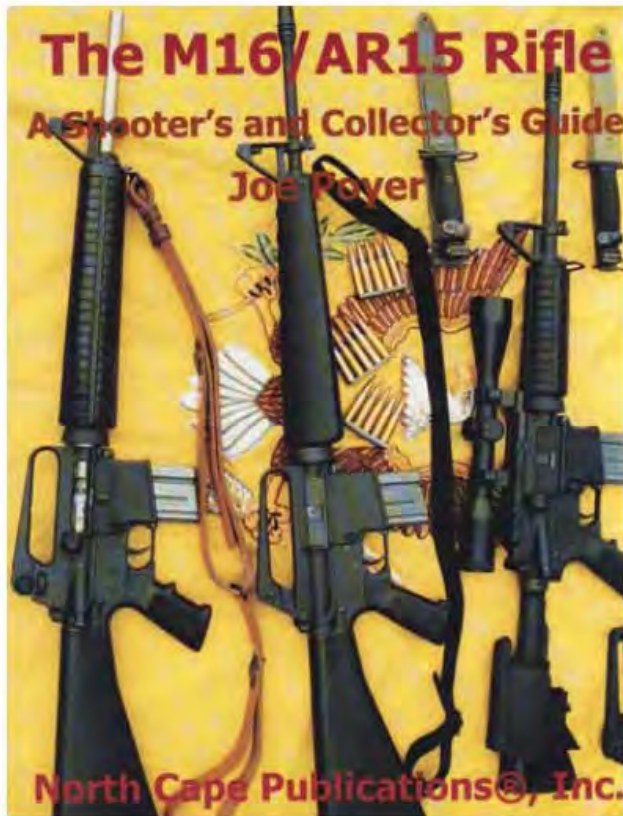
Every FN Five-seveN features:

- Hammer-forged chrome-lined barrel
- Polymer frame and slide cover
- Integrated accessory rail
- Ambidextrous safety lever
- Three 20-round polymer magazines and a hard case
(limited-capacity magazines accepted when required by law)

FNH USA • P.O. BOX 697 • McLEAN, VA 22101 USA • (703) 288-1292 © FNH USA, LLC, a subsidiary of FN Herstal. S.A. 2007.

This ad from *Guns & Ammo* (March 2008) explicitly plays on the military's use of FN's Five-seveN 5.7mm armor-piercing handgun.

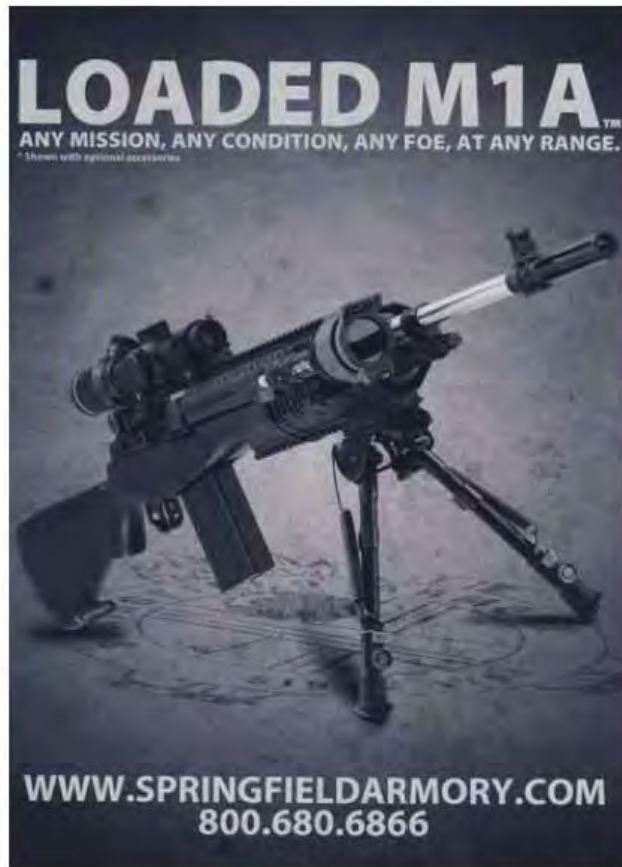
- **Designing and manufacturing, or importing, civilian variants of military firearms that would otherwise be illegal to sell on the civilian market.** These are principally semiautomatic versions of military assault weapons. (Military assault rifles are capable of fully automatic fire. They are thus barred, as “machine guns,” from sale to civilians in the United States.) They include many variants of the AR-15 (the civilian version of the U.S. military M-16 assault rifle) and numerous semiautomatic versions of the Kalashnikov assault rifle, popularly known as the AK-47.



The covers of these books, the left published in 2000, the right in 1992, graphically illustrate the equivalence gun enthusiasts see between the military M-16 and the civilian AR-15.

- **Heavily promoting military-style products through images, slogans, print, video, and other electronic media that link the features, capabilities, and uses of military weapons with firearms available on the civilian market.** In addition to this direct product promotion, the industry relies heavily on suggestive “patriotic” and “heroic” imagery—both historic and contemporary—to identify ownership of military-style weapons with grand themes of “patriotism” and “homeland defense.”

In short, the gun industry designs, manufactures, imports, and sells firearms in the civilian market that are to all intents and purposes the same as military arms. It then bombards its target market with the message that civilian consumers—just like real soldiers—can easily and legally own the firepower of militarized weapons.



These ads from the NRA's *American Rifleman* magazine (May 2010) are typical of how the gun industry implicitly evokes militaristic themes in its marketing.



Colt's Manufacturing's 2010 catalog (cover at top) *American Legends* touches all the bases. Internal pages, clockwise from upper left, glorify: Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders; World War I hero Sgt. Alvin York; Colt's CEO Marine Lt. Gen. William M. Keys; and, U.S. Navy deserter and 1930s bank robber John Dillinger. The brochure's mawkish tone is typical of gun industry advertising and gun lobby propaganda.

WHY HAS THE GUN INDUSTRY MILITARIZED ITS MARKET?

In spite of the gauzy imagery of its advertising, the gun industry's militarization is simply a business strategy aimed at survival: boosting sales and improving the bottom line. The hard commercial fact is that military-style weapons sell in an increasingly narrowly focused civilian gun market. True sporting guns do not.

Here, for example, is an informed industry assessment of the importance of assault (often euphemistically called "tactical") weapons to the gun industry from October 2008:

If there is an area of good news, it's still the tactical segment. In the past week, storefront owners and catalog retailers are unequivocally saying that, with the exception of the tactical categories—from AR-style rifles to the polymer pistols increasingly found in the holsters of law enforcement across the country, sales are slow.³

Here is another from an article titled, "Industry Hanging Onto [sic] A Single Category"—

The net of all the numbers is that if you're a company with a strong line of high-capacity pistols and AR-style rifles, you're doing land office business. If you're heavily dependent on hunting, you are hurting.⁴

Gun Industry Problem: Long-Term Decline. The civilian firearms industry in the United States has been in decline for several decades. Although it has from time to time enjoyed brief peaks in sales, it has been essentially stagnant. For example, demand for firearms apparently increased beginning in 2008 because of fears that "high unemployment would lead to an increase in crime" and the Obama administration would "clamp down" on gun ownership by regulating assault weapons. But demand fell back as these fears waned.⁵ A writer for the online industry publication *Shooting Wire* noted in September 2009:

...research tells me what everyone already knows: gun sales are slowing again. It seems the "Barack Boom" has started to go bust. No real reason, other than maybe the fact that everyone already has all the AR-style rifles they can shoot, store or afford, but there is an undeniable slowdown....⁶

In spite of such occasional anomalies, fundamental long-term trends have worked against the gun industry. The nation's largest firearms manufacturer, Freedom Group, Inc., included the following candid disclosure in a document filed recently with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC):

We believe that a number of trends that currently exist may affect the hunting and shooting sports market:

- the development of rural property in many locations has curtailed or eliminated access to private and public lands previously available for hunting;
- environmental issues, such as concern about lead in the environment; and
- decreases in consumer confidence and levels of consumer discretionary spending.

These trends may have a material adverse effect on our business by impairing industry sales of firearms, ammunition and other shooting-related products.⁷

Other trends include aging consumers—the percent of the U.S. population aged 65 and older has grown from 4.1 percent in 1900 to 12.4 percent in 2000.⁸ Gun owners are older and young people are less likely to buy firearms. *The Christian Science Monitor* reported in 2002 that some in the gun industry itself explained that the “fact that the average age of gun owners continues to increase is...more than a statistical quirk tied to aging baby boomers. Rather it’s a sign that younger generations see guns differently.”⁹ The growing proportion of immigrants in U.S. society also has an impact: “America’s increasing immigrant population has less of a tradition with firearms....”¹⁰



Electronic entertainment like Nintendo’s Super Mario series of video games threatens the gun industry’s crucial “youth market.”

Recent studies have shown that alternative recreation has drastically affected so-called “nature recreation”—camping, hunting, fishing, and park visitation—by all Americans. According to these studies, “Most reliable long-term per capita visitation measures of nature recreation peaked between 1981 and 1991. They’ve declined about 1.2 percent per year since then, and have declined a total of between 18 percent and 25 percent.”¹¹ The authors state the cause is “a social change of values characterized by our increasing pursuit of electronic media entertainment.”¹² According to the Entertainment Software Association, U.S. sales of computer and video games grew from \$2.6 billion in 1996 to “well over \$7.0 billion” in 2007.¹³

As a result, the gun industry has failed to keep up with population growth. Between 1980 and 2000 the U.S. population grew from 226,545,805 to 281,421,906—a 24 percent increase.¹⁴ Over the same period, total domestic small arms production fell from 5,645,117 to 3,763,345—a 33 percent decrease.¹⁵ As America has gotten bigger, the gun industry has gotten smaller.

Gun Industry Solution: Generating Demand with New and More Lethal Designs. In order to entice new gun owners into its shrinking pool of customers—and to motivate gun owners already in the pool to buy more guns—the gun industry seeks to create innovative products that offer new features and appeal to consumer trends. The industry itself deliberately creates these consumer trends.

An example lies in the phenomena of: (1) the gun lobby’s nationwide campaign, led by the National Rifle Association (NRA), to change state laws to allow the concealed carry of firearms; and, (2) the gun industry’s parallel aggressive marketing of concealable, high-powered handguns. In a 1996 interview with *The Wall Street Journal*, the NRA’s then-chief lobbyist, Tanya Metaksa, claimed credit for generating new gun sales with the concealed carry campaign: “The gun industry should send me a basket of fruit—our efforts have created a new market.”¹⁶

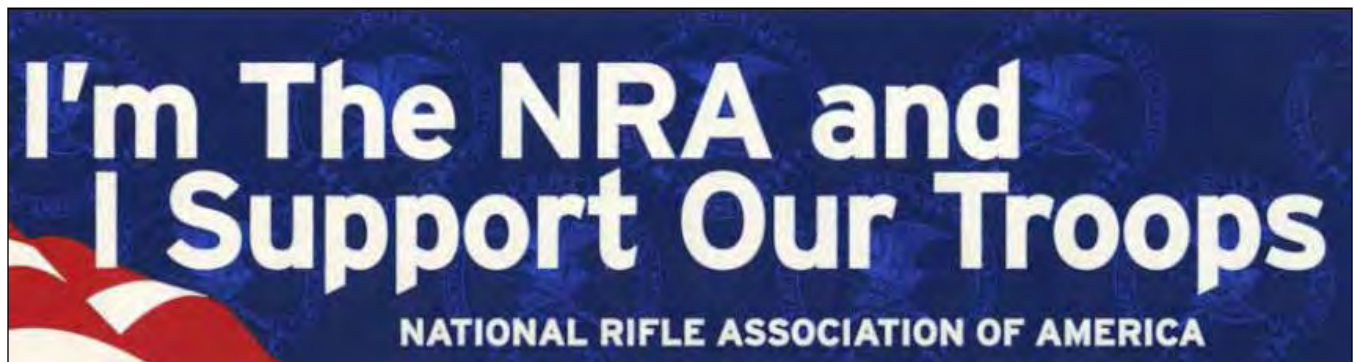


Colt’s Manufacturing evokes the militaristic image of Air Force General Curtis LeMay—“Father of the Strategic Air Command”—to promote its 01970 CY “carry model” semiautomatic pistol.

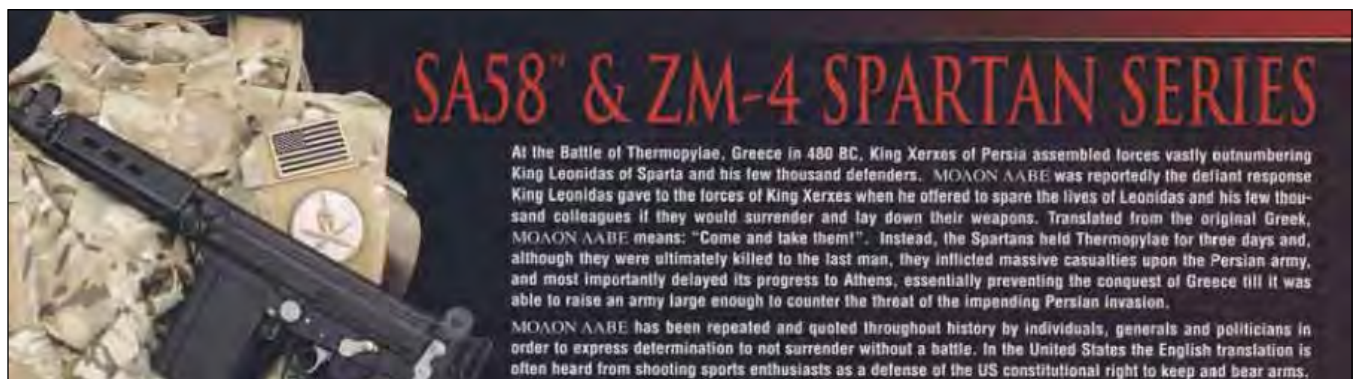
Colt American Legends catalog (2010)

A Freedom Group filing with the SEC contains a more recent description of the process: “We have also shifted our business from a manufacturing-based ‘push system’ to a customer-focused ‘pull system,’ *driven by our Chief Sales and Marketing Officers.*” [emphasis added]¹⁷ Translated into plain English from the language of financial filings, this admission means that the conglomerate’s marketing technique is to *generate* demand (“pull”).

The constant generation of “pull” in niche markets is vital to the industry’s survival. If a manufacturer’s new product generates sufficient “pull,” or product demand, imitation by other manufacturers and proliferation of the design follows swiftly.



NRA bumper sticker typical of gun lobby’s pseudo-patriotic propaganda.



DSA, Inc. promoted its “Spartan Series” semiautomatic assault rifles with the Greek phrase “*Molon Labe*” (“Come and take them”) supposedly uttered by Spartan warriors in 480 BC at the Battle of Thermopylae. “In the United States the English translation is often heard from shooting sports enthusiasts as a defense of the U.S. constitutional right to keep and bear arms,” the company’s brochure states.

Appealing to the Soldier Within. A marketing technique central to the gun industry’s militarization campaign is appealing to the soldier within potential buyers who are drawn for emotional—or more sinister practical—reasons to military weaponry.



FN Herstal USA’s 2010 catalog touts the SCAR 16S, “the semi-auto only version of the U.S. Special Operations Command’s newest service rifle.”

Here, for example, is an industry newsletter’s description of the appeal of an assault rifle recently introduced by FN Herstal—the FNAR—by reference to a well-known military weapon, the Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR):

Even as many in the firearms business worry about the potential for another assault on assault rifles...there’s yet another entry into the black rifle marketplace.

FNH USA has announced the availability of their new FNAR 7.62x51mm semiautomatic rifle. If [sic] looks something like a tuner-version of the venerable BAR, but there’s probably some reason for that resemblance. FNH, after all, owns Browning—and the Browning Automatic Rifle carries a lot of mystique with law enforcement and military folks.¹⁸



"Descending from the legendary Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR), the FNAR puts autoloading speed and bolt-action accuracy into one powerful package."

FNUSA description of its FNAR civilian semiautomatic assault rifle, www.fnhusa.com/le/products/firearms/group.asp?gid=FNG022&cid=FNC01



The BAR was a favorite of U.S. Marines in World War II—and of a notorious 1930s outlaw, serial cop-killer Clyde Barrow.

The gun industry's embrace of militarization can be seen in the chart below. Eleven of the top 15 gunmakers manufacture some type of assault weapon.

ELEVEN OF THE TOP 15 GUN MANUFACTURERS MARKET ASSAULT WEAPONS¹⁹

Rank	Manufacturer	Assault Weapons?	Make or Type
1	Sturm, Ruger	Yes	Mini-14 and SR-556 assault rifles
2	Smith & Wesson	Yes	M&P 15 assault rifle
3	Remington	Yes	R-15 assault rifle
4	Maverick/Mossberg	Yes	Tactical .22 assault rifle and assorted assault shotguns
5	Marlin	No	
6	Sig Sauer	Yes	Assorted assault rifles
7	Kel-Tec	Yes	Assorted assault rifles
8	Savage	Yes	110 BA assault rifle
9	H&R 1871	No	
10	Beemiller	Yes	Hi-Point Carbine assault rifle
11	Henry Repeating Arms	No	
12	DPMS	Yes	Assorted assault rifles
13	Beretta, USA	Yes	Storm assault rifles
14	Bushmaster	Yes	Assorted assault weapons
15	Glock	No	

HOW HAS THE GUN INDUSTRY MILITARIZED ITS MARKET?

The gun industry has militarized the civilian market with three major types of firearms: high-capacity handguns, assault rifles and pistols, and sniper rifles.

HIGH-CAPACITY HANDGUNS

Handguns are a basic weapon of the U.S. military. Until 1911, the U.S. armed forces historically favored revolvers. In that year the U.S. Army adopted a semiautomatic pistol for the first time, the iconic Colt M1911 in .45ACP (designated the M1911A1 after modifications were made in 1926).²⁰



Colt Model 1911A1

The Colt pistol remained the military's standard sidearm until 1989. Although various models of the Colt pistol were offered in the civilian market, American consumers favored revolvers, which continued to dominate the market until 1989.

In that year, Beretta, U.S.A. Corporation—a subsidiary of an Italian gun manufacturer—won final approval of a contract to replace the venerable M1911A1 with its 9mm semiautomatic pistol. In short order, the U.S. civilian handgun market was revolutionized and militarized, in large part because of a deliberate, well-documented marketing strategy by Beretta's management.

Handgun Militarization—High-Capacity Semiautomatic Pistols. Beretta’s pistol, designated the M-9, entered service in 1990 as the military’s primary sidearm.²¹ But Beretta’s top executive told the *Baltimore Sun* in 1993 that the military contract was simply “part of a carefully planned strategy dating back to 1980”—

The plan was to win the military contract and use it to make Beretta a household name in the United States in hopes of tapping into the larger law-enforcement and commercial markets. That’s why, [Robert] Bonaventure [head of Beretta U.S.A. Corp.] said, the company has been selling pistols to the military for about \$225 each—close to production cost....The biggest market—about twice the size of the police and military business combined—is the commercial market....²²



Beretta’s top U.S. executive told the *Baltimore Sun* in 1993 that the company’s strategy was to use the cachet of military sales to reach the larger civilian handgun market. The Beretta M9 also became a favorite of street gangs and drug dealers.

Beretta 92 F. The Ultimate 9mm Sidearm is now the Official Sidearm of the U.S. Military.

When the U.S. Government went looking for a new standard issue sidearm, it tested the best pistols in the world. But the Beretta 92 F 9mm Parabellum thoroughly out-classed the competition in every government performance trial. In accuracy. Safety. Reliability. Firepower. In grip, feel, lightness and pointability. The Military was convinced. Now America’s fighting men will carry the finest 9mm sidearm in the world. Consistently superior quality and service have also convinced law enforcement agencies like the Connecticut and Wyoming State Police and the Texas Rangers to switch to Beretta. You’ll be convinced, too. Look at its outstanding features. Check out the 92 F and the 92 SB Compact along with the complete line of quality Beretta sporting and competition firearms at your gun dealer’s today. Or send \$2.00 to Beretta USA for a copy of our catalog. Beretta U.S.A. Corp., 17601 Indian Head Highway, Accokeek, Md. 20607 (301) 283-2191

Beretta advertisement from October 1985 issue of *Guns & Ammo* exemplifies the Italian arms maker’s use of military cachet in the civilian gun market.

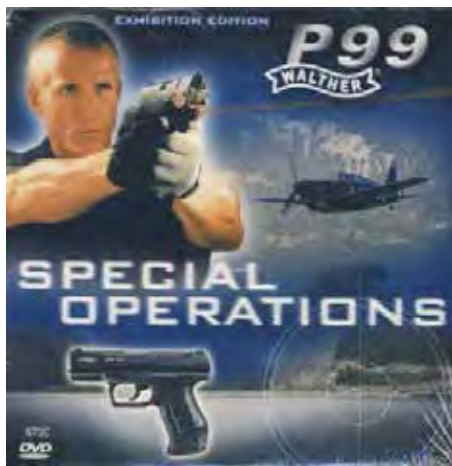
Austrian entrepreneur Gaston Glock had a similar objective when he founded his handgun manufacturing company, won an Austrian army competition in 1982, opened a U.S. subsidiary, and then went after the American law enforcement market. “In marketing terms, we assumed that, by pursuing the law enforcement market, we would then receive the benefits of ‘after sales’ in the commercial market,” Glock told *Advertising Age* in 1995.²³



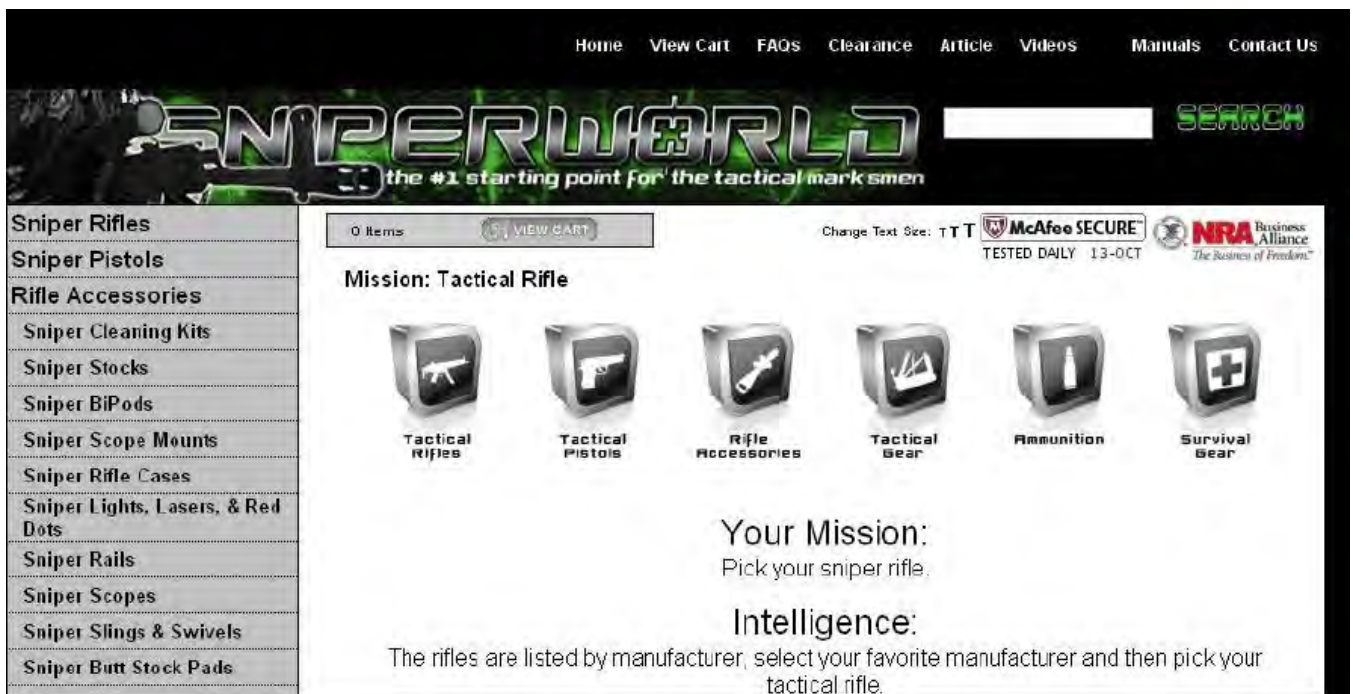
Austrian gun manufacturer Glock promotes its firearms by constantly linking them to law enforcement use, a form of domestic militarism.

Boosted by these companies’ sophisticated marketing strategies, and an adulatory gun press, high-capacity 9mm semiautomatic pistols reinvigorated the industry in the 1980s. Known as “Wonder Nines,” 9mm semiautomatic pistols drove the formerly dominant revolvers out of the handgun market and created a lucrative boom for the industry. The military-style semiautomatic pistols proliferated.

The switch from revolvers to high-capacity pistols dramatically enhanced handgun lethality. As *Jane’s Infantry Weapons* observed in the early 1980s, revolvers are “bulky,” “generally limited to six rounds,” take a “long time to reload,” and produce low muzzle velocity. Pistols “can be made flat and unobtrusive,” “take up to 13 rounds or more,” feature a “simple to replace magazine,” and high muzzle velocity.²⁴



Gun industry promotional materials, like this DVD distributed at an NRA convention by German gunmaker Walther, frequently emphasize such militaristic terms as “mission,” “special operations,” and “tactical.”



Sniperworld (above) sells military-style firearms through the Internet. Here it assigns customers the “mission” of picking their sniper rifle. The dealer displays its membership in the NRA Business Alliance: “The Business of Freedom.”

Handgun Militarization—High-Capacity “Anti-Terrorist” Vest-Busting Pistols. In the scramble for market, the gun industry has introduced a plethora of high-capacity, high-caliber semiautomatic pistol designs since the mid-1980s. But no product better captures the gun industry’s relentless militarization than the Belgian company FN Herstal’s introduction into the civilian market of a pistol and cartridge specifically designed to defeat body armor—the FN Model Five-seveN.

FN Herstal originally created the 5.7x28mm cartridge as the ammunition for a new submachine gun, the P90. The gun and round combination was developed in response to NATO’s request for design of a weapon that would be effective against body armor—ubiquitous on the modern battlefield. (The P90 is the prime example of a new generation of “high-tech” assault rifles, and a civilian version, the PS90, has become popular in the United States.) In short order, the company also designed a handgun that would chamber the innovative armor-piercing submachine round.

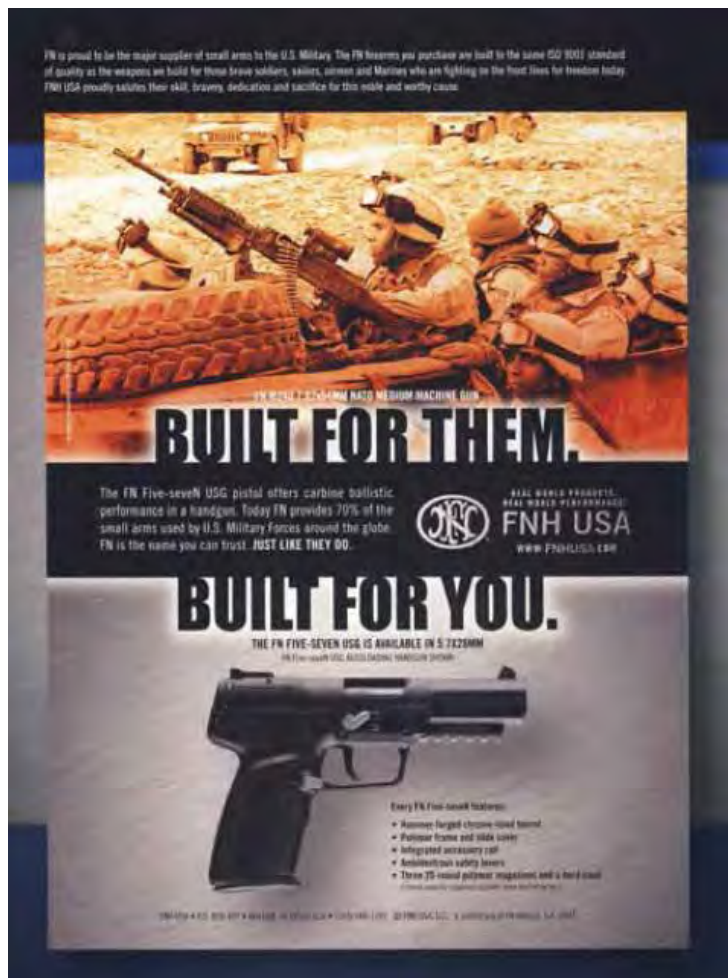


“Just like the Five-seveN handgun, the P90 submachine gun was developed around the 5.7x28mm ammunition to meet the Armies [sic] requirement in terms of efficiency.”

FN Herstal website

FN clearly understood that it was releasing a lethal genie. A spokesman for the company told the *Sunday Times* in 1996 that the pistol was “too potent” for normal police duties and was designed for anti-terrorist and hostage rescue operations.²⁵ The NRA’s *American Rifleman* claimed in 1999 that: “Law enforcement and military markets are the target groups of FN’s new FiveseveN pistol,” and told its readers, “Don’t expect to see this cartridge sold over the counter in the United States. In this incarnation, it is strictly a law enforcement or military round.”²⁶ In 2000, *American Handgunner* magazine assured the public, “For reasons that will become obvious, neither the gun nor the ammunition will ever be sold to civilians or even to individual officers.”²⁷

In fact, this handgun, described as being for anti-terrorist and hostage rescue operations with its law enforcement and military round were, and are, freely sold to civilians. FN was simply hyping its new product with widespread publicity in the gun press about “restricted” sales to military and police, and then—having whetted the gun buying public’s appetite—moved into the much bigger and more profitable civilian market. The Five-seveN is one of the leading firearms smuggled to Mexico from the U.S. civilian gun market.



FN has heavily promoted its armor-piercing handgun in the U.S. civilian market. FN emphasizes its military cachet: “Today FN provides 70% of the small arms used by U.S. Military Forces around the globe. FN is the name you can trust. **JUST LIKE THEY DO.**” [Capitals in original.]

FNH USA 2008 catalog



U.S. Army Major Nidal Malik Hasan, left, used an FN Five-seveN 5.7mm semiautomatic pistol at Ft. Hood, Texas, on November 5, 2009. The major allegedly shot to death 13 people and wounded 32 others. He awaits trial in an Army court martial.

Although aimed at women, this ad's text promotes FN's military connection: "Built for America's Forces. Built for You."



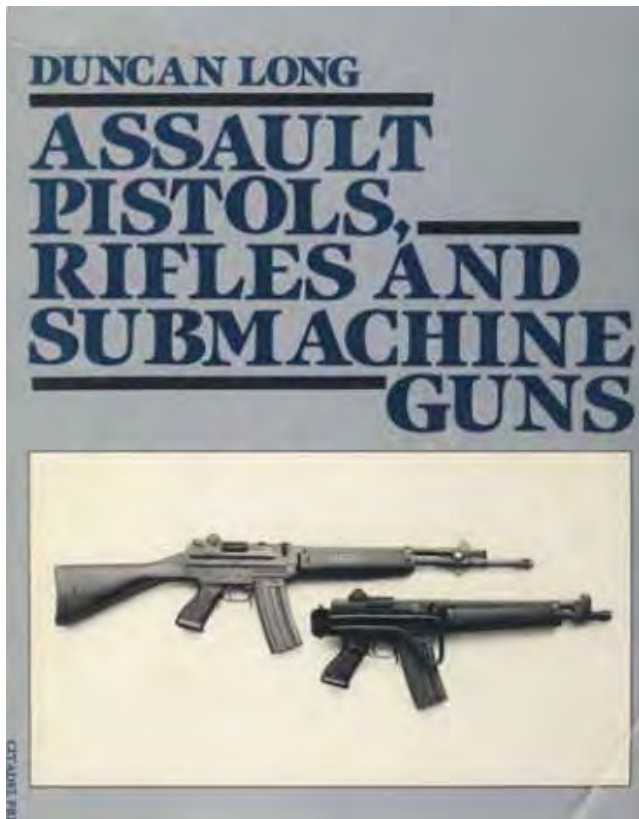
ASSAULT RIFLES AND ASSAULT PISTOLS

In the mid-1980s, the industry found another niche market—semiautomatic assault weapons.

Semiautomatic assault weapons are civilian versions of automatic military assault rifles (like the AK-47, the M-16, and FN's high-tech P-90) and automatic military assault pistols (like the UZI).²⁸

The military weapons “look” the same as the civilian weapons because they are functionally virtually identical. They differ only in one feature: military assault rifles are “machine guns.” A machine gun fires continuously as long as its trigger is held back—until it runs out of ammunition. Civilian assault rifles are *semi*-automatic weapons. The trigger of a semiautomatic weapon must be pulled back separately for each round fired.

Because federal law has banned the sale of new machine guns to civilians since 1986,²⁹ and heavily regulates sales to civilians of pre-1986 machine guns, there is virtually no civilian market for military assault weapons. The gun industry introduced semiautomatic versions of these deadly military assault weapons in order to create and exploit civilian markets.



The next problem arises if you make a semiauto-only model of one of these selective-fire rifles. According to the purists, an assault rifle has to be selective fire. Yet; if you think about it, it's a little hard to accept the idea that firearms with extended magazines, pistol grip stock, etc., cease to be assault rifles by changing a bit of metal.

In his 1986 book pro-gun author Duncan Long dismissed in the quote above the suggestion that semiautomatic civilian assault rifles were different in any substantial way from their military counterparts. The gun lobby has spent three decades trying to “rebrand” civilian assault rifles as mere sporting guns.

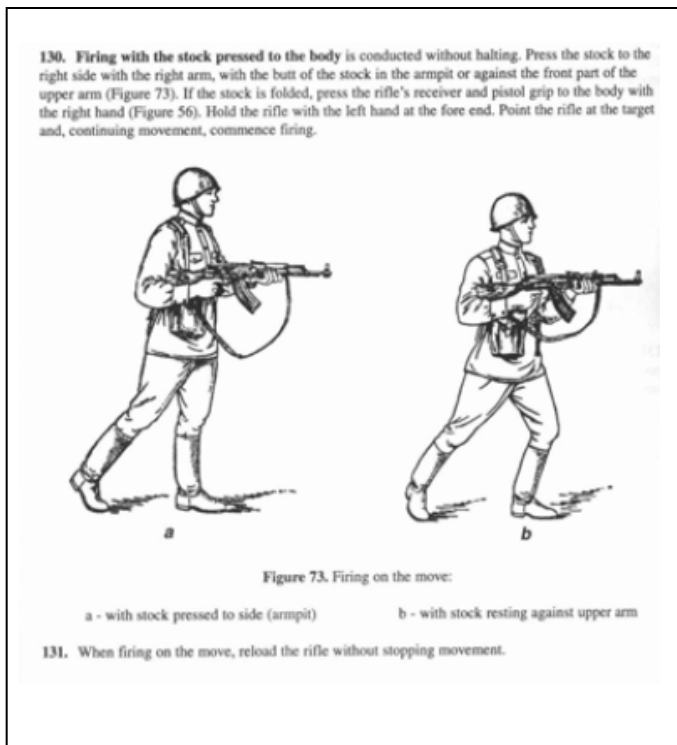
The world's armies developed assault weapons to meet specific combat needs. All assault weapons—military and civilian alike—incorporate specific features that were designed for laying down a high volume of fire over a wide killing zone. This is sometimes known as “hosing down” an area. Civilian assault weapons feature the specific military design features that make spray-firing easy and distinguish assault weapons from traditional sporting firearms.

The most important of these design features are—

- High-capacity detachable ammunition magazines that hold as many as 75 rounds of ammunition.
- A rear pistol grip (handle), including so-called “thumbhole stocks” and magazines that function like pistol grips.
- A forward grip or barrel shroud. Forward grips (located under the barrel or the forward stock) give a shooter greater control over a weapon during firing.

A gun industry observer summed up the design in September 2009:

From the minute you get your first modern, AR-style rifle, the first thing that you notice is the fact that it truly is one of the most ergonomic long guns you'll ever put to your shoulder. Makes sense, it was designed to take young men, many of whom had never fired a gun of any sort before, and quickly make them capable of running the rifle—effectively—in the most extreme duress, armed combat.³⁰



Assault rifles are used for sustained fire action at relatively close range (under 100 meters being the norm). Here Russian troops engage targets with their AK-47/AKM assault rifles.



Our test 9mm AR-15 was found to be a natural pointer. Target acquisition was rapid, even in instinctual shooting from waist level.

AK manual, gun magazine, and rifle book illustrate assault rifle “hosing down” technique.

Imports—AK-47 Variants. The Soviet Army’s premier assault rifle, the AK-47, went into service in 1947. The AK-47 has been made in many variants since then. It is said to be the most widely-distributed rifle in the world.

China was directly responsible for the AK boom in the United States. The country exported few guns to the United States until 1987, when Chinese rifle imports—mostly semiautomatic versions of the AK-47—surged. The flood of Chinese rifles reached 64 percent of all rifles imported into the United States in 1993.³¹

The executive branch has clear, existing authority under the Gun Control Act of 1968 to completely prohibit the import of any “non-sporting” firearm, such as these military-derived weapons.³² In 1989, the George H.W. Bush administration blocked the importation of foreign-made semiautomatic assault rifles such as the AK variants. After the gun industry devised ways to skate around this ban with minor design changes, the Clinton administration acted again to cut off the flood of so-called “rule beaters.”

The George W. Bush administration, however, completely and surreptitiously abrogated the first Bush and Clinton import rules. The Obama administration has done nothing to reinstate the earlier tough rules. Accordingly, Eastern European gun manufacturers have taken the place of the Chinese gun makers. They are supplying millions of AK-47-type weapons to the U.S. civilian market through licensed importers.

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ROMANIAN AK-47's and AK VARIANTS



Romanian AK-47 WASR10/63M
7.62x39mm semi-auto AK-47 with laminated wood, military stock and forend, black synthetic pistol grip, slant cut muzzle brake, sling, bayonet lug, bayonet and high capacity mag. 15-1912 **\$399.95**
Two or more each \$389.95 Five or more each \$379.95

Romanian AK-47 WASR10 7.62x39mm semi-auto with wood stock and forend, synthetic pistol grip, welded muzzle nut, sling and high capacity magazine 15-1726 **\$389.95**
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Romanian AK-47 WASR10/63FPG
7.62x39mm semi-auto with original style wood forward pistol grip, wood buttstock, synthetic pistol grip, bayonet lug, slant cut muzzle brake, sling, high capacity mag. 15-1739 **\$389.95**



Romanian AK-47 WASR10/63SFP
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Romanian AK-47 WASR10C
7.62x39mm semi-auto with Tapco AK-style collapsible stock, black synthetic pistol grip, slant cut muzzle brake, bayonet, bayonet lug, high capacity mag. 15-1217 **\$389.95** - **Two or more each \$379.95**



Romanian AK-47 WASR10CG
7.62x39mm semi-auto with Tapco AR style collapsible stock, Tapco AR style forend, black synthetic pistol grip, slant cut muzzle brake, bayonet, bayonet lug and high capacity mag. 15-1244 **\$419.95**
Two or more each \$409.95



Romanian AK-47 GP75
7.62x39mm semi-auto with American made receiver, barrel, polymer pistol grip, forend and stock. Has bayonet lug, slant cut muzzle brake and high capacity mag. 15-1396 **\$429.95**
Three or more each \$399.95

AK-47 Model GP75 7.62x39mm 15-1407 **\$429.95**
Three or more each \$399.95



Romanian AK-47 1975 Bullpup
7.62x39mm semi-auto with black polymer stock, new US made receiver and high capacity mag. 15-1425 **\$499.95**



Yugoslavian AK-47 M70AB21
7.62x39 semi-auto, underfolding stock, parkerized finish, black polymer forend, slant cut muzzle brake, high capacity mag. 15-1662 **\$489.95**



7.62x39mm Semi-Auto VZ2008 Sporter
With milled receiver, folding synthetic pistol grip and slant cut muzzle brake and VZ2008 30 Round VZ2008 Bayonet With Bakelite handle

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Guns & Ammo ad for AK-type rifles from China in December 1985 (lower right). Since George W. Bush's administration opened the assault rifle floodgates again, AK-type rifles have poured in from Eastern Europe, as evidenced by this May 20, 2010, ad for J&G Sales from *Shotgun News*, which is typical of fare in the popular publication.

THE MILITARIZATION OF THE U.S. CIVILIAN FIREARMS MARKET

VIOLENCE POLICY CENTER | 24

ER1335

Domestic Production—AR-15 Variants of the M-16. After studying over three million casualty reports from World Wars I and II, and data from the Korean War, the U.S. Army concluded, “Marksmanship was not as important as volume.” Accordingly, it decided in the 1960s to replace its M-14 battle rifle with the M-16 assault rifle.³³

The gun industry quickly churned out civilian versions of the M-16, labeling the semiautomatic model the “AR-15” (the same designation as the prototype military assault rifle). “With the number of companies making those particular black rifles today, it’s tough to keep up them [sic],” a gun industry insider wrote in 2009.³⁴



The gun industry created a vast market for AR-15 civilian versions of the U.S. military’s M-16 assault rifle.

Manufacturers have recently introduced assault rifles in 22 caliber, considerably cheaper than the .223 ammunition of the usual AR-15 semiautomatic assault rifle. The lighter weapons also provide an entry model for later transition to higher-caliber rifles. For example, in August 2009 Smith & Wesson began shipments of its M&P15-22 semiautomatic assault rifle. Here is how one gun writer enthused about the new model:

...the M&P15-22 might be the first .22 LR AR platform that actually is appropriate for consumers, law enforcement and military use that can be used to teach AR operations and basic marksmanship skills and know there will be no modifications necessary to transition to the myriad of other AR calibers available.³⁵

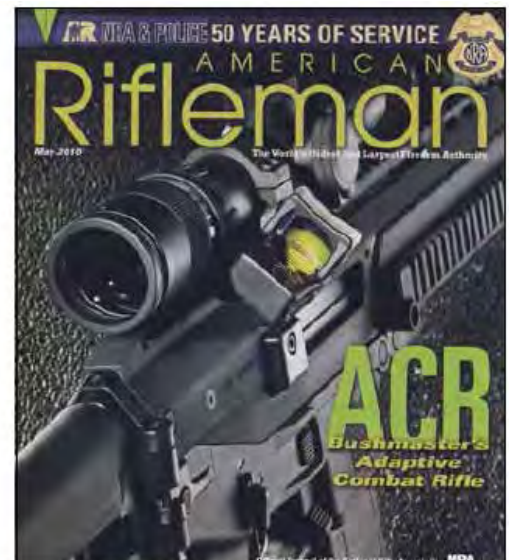


The industry has lately pushed 22 caliber semiautomatic assault rifles.

The 1994 Assault Weapons “Ban” and the Rise of Bushmaster. In 1994, Congress passed a ban on the production of certain semiautomatic assault weapons as well as new high-capacity ammunition magazines that held more than 10 rounds. The law banned specific assault weapons by name and also classified as assault weapons semiautomatic firearms that could accept a detachable ammunition magazine and had two additional assault weapon design characteristics.³⁶

Because the law listed merely cosmetic features (like bayonet mounts) and did not address the fundamental design of assault weapons, it was ineffective. The gun industry quickly made slight design changes in “post-ban” guns to evade the law, a tactic gunmakers dubbed “sporterization.” One of the most aggressive of the manufacturers of “post-ban” ARs was Bushmaster Firearms. A Bushmaster XM15 M4 A3 assault rifle was used by the Washington, D.C.-area snipers to kill 10 and injure three in October 2002. A poster child for the industry’s success at evading the ban, the snipers’ Bushmaster was marketed as a “Post-Ban Carbine.”

The 1994 law expired (“sunset”) on September 13, 2004.



The Washington, D.C.-area “Beltway Snipers” used the Bushmaster semiautomatic assault rifle being shown at left above. Among Bushmaster’s latest AR-type assault rifles is the “Adaptive Combat Rifle” featured on the cover of the NRA’s May 2010 *American Rifleman*.

Assault Pistols—UZI, Ingram, Intratec, and More. A particularly deadly variant in the gun industry’s marketing program has been the sale of civilian assault pistols, which are for the most part simply semiautomatic versions of submachine guns. Firearms expert Duncan Long explained the marketing basis of this trend in his book *The Terrifying Three: Uzi, Ingram, and Intratec Weapons Families*:

As the militaries of the world increasingly rely on assault rifles to fill the submachine gun role, making money on a new submachine gun design becomes harder and harder....Citizens purchasing firearms for everything from plinking to self-defense have provided a lucrative market, especially in the United States. Those weapons produced for the civilian market are generally semiauto versions of the automatic weapons, often modified slightly to conform to U.S. firearms laws.³⁷

A more recent development has been the introduction of AK-47 type pistols, which combine all the deadly design characteristics of the military-style assault rifle with the greater concealability of the handgun.

The screenshot shows the J&G SALES website interface. The header includes the logo and navigation links: In-Stock Guns, Special Order Guns, Current Specials, and FAQ. Below the header is a search bar and a list of categories. The main product listing is for a "Romanian AK Draco Pistol 7.62x39 caliber handgun. (Backordered) [25-1676xq]". The price is listed as \$349.95. A table shows the quantity and price: 2+ for \$329.95 and 5+ for \$319.95. The quantity is set to 1. An "Add To Cart" button is visible. A detailed description of the firearm is provided, mentioning its features and assembly. An inset image shows the physical firearm, which is a black AK-style handgun with a wooden forestock and a red grip.

Gun dealers offer AK-47 type semiautomatic assault pistols, like the Draco above, through the Internet.

THE ASSAULT WEAPONS HYPE MARKET

The 1980s Explosion. Assault weapons quickly became hot items on the civilian market in the 1980s for a variety of reasons. For manufacturers, assault weapons helped counter the mid-1980s decline in handgun sales. Criminals—especially drug traffickers—were drawn to assault weapons’ massive firepower, useful for fighting police and especially competing traffickers. Survivalists—who envisioned themselves fending off a horde of desperate neighbors from within their bomb shelters—loved the combat features of high ammunition capacity and anti-personnel striking power of assault weapons. Right-wing paramilitary extremists, in their ongoing battle against the “Zionist Occupational Government,” made these easily purchased firearms their gun of choice. And for gun enthusiast fans of popular entertainment—*Rambo* and *Miami Vice*—semiautomatic assault weapons offered the look and feel of the “real thing.”

In a survival situation, there's no time to worry about how a weapon will perform. That's why Elite American and European special operations forces rely on firearms made by Heckler & Koch.

The HK 91 Semi-Automatic Assault Rifle from Heckler & Koch.

The HK 91 was derived directly from the G3. Its delayed roller-locked bolt system reduces recoil to keep the gun on target. It exceeds the most stringent NATO accuracy requirements—right out of the box. And HK's revolutionary scope mounting system guarantees that you're still on target every time you mount your scope.

Easy to maintain and take apart, the HK 91 is as reliable as the HK 93. In fact, both were both designed as parts of an integrated gun system. The HK system of interchangeable parts and accessories enables these precision firearms to adapt quickly to changing tactical situations.

Leading military operations and law enforcement agencies around the world rely on firearms that bear the HK name. Your choice is equally clear. You can carry an ordinary weapon. Or carry the most uncompromising firearm in the world.

When you're determined to survive, you leave nothing to chance.

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In a world of compromise, some men don't.

In a survival situation, there's no time to worry about how a weapon will perform. That's why Elite American and European special operations forces rely on firearms made by Heckler & Koch.

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In a world of compromise, some men don't.

German manufacturer Heckler & Koch pushed the civilian version of its military assault rifle in a series of ads—like these from *Guns & Ammo* magazine—in the mid-1980s stressing “survivalist” themes.

The Y2K Exploitation. The gun industry has ever since poured its efforts into new assault weapons designs and into their heavy marketing. One example of the industry's cynicism was its deliberate exploitation of widespread fears of a "breakdown" in public order at the turn of the millennium ("Y2K").³⁸

In the January 1999 issue of *Shooting Sports Retailer*, editor Bob Rogers predicted, "Amidst social turmoil and disintegrating economic underpinnings, you will sell more guns in 1999 than you've ever sold in your life."³⁹ *Shooting Industry's* Russ Thurman asked readers, "Are you cashing in on the new millennium?"⁴⁰

The prime danger, the gun industry luridly suggested, was that of rampaging humans: "...since the Have Nots won't hesitate to break in and take from the Haves, plan on close contact. And plan on being outnumbered. High-capacity rifles, pistols and shotguns are obvious choices."⁴¹ But domestic pets could also become a threat to life in the gun industry's bizarre world: "One might also need to quickly stop a dog or dogs who through starvation revert to wild beasts. Dogs take a lot of killing, so a powerful round and good shot placement will be necessary should this distasteful task arise."⁴²



Premier gun industry magazine *Shooting Industry* advised dealers in September 1999 (left) that "...taking advantage of the Y2K 'scare' is smart business...." In January 2000 the magazine reported that "...predictions of massive unrest...prompted gunowners to stock-up [sic] on ammunition."

Gun World's Y2K Daisy Chain



Gun World magazine not only published its own article in 1999 about how to “survive Y2K”—it also referred its readers to its sister publication *American Survival Guide*, in which appeared another article of survival advice written by *Gun World* editor Jan Libourel.



Typical Y2K gun ads from 1999 are shown above.

Continuing Incitement. The gun industry, the NRA, and the gun press have exploited every real and imagined public fear since the 1980s—including the terror attacks of September 2001, Hurricane Katrina, “spillover” of border violence, and concerns about violent “illegal” immigrants. The industry’s propaganda added fuel to the militia movement in the 1990s. Lethal confrontations occurred between federal law enforcement and civilians heavily armed with military-style weapons at Waco, Texas, and Ruby Ridge, Idaho. Barack Obama’s election, and fears that he would push an anti-gun agenda, ignited growth in the “militia” movement and a disturbing trend of open display of assault weapons near Presidential speaking engagements.⁴³



The ad for a Benelli shotgun on the left, from the NRA’s 2010 annual meeting brochure, ostensibly speaks to a “revolution” in shotgun design. The ad for the “tactical” shotgun on the right, from the September 2010 *Guns & Ammo* magazine, links “homeland security” to “Iraq, Afghanistan, Your Livingroom.”



The NRA pamphlet *Freedom in Peril* warns, “Second Amendment freedom today stands naked....” Laced with ugly stereotypes of the gun lobby’s political enemies—a classic technique for dehumanizing “the other”—it suggests “towering waves” of danger from ethnic and racial gangs. “Sometimes,” the brochure suggestively states, “any hope of prevailing rests in the hearts and hands of a very urgent few....”



The National Shooting Sports Foundation's Rebranding Campaign. In November 2009, the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) announced that—"due to gun owners' concerns over President-elect Obama and possible legislation regulating the Second Amendment rights of Americans"—it had placed on its website a "media resource...to help clear up much of the confusion and misinformation about so-called 'assault weapons.'"⁴⁴

This was the opening salvo in the industry's meretricious campaign to "rebrand" semiautomatic assault weapons as "modern sporting rifles."⁴⁵ The point of the campaign—inspired by the pummeling the industry gets for selling killing machines—is apparently that semiautomatic assault rifles are really just another sporting gun, no different from an older generation of bolt-action and low-capacity rifles.

Unfortunately for the NSSF and the industry, the widely-reported affection for semiautomatic assault rifles by extremists, drug lords, and common criminals gives the lie to this insidious "rebranding" campaign. Even worse, some within the gun industry's own ranks apparently never got the NSSF rebranding memo. They continue to call semiautomatic assault rifles what they are—*assault* rifles—and even write lurid prose promoting the worst features of these guns.



Manufacturers and fan magazines alike called semiautomatic assault weapons "assault weapons" before their deadly killing power became a matter of public debate.

For recent example, the August 2010 edition of *Gun World* magazine headlines “Ruger’s Mini-14 Tactical Rifle” as “‘Combat Customized’ From the Factory.”⁴⁶ Among other outbursts of naked candor in the enthusiastic article are the following—

- Ruger’s Mini-14 Tactical Rifle is a version of the well-established Mini-14 incorporating many of the assault rifle features that end users have being [sic] applying themselves for decades, this time straight from the factory.
- **Being seen over the years as a sort of “poor man’s assault rifle” the Mini-14 has spawned a huge array of after-market parts that may be applied to make it more “assault rifle-y.”** Recently Sturm, Ruger & Co. finally decided to get into the act themselves by producing their Mini-14 Tactical Rifles. [Bold added]

This spasm of candor is typical of the “wink and nod” game that the gun industry plays when it talks to itself and to its hard-core consumers: call them what you will—“black rifles,” “tactical rifles,” or “modern sporting rifles”—semiautomatic assault weapons are plain and simply military-style assault weapons.



50 CALIBER ANTI-ARMOR SNIPER RIFLES

The 50 caliber anti-armor sniper rifle is a case of militarization in which precisely the same weapon is sold on the civilian market as that sold to the world's armed services.

This lucrative weapon was invented in the early 1980s by a Tennessee commercial photographer, Ronnie G. Barrett, who derived the sniper rifle from the Browning 50 caliber machine gun.⁴⁷

Barrett's 1987 patent called his new invention an "anti-armor gun." He described the rifle in his patent claim as a "shoulder-fireable, armor-penetrating gun." Barrett related the novelty of his anti-armor gun as follows:

The recoil and weight of the Browning M-2 heavy-barrel machine gun (50 cal.), belt-fed, make it unsuitable for firing from the shoulder. The bolt-fed sniper rifle of smaller weight and caliber will not penetrate armored targets. The bolts of guns of a caliber that will penetrate armored targets are often broken by recoil because of excessive strain on the lock lugs. Thus, there is a need for a light-weight, shoulder-fireable, armor-penetrating gun that can stand up to heavy duty use. After extended investigation I have come up with just such a gun.

Barrett Firearms Manufacturing, Inc. is today the leading supplier of 50 caliber anti-armor sniper rifles to U.S. military forces and many other armies of the world.

FROM THE DESK OF RONNIE BARRETT



My Fellow Gun Enthusiasts,

Great things are happening now at Barrett! Recent additions to our facility ensure consistent deliveries, and our new R&D shop is world-class. Barrett Optics launched the revolutionary BORE. Our online store is growing every day, and the Barrett internet forum is a hub for exchanging great ideas. Our training department is staffing up with experienced professionals.

I am also pleased to report that each Barrett model of large-caliber rifle is in service with a government somewhere around the globe. This is a great accomplishment for us, but it is equally important to you, the buyer. Adoption by a government indicates a proven design, stable support, and continuous upgrades over many years. Consider this when you are comparing our rifles to any other competitor.

Advertising note "From the Desk of Ronnie Barrett," inventor of the 50 caliber anti-armor sniper rifle, boasts that "...each Barrett model of large-caliber rifle is in service with a government somewhere around the globe." In his pitch to "Fellow Gun Enthusiasts," Barrett urges them to "[c]onsider this when you are comparing our rifles to any other

Barrett has also aggressively marketed its anti-armor rifles to civilian buyers in the United States. After Barrett effectively created a new civilian market for his anti-armor rifles, lower-priced competition sprang up from dozens of new manufacturers cashing in on the booming niche. These rifles have become one of the hottest items sold in the civilian market.

In spite of their battlefield pedigree, 50 caliber anti-armor rifles are no more regulated under federal law than a 22 caliber target rifle, and are less regulated than handguns. Under federal law, anyone at least 18 years of age who is not in a category as to whom transfers or possession of firearms is prohibited—such as convicted felons—can legally buy any .50BMG anti-armor sniper rifle sold in America. But it is against the law for a federally licensed dealer to sell a handgun to anyone less than 21 years of age. Unlike other weapons of war—such as 50 caliber fully automatic machine guns—50 caliber anti-armor rifles are exempt from the stringent provisions of the federal National Firearms Act, which requires a photo, fingerprints, local law enforcement approval, record of the transfer, and registration of the weapon with a \$200 fee.



The gun industry has saturated the American civilian “gun culture” with 50 caliber anti-armor sniper rifles, like this AR-50.

TAXPAYERS SUBSIDIZE THE GUN INDUSTRY

In spite of “anti-government” and insurrectionist rhetoric from the National Rifle Association and its ilk, the gun industry and the gun lobby aggressively milk the federal government for taxpayer subsidies. For example, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service regularly subsidizes gun industry marketing research in the guise of “conservation” grants, as described in this 2009 industry article:

The Task Force 20/20 group, industry leaders from the hunting and shooting sports, is continuing to work toward its goal of increasing participation in hunting and the shooting sports by 20 percent over the next five years....Task Force 20/20 began in 2008 during the NSSF Summit whose primary focus was discussing research from a three-year study titled *The Future of Hunting and the Shooting Sports—Research-based Recruitment and Retention Strategies*. The report condenses the findings of one of the largest and most comprehensive studies ever conducted on factors related to the hunting and shooting sports industry. Funding for the research came from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in the form of a multi-state conservation grant.⁴⁸

Home

Task Force Members

2008 Summit Videos

***The Future of Hunting and the Shooting Sports* Chapter Summaries**

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3. [U.S. Demographic Trends and Characteristics](#)
4. [Hunting and Shooting Initiation, recruitment, Retention, and Desertion](#)
5. [Motivations for and Satisfaction with Hunting and the Shooting Sports](#)
6. [Target Markets](#)
7. [Hunting and Shooting](#)

Background:
In June the National Shooting Sports Foundation hosted the [2008 Shooting Sports Summit](#) in Colorado Springs. The Summit gathered leaders from throughout the shooting, hunting and outdoor industry as well as key leaders from fish and wildlife agencies and conservation organizations to address key challenges that face the future of the shooting sports.

At the core of the Summit was a three-year research project titled, "*The Future of Hunting and the Shooting Sports - Research-based Recruitment and Retention Strategies*." **The report condenses the findings of one of the largest and most comprehensive studies ever conducted on the factors related to our industry.** Funding for the research came from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in the form of a multi-state conservation grant. NSSF commissioned the firm of Responsive Management to conduct the research for the report.

The Summit closed out with attendees committed to taking action on key efforts to reach new hunters and shooters to ensure that our shooting traditions will be a lasting heritage passed on to future generations. To guide the successful implementation of this research the NSSF has developed *Task Force 20/20*SM.

TASK FORCE 20/20

Mr. & Distrib. Agencies Hunting Groups Shooting Groups Media Retailers

Member Organizations:

The U.S. armed forces also subsidize industry activity, largely through the ploy of “marksmanship” programs, as this article from an industry newsletter attests:

Every summer, prior to the National Rifle and Pistol Trophy Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, Soldiers from the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit take time out of their own training and preparation to pass their knowledge and superb shooting skills on to the next generation of American shooters at the Small Arms Firing School....

“It’s such a great thing,” said Jim Davis, Hamilton, Ind. “This is the best place in the country, maybe the world, to learn about shooting and everything that goes with it.”

Davis took his son and three other children from the Dekalb County 4-H club to the rifle class, stressing to them how valuable the instruction that they are receiving is to them now and down the road.

“I still remember when I came to this school as a teenager,” he said. “I tell my kid that this is something that you’ll always remember.”⁴⁹

The Army Marksmanship Unit also hosts an annual event for “civilians playing army in combat situations.”⁵⁰

The shooting sport of 3-gun competition, with pistol, rifle, and tactical shotgun is rooted somewhere in the idea of adults playing army. It is simulated combat. And Three Gun can get even more interesting when the Army issues an invitation to bring your guns and join up for three days of competition, with the Army Marksmanship Unit hosting their 3-gun challenge.⁵¹

The bottom line—ultimately the only thing that matters to the gun industry—is that taxpayers are paying for the means by which a dying industry hangs on by funding market research in the guise of “conservation grants” and introducing new generations of children to the “sport” of shooting military-style weapons in the drag of military marksmanship programs.

THE RESULT: MILITARIZED FIREARMS DEFINE THE U.S. CIVILIAN FIREARMS MARKET

Military-style weapons today define the U.S. civilian gun market. As noted earlier, *Shooting Wire* summarized the gun industry's situation in December 2008 as follows:

The net of all the numbers is that if you're a company with a strong line of high-capacity pistols and AR-style rifles, you're doing land office business. If you're heavily dependent on hunting, you are hurting.⁵²



Military-style “combat rifles” and lethal firepower dominate U.S. civilian firearms market production and marketing.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF MILITARIZATION

The widespread availability of militarized firearms—including especially high-capacity semiautomatic pistols and assault weapons—has substantially raised the level of lethality of armed encounters in the United States. Criminal street gangs, drug traffickers, and militant extremists are all drawn to the military-style firepower of these weapons.

Two trends are remarkable.

Increasing Attacks on Law Enforcement with Assault Weapons. A recent Violence Policy Center study of reported incidents showed that more than one out of four assault weapons incidents involve police. Moreover, the number of assault weapons incidents involving police grew significantly between the two periods studied (March 1, 2005 to February 28, 2006 and March 1, 2006 to February 28, 2007).⁵³

A typical more recent incident is that of Richard Poplawski, who is accused of shooting to death Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, police officers Paul J. Sciullo II, Stephen J. Mayhle, and Eric G. Kelly on April 4, 2009. Among the guns Poplawski fired at police was an AK-47 semiautomatic assault rifle.⁵⁴



Richard Poplawski and the three police officers who died on April 4, 2009.

Trafficking of Military-Style Weapons from the United States. According to both United States and Mexican officials, large numbers of military-style firearms from the U.S. civilian gun market fuel criminal violence in Mexico. Congressional hearings and public policy reports have made clear that the U.S. gun industry is instrumental in making readily available to illegal gun traffickers the types and numbers of weapons that facilitate drug lords' confrontations with the Mexican government and its people. U.S. and Mexican officials report that, based on firearms tracing data from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the cartels obtain up to 90 percent of their firearms from the United States.⁵⁵



Military-style firearms smuggled from the United States fuel violence among Mexican drug cartels and criminal confrontations with the Mexican government. Weapons of choice include 50 caliber anti-armor sniper rifles, assault rifles, and cop-killing FN Five-seveN anti-armor handguns.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

More than anything else, the news media, public interest groups, and especially policymakers must come to grips with a deadly reality. That reality is that the gun industry is not today—if it ever was—a “sporting” industry. It is a highly militarized and increasingly cynical industry that has cast all restraint aside to generate profit from military-style firearms.

Like an injured predator, the industry is particularly dangerous as it sinks further into its inevitable decline. The gun industry’s desperate “marketing” campaigns underwrite mass shootings in the United States, increasingly lethal confrontations with law enforcement, and armed violence abroad.

Most insidiously, the gun lobby’s exploitation of fear—racial, ethnic, and political—encourages resort to armed violence among the most impressionable and ill-equipped to function in a complex society.

This is truly an era in which to do nothing is to invite unthinkable violence.

ENDNOTES

1. Although counts have varied slightly as forensic evidence became available and was more thoroughly examined, the total number of people killed in all of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, is about 2,975. *Associated Press*, "Official 9/11 Death Toll Climbs By One," July 10, 2008, www.cbsnews.com/stories/2008/07/10/national/main4250100.shtml. By comparison, there were a total of 31,224 firearm deaths in the United States in 2007, the latest year for which data are available. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "2007, United States Firearm Deaths and Rates per 100,000."
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Exhibit 63

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U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

ATF

Study on the Importability of Certain Shotguns



Firearms and Explosives Industry Division

January 2011

ER1361

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Study on the Importability of Certain Shotguns

Executive Summary

The purpose of this study is to establish criteria that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) will use to determine the importability of certain shotguns under the provisions of the Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA).

The Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA) generally prohibits the importation of firearms into the United States.¹ However, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 925(d), the GCA creates four narrow categories of firearms that the Attorney General must authorize for importation. Under one such category, subsection 925(d)(3), the Attorney General shall approve applications for importation when the firearms are generally recognized as particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes (the “sporting purposes test”).

After passage of the GCA in 1968, a panel was convened to provide input on the sporting suitability standards which resulted in factoring criteria for handgun importations. Then in 1989, and again in 1998, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted studies to determine the sporting suitability and importability of certain firearms under section 925(d)(3). However, these studies focused mainly on a type of firearm described as “semiautomatic assault weapons.” The 1989 study determined that assault rifles contained a variety of physical features that distinguished them from traditional sporting rifles. The study concluded that there were three characteristics that defined semiautomatic assault rifles.²

The 1998 study concurred with the conclusions of the 1989 study, but included a finding that “the ability to accept a detachable large capacity magazine originally designed and produced for a military assault weapon should be added to the list of disqualifying military configuration features identified in 1989.”³ Further, both studies concluded that the scope of “sporting purposes” did not include all lawful activity, but was limited to traditional sports such as hunting, skeet shooting, and trap shooting. This effectively narrowed the universe of firearms considered by each study because a larger number of firearms are “particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to a sporting purpose” if plinking⁴ and police or military-style practical shooting competitions are also included as a “sporting purpose.”⁵

Although these studies provided effective guidelines for determining the sporting purposes of rifles, ATF recognized that no similar studies had been completed to determine the sporting

¹ Chapter 44, Title 18, United States Code (U.S.C.), at 18 U.S.C. § 922(l).

² These characteristics were: (a) a military configuration (ability to accept a detachable magazine, folding/telescoping stocks, pistol grips, ability to accept a bayonet, flash suppressors, bipods, grenade launchers, and night sights); (b) a semiautomatic version of a machinegun; and (c) chambered to accept a centerfire cartridge case having a length of 2.25 inches or less. *1989 Report and Recommendation on the Importability of Certain Semiautomatic Rifles (1989 Study)* at 6-9.

³ *1998 Department of the Treasury Study on the Sporting Suitability of Modified Semiautomatic Rifles (1998 Study)* at 2.

⁴ “Plinking” is shooting at random targets such as bottles and cans. 1989 Report at 10.

⁵ *1989 Report* at 8-9; *1998 Study* at 18-19.

suitability of shotguns. A shotgun study working group (working group) was assigned to perform a shotgun study under the § 925(d)(3) sporting purposes test. The working group considered the 1989 and 1998 studies, but neither adopted nor entirely accepted findings from those studies as conclusive as to shotguns.

Sporting Purpose

Determination of whether a firearm is generally accepted for use in sporting purposes is the responsibility of the Attorney General (formerly the Secretary of the Treasury). As in the previous studies, the working group considered the historical context of “sporting purpose” and that Congress originally intended a narrow interpretation of sporting purpose under § 925(d)(3).

While the 1989 and 1998 studies considered all rifles in making their recommendations, these studies first identified firearm features and subsequently identified those activities believed to constitute a legitimate “sporting purpose.” However, in reviewing the previous studies, the working group believes that it is appropriate to first consider the current meaning of “sporting purpose” as this may impact the “sporting” classification of any shotgun or shotgun features. For example, military shotguns, or shotguns with common military features that are unsuitable for traditional shooting sports, may be considered “particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes” if military shooting competitions are considered a generally recognized sporting purpose. Therefore, in determining the contemporary meaning of sporting purposes, the working group examined not only the traditional sports of hunting and organized competitive target shooting, but also made an effort to consider other shooting activities.

In particular, the working group examined participation in and popularity of practical shooting events as governed by formal rules, such as those of the United States Practical Shooting Association (USPSA) and International Practical Shooting Confederation (IPSC), to determine whether it was appropriate to consider these events a “sporting purpose” under § 925(d)(3). While the number of members reported for USPSA is similar to the membership for other shotgun shooting organizations,⁶ the working group ultimately determined that it was not appropriate to use this shotgun study to determine whether practical shooting is “sporting” under § 925(d)(3). A change in ATF’s position on practical shooting has potential implications for rifle and handgun classifications as well. Therefore, the working group believes that a more thorough and complete assessment is necessary before ATF can consider practical shooting as a generally recognized sporting purpose.

The working group agreed with the previous studies in that the activity known as “plinking” is “primarily a pastime” and could not be considered a recognized sport for the purposes of

⁶ Organization websites report these membership numbers: for the United States Practical Shooting Association, approx. 19,000; Amateur Trapshooting Association, over 35,000 active members; National Skeet Shooting Association, nearly 20,000 members; National Sporting Clays Association, over 22,000 members; Single Action Shooting Society, over 75,000 members.

importation.⁷ Because almost any firearm can be used in that activity, such a broad reading of “sporting purpose” would be contrary to the congressional intent in enacting section 925(d)(3). For these reasons, the working group recommends that plinking not be considered a sporting purpose. However, consistent with past court decisions and Congressional intent, the working group recognized hunting and other more generally recognized or formalized competitive events similar to the traditional shooting sports of trap, skeet, and clays.

Firearm Features

In reviewing the shotguns used for those activities classified as sporting purposes, the working group examined State hunting laws, rules, and guidelines for shooting competitions and shooting organizations; industry advertisements and literature; scholarly and historical publications; and statistics on participation in the respective shooting sports. Following this review, the working group determined that certain shotgun features are not particularly suitable or readily adaptable for sporting purposes. These features include:

- (1) Folding, telescoping, or collapsible stocks;
- (2) bayonet lugs;
- (3) flash suppressors;
- (4) magazines over 5 rounds, or a drum magazine;
- (5) grenade-launcher mounts;
- (6) integrated rail systems (other than on top of the receiver or barrel);
- (7) light enhancing devices;
- (8) excessive weight (greater than 10 pounds for 12 gauge or smaller);
- (9) excessive bulk (greater than 3 inches in width and/or greater than 4 inches in depth);
- (10) forward pistol grips or other protruding parts designed or used for gripping the shotgun with the shooter’s extended hand.

Although the features listed above do not represent an exhaustive list of possible shotgun features, designs or characteristics, the working group determined that shotguns with any one of these features are most appropriate for military or law enforcement use. Therefore, shotguns containing any of these features are not particularly suitable for nor readily adaptable to generally recognized sporting purposes such as hunting, trap, sporting clay, and skeet shooting. Each of these features and an analysis of each of the determinations are included within the main body of the report.

⁷ 1989 Study at 10; 1998 Study at 17.

Study on the Importability of Certain Shotguns

The purpose of this study is to establish criteria that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) will use to determine the importability of certain shotguns under the provisions of the Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA).

Background on Shotguns

A shotgun is defined by the GCA as “a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of an explosive to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball shot or a single projectile for each single pull of the trigger.”⁸

Shotguns are traditional hunting firearms and, in the past, have been referred to as bird guns or “fowling” pieces. They were designed to propel multiple pellets of shot in a particular pattern that is capable of killing the game that is being hunted. This design and type of ammunition limits the maximum effective long distance range of shotguns, but increases their effectiveness for small moving targets such as birds in flight at a close range. Additionally, shotguns have been used to fire slugs. A shotgun slug is a single metal projectile that is fired from the barrel. Slugs have been utilized extensively in areas where State laws have restricted the use of rifles for hunting. Additionally, many States have specific shotgun seasons for deer hunting and, with the reintroduction of wild turkey in many States, shotguns and slugs have found additional sporting application.

Shotguns are measured by *gauge* in the United States. The gauge number refers to the “number of equal-size balls cast from one pound of lead that would pass through the bore of a specific diameter.”⁹ The largest commonly available gauge is 10 gauge (.0775 in. bore diameter). Therefore, a 10 gauge shotgun will have an inside diameter equal to that of a sphere made from one-tenth of a pound of lead. By far, the most common gauges are 12 (0.729 in. diameter) and 20 (0.614 in. diameter). The smallest shotgun that is readily available is known as a “.410,” which is the diameter of its bore measured in inches. Technically, a .410 is a 67 gauge shotgun.

Background on Sporting Suitability

The GCA generally prohibits the importation of firearms into the United States.¹⁰ However, the statute exempts four narrow categories of firearms that the Attorney General shall authorize for importation. Originally enacted by Title IV of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968,¹¹ and amended by Title I of the GCA¹² enacted that same year, this section provides, in pertinent part:

⁸ 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(5).

⁹ The Shotgun Encyclopedia at 106.

¹⁰ 18 U.S.C. § 922(l).

¹¹ Pub. Law 90-351 (June 19, 1968).

¹² Pub. Law 90-618 (October 22, 1968).

the Attorney General shall authorize a firearm . . . to be imported or brought into the United States . . . if the firearm . . . (3) is of a **type** that does not fall within the definition of a firearm as defined in section 5845(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 and **is generally recognized as particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes**, excluding surplus military firearms, except in any case where the Secretary has not authorized the importation of the firearm pursuant to this paragraph, it shall be unlawful to import any frame, receiver, or barrel of such firearm which would be prohibited if assembled.¹³ (Emphasis added)

This section addresses Congress' concern that the United States had become a "dumping ground of the castoff surplus military weapons of other nations,"¹⁴ in that it exempted only firearms with a generally recognized sporting purpose. In recognizing the difficulty in implementing this section, Congress gave the Secretary of the Treasury (now the Attorney General) the discretion to determine a weapon's suitability for sporting purposes. This authority was ultimately delegated to what is now ATF. Immediately after discussing the large role cheap imported .22 caliber revolvers were playing in crime, the Senate Report stated:

[t]he difficulty of defining weapons characteristics to meet this target without discriminating against sporting quality firearms, was a major reason why the Secretary of the Treasury has been given fairly broad discretion in defining and administering the import prohibition.¹⁵

Indeed, Congress granted this discretion to the Secretary even though some expressed concern with its breadth:

[t]he proposed import restrictions of Title IV would give the Secretary of the Treasury unusually broad discretion to decide whether a particular type of firearm is generally recognized as particularly suitable for, or readily adaptable to, sporting purposes. If this authority means anything, it permits Federal officials to differ with the judgment of sportsmen expressed through consumer preference in the marketplace....¹⁶

Since that time, ATF has been responsible for determining whether firearms are generally recognized as particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes under the statute.

¹³ 18 U.S.C. § 925(d)(3). In pertinent part, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(a) includes "a shotgun having a barrel or barrels of less than 18 inches in length."

¹⁴ 90 P.L. 351 (1968).

¹⁵ S. Rep. No. 1501, 90th Cong. 2d Sess. 38 (1968).

¹⁶ S. Rep. No. 1097, 90th Cong. 2d. Sess. 2155 (1968) (views of Senators Dirksen, Hruska, Thurmond, and Burdick). In Gun South, Inc. v. Brady, 877 F.2d 858, 863 (11th Cir. 1989), the court, based on legislative history, found that the GCA gives the Secretary "unusually broad discretion in applying section 925(d)(3)."

On December 10, 1968, the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division of the Internal Revenue Service (predecessor to ATF) convened a “Firearm Advisory Panel” to assist with defining “sporting purposes” as utilized in the GCA. This panel was composed of representatives from the military, law enforcement, and the firearms industry. The panel generally agreed that firearms designed and intended for hunting and organized competitive target shooting would fall into the sporting purpose criteria. It was also the consensus that the activity of “plinking” was primarily a pastime and therefore would not qualify. Additionally, the panel looked at criteria for handguns and briefly discussed rifles. However, no discussion took place on shotguns given that, at the time, all shotguns were considered inherently sporting because they were utilized for hunting or organized competitive target competitions.

Then, in 1984, ATF organized the first large scale study aimed at analyzing the sporting suitability of certain firearms. Specifically, ATF addressed the sporting purposes of the Striker-12 and Streetsweeper shotguns. These particular shotguns were developed in South Africa as law enforcement, security and anti-terrorist weapons. These firearms are nearly identical 12-gauge shotguns, each with 12-round capacity and spring-driven revolving magazines. All 12 rounds can be fired from the shotguns within 3 seconds.

In the 1984 study, ATF ruled that the Striker-12 and the Streetsweeper were not eligible for importation under 925(d)(3) because they were not “particularly suitable for sporting purposes.” In doing this, ATF reversed an earlier opinion and specifically rejected the proposition that police or combat competitive shooting events were a generally accepted “sporting purpose.” This 1984 study adopted a narrow interpretation of organized competitive target shooting competitions to include the traditional target events such as trap and skeet. ATF ultimately concluded that the size, weight and bulk of the shotguns made them difficult to maneuver in traditional shooting sports and, therefore, these shotguns were not particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to these sporting purposes. At the same time, however, ATF allowed importation of a SPAS-12 variant shotgun because its size, weight, bulk and *modified* configuration were such that it was particularly suitable for traditional shooting sports.¹⁷ The Striker-12 and Streetsweeper were later classified as “destructive devices” pursuant to the National Firearms Act.¹⁸

In 1989, and again in 1998, ATF conducted studies to determine whether certain rifles could be imported under section 925(d)(3). The respective studies focused primarily on the application of the sporting purposes test to a type of firearm described as a “semiautomatic assault weapon.” In both 1989 and 1998, ATF was concerned that certain semiautomatic assault weapons had been approved for importation even though they did not satisfy the sporting purposes test.

¹⁷ Private letter Ruling of August 9, 1989 from Bruce L. Weininger, Chief, Firearms and Explosives Division.

¹⁸ See ATF Rulings 94-1 and 94-2.

1989 Study

In 1989, ATF announced that it was suspending the importation of several semiautomatic assault rifles pending a decision on whether they satisfied the sporting criteria under section 925(d)(3). The 1989 study determined that assault rifles were a “type” of rifle that contained a variety of physical features that distinguished them from traditional sporting rifles. The study concluded that there were three characteristics that defined semiautomatic assault rifles:

- (1) a military configuration (ability to accept a detachable magazine, folding/telescoping stocks, pistol grips, ability to accept a bayonet, flash suppressors, bipods, grenade launchers, and night sights);
- (2) semiautomatic version of a machinegun;
- (3) chambered to accept a centerfire cartridge case having a length of 2.25 inches or less.¹⁹

The 1989 study then examined the scope of “sporting purposes” as used in the statute.²⁰ The study noted that “[t]he broadest interpretation could take in virtually any lawful activity or competition which any person or groups of persons might undertake. Under this interpretation, any rifle could meet the “sporting purposes” test.²¹ The 1989 study concluded that a broad interpretation would render the statute useless. The study therefore concluded that neither plinking nor “police/combat-type” competitions would be considered sporting activities under the statute.²²

The 1989 study concluded that semiautomatic assault rifles were “designed and intended to be particularly suitable for combat rather than sporting applications.”²³ With this, the study determined that they were not suitable for sporting purposes and should not be authorized for importation under section 925(d)(3).

1998 Study

The 1998 study was conducted after “members of Congress and others expressed concern that rifles being imported were essentially the same as semiautomatic assault rifles previously determined to be nonimportable” under the 1989 study.²⁴ Specifically, many firearms found to be nonimportable under the 1989 study were later modified to meet the standards outlined in the study. These firearms were then legally imported into the country under section 925(d)(3). ATF commissioned the 1998 study on the sporting suitability of semiautomatic rifles to address concerns regarding these modified firearms.

¹⁹ 1989 Report and Recommendation on the ATF Working Group on the Importability of Certain Semiautomatic Rifles (1989 Study).

²⁰ *Id.* at 8.

²¹ *Id.*

²² *Id.* At 9.

²³ *Id.* At 12.

²⁴ 1998 Study at 1.

The 1998 study identified the firearms in question and determined that the rifles shared an important feature—the ability to accept a large capacity magazine that was originally designed for military firearms. The report then referred to such rifles as Large Capacity Military Magazine rifles or “LCMM rifles.”²⁵

The study noted that after 1989, ATF refused to allow importation of firearms that had any of the identified non-sporting features, but made an exception for firearms that possessed only a detachable magazine. Relying on the 1994 Assault Weapons Ban, the 1998 study noted that Congress “sent a strong signal that firearms with the ability to expel large amounts of ammunition quickly are not sporting.”²⁶ The study concluded by adopting the standards set forth in the 1989 study and by reiterating the previous determination that large capacity magazines are a military feature that bar firearms from importation under section 925(d)(3).²⁷

Present Study

While ATF conducted the above mentioned studies on the sporting suitability of rifles, to date, no study has been conducted to address the sporting purposes and importability of shotguns. This study was commissioned for that purpose and to ensure that ATF complies with its statutory mandate under section 925(d)(3).

Methodology

To conduct this study, the working group reviewed current shooting sports and the sporting suitability of common shotguns and shotgun features. At the outset, the working group recognized the importance of acknowledging the inherent differences between rifles, handguns and shotguns. These firearms have distinct characteristics that result in specific applications of each weapon. Therefore, in conducting the study, the working group generally considered shotguns without regard to technical similarities or differences that exist in rifles or handguns.

The 1989 and 1998 studies examined particular features and made sporting suitability determinations based on the generally accepted sporting purposes of *rifles*. These studies served as useful references because, in recent years, manufacturers have produced shotguns with features traditionally found only on rifles. These features are typically used by military or law enforcement personnel and provide little or no advantage to sportsmen.

Following a review of the 1989 and 1998 studies, the working group believed that it was necessary to first identify those activities that are considered legitimate “sporting purposes” in the modern era. While the previous studies determined that only “the traditional sports of hunting and organized competitive target shooting” would be considered “sporting,”²⁸ the working group recognized that sporting purposes may evolve over time. The working group felt

²⁵ 1998 Study at 16.

²⁶ 1998 Study at 3.

²⁷ The 1994 Assault Weapons Ban expired Sept. 13, 2004, as part of the law's sunset provision.

²⁸ 1998 Study at 16

that the statutory language supported this because the term “generally recognized” modifies, not only firearms used for shooting activities, but also the shooting activities themselves. This is to say that an activity is considered “sporting” under section 925(d)(3) if it is generally recognized as such.²⁹ Therefore, activities that were “generally recognized” as legitimate “sporting purposes” in previous studies are not necessarily the same as those activities that are “generally recognized” as sporting purposes in the modern era. As stated above, Congress recognized the difficulty in legislating a fixed meaning and therefore gave the Attorney General the responsibility to make such determinations. As a result, the working group did not simply accept the proposition that sporting events were limited to hunting and traditional trap and skeet target shooting. In determining whether an activity is now generally accepted as a sporting purpose, the working group considered a broad range of shooting activities.

Once the working group determined those activities that are generally recognized as a “sporting purpose” under section 925(d)(3), it examined numerous shotguns with diverse features in an effort to determine whether any particular firearm was particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to those sports. In coming to a determination, the working group recognized that a shotgun cannot be classified as sporting merely because it may be used for a sporting purpose. During debate on the original bill, there was discussion about the meaning of the term “sporting purposes.” Senator Dodd stated:

Here again I would have to say that if a military weapon is used in a special sporting event, it does not become a sporting weapon. It is a military weapon used in a special sporting event As I said previously the language says no firearms will be admitted into this country unless they are genuine sporting weapons.³⁰

In making a determination on any particular feature, the working group considered State hunting laws, currently available products, scholarly and historical publications, industry marketing, and rules and regulations of organization such as the National Skeet Shooting Association, Amateur Trapshooting Association, National Sporting Clays Association, Single Action Shooting Society, International Practical Shooting Confederation (IPSC), and the United States Practical Shooting Association (USPSA). Analysis of these sources as well as a variety of shotguns led the working group to conclude that certain shotguns were of a type that did not meet the requirements of section 925(d)(3), and therefore, could not lawfully be imported.

²⁹ ATF previously argued this very point in Gilbert Equipment Company, Inc. v. Higgins, 709 F.Supp. 1071, 1075 (S.D. Ala. 1989). The court agreed, noting, “according to Mr. Drake, the bureau takes the position...that an event has attained general recognition as being a sport before those uses and/or events can be ‘sporting purposes’ or ‘sports’ under section 925(d)(3). See also Declaration of William T. Drake, Deputy Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

³⁰ 114 Cong. Rec. 27461-462 (1968).

Analysis

A. Scope of Sporting Purposes

In conducting the sporting purposes test on behalf of the Attorney General, ATF examines the physical and technical characteristics of a shotgun and determines whether those characteristics meet this statutory requirement. A shotgun's suitability for a particular sport depends upon the nature and requirements inherent to that sport. Therefore, determining a "sporting purpose" was the first step in this analysis under section 925(d)(3) and is a critical step of the process.

A broad interpretation of "sporting purposes" may include any lawful activity in which a shooter might participate and could include any organized or individual shooting event or pastime. A narrow interpretation of "sporting purposes" would clearly result in a more selective standard governing the importation of shotguns.

Consistent with previous ATF decisions and case law, the working group recognized that a sport or event must "have attained general recognition as being a 'sport,' before those uses and/or events can be 'sporting purposes' or 'sports' under Section 925(d)(3)."³¹ The statutory language limits ATF's authority to recognize a particular shooting activity as a "sporting purpose," and therefore requires a narrow interpretation of this term. As stated however, the working group recognized that sporting purposes may change over time, and that certain shooting activities may become "generally recognized" as such.

At the present time, the working group continues to believe that the activity known as "plinking" is not a generally recognized sporting purpose. There is nothing in the legislative history of the GCA to indicate that section 925(d)(3) was meant to recognize every conceivable type of activity or competition that might employ a firearm. Recognition of plinking as a sporting purpose would effectively nullify section 925(d)(3) because it may be argued that *any* shotgun is particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to this activity.

The working group also considered "practical shooting" competitions. Practical shooting events generally measure a shooter's accuracy and speed in identifying and hitting targets while negotiating obstacle-laden shooting courses. In these competitions, the targets are generally stationary and the shooter is mobile, as opposed to clay target shooting where the targets are moving at high speeds mimicking birds in flight. Practical shooting consist of rifle, shotgun and handgun competitions, as well as "3-Gun" competitions utilizing all three types of firearm on one course. The events are often organized by local or national shooting organizations and attempt to categorize shooters by skill level in order to ensure competitiveness within the respective divisions. The working group examined participation in and popularity of practical shooting events as governed under formal rules such as those of the United States Practical Shooting Association (USPSA) and International Practical Shooting Confederation (IPSC) to see

³¹ Gilbert at 1085.

if it is appropriate to consider these events a legitimate “sporting purpose” under section 925(d)(3).

The USPSA currently reports approximately 19,000 members that participate in shooting events throughout the United States.³² While USPSA’s reported membership is within the range of members for some other shotgun shooting organizations,³³ organizations involved in shotgun hunting of particular game such as ducks, pheasants and quail indicate significantly more members than any of the target shooting organizations.³⁴ Because a determination on the sporting purpose of practical shooting events should be made only after an in-depth study of those events, the working group determined that it was not appropriate to use this shotgun study to make a definitive conclusion as to whether practical shooting events are “sporting” for purposes of section 925(d)(3). Any such study must include rifles, shotguns and handguns because practical shooting events use all of these firearms, and a change in position by ATF on practical shooting or “police/combat-type” competitions may have an impact on the sporting suitability of rifles and handguns. Further, while it is clear that shotguns are used at certain practical shooting events, it is unclear whether shotgun use is so prevalent that it is “generally recognized” as a sporting purpose. If shotgun use is not sufficiently popular at such events, practical shooting would have no effect on any sporting suitability determination of shotguns. Therefore, it would be impractical to make a determination based upon one component or aspect of the practical shooting competitions.

As a result, the working group based the following sporting suitability criteria on the traditional sports of hunting, trap and skeet target shooting.

B. Suitability for Sporting Purposes

The final step in our review involved an evaluation of shotguns to determine a “type” of firearm that is “generally recognized as particularly suitable or readily adaptable to sporting purposes.” Whereas the 1989 and 1998 studies were conducted in response to Congressional interest pertaining to a certain “type” of firearm, the current study did not benefit from a mandate to focus upon and review a particular type of firearm. Therefore, the current working group determined that it was necessary to consider a broad sampling of shotguns and shotgun features that may constitute a “type.”

Whereas rifles vary greatly in size, function, caliber and design, historically, there is less variation in shotgun design. However, in the past several years, ATF has witnessed increasingly diverse shotgun design. Much of this is due to the fact that some manufacturers are now applying rifle designs and features to shotguns. This has resulted in a type of shotgun that has

³² See www.uspsa.org.

³³ Organization websites report these membership numbers: for the United States Practical Shooting Association, approx. 19,000; Amateur Trapshooting Association, over 35,000 active members; National Skeet Shooting Association, nearly 20,000 members; National Sporting Clays Association, over 22,000 members; Single Action Shooting Society, over 75,000 members.

³⁴ Organization websites report these membership numbers: Ducks Unlimited, U.S adult 604,902 (Jan. 1, 2010); Pheasants/Quail Forever, over 130,000 North American members (2010) <http://www.pheasantfest.org/page/1/PressReleaseViewer.jsp?pressReleaseId=12406>.

features or characteristics that are based on tactical and military firearms. Following a review of numerous shotguns, literature, and industry advertisements, the working group determined that the following shotgun features and design characteristics are particularly suitable for the military or law enforcement, and therefore, offer little or no advantage to the sportsman. Therefore, we recognized that any shotgun with one or more of these features represent a “type” of firearm that is not “generally recognized as particularly suitable or readily adaptable to sporting purposes” and may not be imported under section 925(d)(3).

(1) Folding, telescoping or collapsible stock.

Shotgun stocks vary in style, but sporting stocks have largely resembled the traditional design.³⁵ Many military firearms incorporate folding or telescoping stocks. The main advantage of this feature is portability, especially for airborne troops. These stocks allow the firearm to be fired from the folded or retracted position, yet it is difficult to fire as accurately as can be done with an open or fully extended stock. While a folding stock or telescoping stock makes it easier to carry the firearm, its predominant advantage is for military and tactical purposes. A folding or telescoping stock is therefore not found on the traditional sporting shotgun. Note that certain shotguns may utilize adjustable butt plates, adjustable combs, or other designs intended only to allow a shooter to make small custom modifications to a shotgun. These are not intended to make a shotgun more portable, but are instead meant to improve the overall “fit” of the shotgun to a particular shooter. These types of adjustable stocks are sporting and are, therefore, acceptable for importation.

(2) Bayonet Lug.

A bayonet lug is generally a metal mount that allows the installation of a bayonet onto the end of a firearm. While commonly found on rifles, bayonets have a distinct military purpose. Publications have indicated that this may be a feature on military shotguns as well.³⁶ It enables soldiers to fight in close quarters with a knife attached to their firearm. The working group discovered no generally recognized sporting application for a bayonet on a shotgun.

(3) Flash Suppressor.

Flash suppressors are generally used on military firearms to disperse the muzzle flash in order to help conceal the shooter’s position, especially at night. Compensators are used on military and commercial firearms to assist in controlling recoil and the “muzzle climb” of the shotgun. Traditional sporting shotguns do not have flash suppressors or compensators. However, while compensators have a limited benefit for shooting sports because they allow the shooter to quickly reacquire the target for a second shot, there is no particular benefit in suppressing muzzle flash in

³⁵ Exhibit 1.

³⁶ *A Collector’s Guide to United States Combat Shotguns* at 156.

sporting shotguns. Therefore, the working group finds that flash suppressors are not a sporting characteristic, while compensators are a sporting feature. However, compensators that, in the opinion of ATF, actually function as flash suppressors are neither particularly suitable nor readily adaptable to sporting purposes.

(4) Magazine over 5 rounds, or a Drum Magazine.

A magazine is an ammunition storage and feeding device that delivers a round into the chamber of the firearm during automatic or semiautomatic firing.³⁷ A magazine is either integral (tube magazine) to the firearm or is removable (box magazine). A drum magazine is a large circular magazine that is generally detachable and is designed to hold a large amount of ammunition.

The 1989 Study recognized that virtually all modern military firearms are designed to accept large, detachable magazines. The 1989 Study noted that this feature provides soldiers with a large ammunition supply and the ability to reload rapidly. The 1998 Study concurred with this and found that, for rifles, the ability to accept a detachable large capacity magazine was not a sporting feature. The majority of shotguns on the market today contain an integral “tube” magazine. However, certain shotguns utilize removable box magazine like those commonly used for rifles.³⁸

In regard to sporting purposes, the working group found no appreciable difference between integral tube magazines and removable box magazines. Each type allowed for rapid loading, reloading, and firing of ammunition. For example, “speed loaders” are available for shotguns with tube-type magazines. These speed loaders are designed to be preloaded with shotgun shells and can reload a shotgun with a tube-type magazine in less time than it takes to change a detachable magazine.

However, the working group determined that magazines capable of holding large amounts of ammunition, regardless of type, are particularly designed and most suitable for military and law enforcement applications. The majority of state hunting laws restrict shotguns to no more than 5 rounds.³⁹ This is justifiable because those engaged in sports shooting events are not engaging in potentially hostile or confrontational situations, and therefore do not require the large amount of immediately available ammunition, as do military service members and police officers.

Finally, drum magazines are substantially wider and have considerably more bulk than standard clip-type magazines. They are cumbersome and, when attached to the shotgun, make it more difficult for a hunter to engage multiple small moving targets. Further, drum magazines are generally designed to contain more than 5 rounds. Some contain as many as 20 or more

³⁷ Steindler's New Firearms Dictionary at 164.

³⁸ See Collector's Guide to United States Combat Shotguns at 156-7, noting that early combat shotguns were criticized because of their limited magazine capacity and time consuming loading methods.

³⁹ Exhibit 2.

rounds.⁴⁰ While such magazines may have a military or law enforcement application, the working group determined that they are not useful for any generally recognized sporting purpose. These types of magazines are unlawful to use for hunting in most states, and their possession and manufacture are even prohibited or restricted in some states.⁴¹

(5) Grenade Launcher Mount.

Grenade launchers are incorporated into military firearms to facilitate the launching of explosive grenades. Such launchers are generally of two types. The first type is a flash suppressor designed to function as a grenade launcher. The second type attaches to the barrel of the firearm either by screws or clamps. Grenade launchers have a particular military application and are not currently used for sporting purposes.

(6) Integrated Rail Systems.⁴²

This refers to a mounting rail system for small arms upon which firearm accessories and features may be attached. This includes scopes, sights, and other features, but may also include accessories or features with no sporting purpose, including flashlights, foregrips, and bipods. Rails on the sides and underside of shotguns—including any accessory mount—facilitate installation of certain features lacking any sporting purpose. However, receiver rails that are installed on the top of the receiver and barrel are readily adaptable to sporting purposes because this facilitates installation of optical or other sights.

(7) Light Enhancing Devices.

Shotguns are generally configured with either bead sights, iron sights or optical sights, depending on whether a particular sporting purpose requires the shotgun to be pointed or aimed.⁴³ Bead sights allow a shooter to “point” at and engage moving targets at a short distance with numerous small projectiles, including birds, trap, skeet and sporting clays. Iron and optical sights are used when a shooter, firing a slug, must “aim” a shotgun at a target, including deer, bear and turkeys.⁴⁴ Conversely, many military firearms are equipped with sighting devices that utilize available light to facilitate night vision capabilities. Devices or optics that allow illumination of a target in low-light conditions are generally for military and law enforcement purposes and are not typically found on sporting shotguns because it is generally illegal to hunt at night.

⁴⁰ Exhibit 3.

⁴¹ See, e.g., Cal Pen Code § 12020; N.J. Stat. § 2C:39-9.

⁴² Exhibit 4.

⁴³ NRA Firearms Sourcebook at 178.

⁴⁴ Id.

(8) Excessive Weight.⁴⁵

Sporting shotguns, 12 gauge and smaller, are lightweight (generally less than 10 pounds fully assembled),⁴⁶ and are balanced and maneuverable. This aids sportsmen by allowing them to carry the firearm over long distances and rapidly engage a target. Unlike sporting shotguns, military firearms are larger, heavier, and generally more rugged. This design allows the shotguns to withstand more abuse in combat situations.

(9) Excessive Bulk.⁴⁷

Sporting shotguns are generally no more than 3 inches in width or more than 4 inches in depth. This size allows sporting shotguns to be sufficiently maneuverable in allowing hunters to rapidly engage targets. Certain combat shotguns may be larger for increased durability or to withstand the stress of automatic fire. The bulk refers to the fully assembled shotgun, but does not include magazines or accessories such as scopes or sights that are used on the shotgun. For both width and depth, shotguns are measured at the widest points of the action or housing on a line that is perpendicular to the center line of the bore. Depth refers to the distance from the top plane of the shotgun to the bottom plane of the shotgun. Width refers to the length of the top or bottom plane of the firearm and measures the distance between the sides of the shotgun. Neither measurement includes the shoulder stock on traditional sporting shotgun designs.

(10) Forward Pistol Grip or Other Protruding Part Designed or Used for Gripping the Shotgun with the Shooter's Extended Hand.⁴⁸

While sporting shotguns differ in the style of shoulder stock, they are remarkably similar in fore-end design.⁴⁹ Generally, sporting shotguns have a foregrip with which the shooter's forward hand steadies and aims the shotgun. Recently, however, some shooters have started attaching forward pistol grips to shotguns. These forward pistol grips are often used on tactical firearms and are attached to those firearms using the integrated rail system. The ergonomic design allows for continued accuracy during sustained shooting over long periods of time. This feature offers little advantage to the sportsman. Note, however, that the working group believes that pistol grips for the trigger hand are prevalent on shotguns and are therefore generally recognized as particularly suitable for sporting purposes.⁵⁰

While the features listed above are the most common non-sporting shotgun features, the working group recognizes that other features, designs, or characteristics may exist. Prior to importation, ATF will classify these shotguns based upon the requirements of section 925(d)(3). The working

⁴⁵ See generally Gilbert.

⁴⁶ Shotgun Encyclopedia 2001 at 264.

⁴⁷ Exhibit 5.

⁴⁸ Exhibit 6.

⁴⁹ See Exhibit 1. See generally NRA Firearms Sourcebook at 121-2.

⁵⁰ See Exhibit 1.

group expects the continued application of unique features and designs to shotguns that may include features or designs based upon traditional police or military tactical rifles. However, even if a shotgun does not have one of the features listed above, it may be considered “sporting” only if it meets the statutory requirements under section 925(d)(3). Further, the simple fact that a military firearm or feature *may* be used for a generally recognized sporting purposes is not sufficient to support a determination that it is sporting under 925(d)(3). Therefore, as required by section 925(d)(3), in future sporting classifications for shotguns, ATF will classify the shotgun as sporting only if there is evidence that its features or design characteristics are generally recognized as particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to generally recognized sporting purposes.

The fact that a firearm or feature was initially designed for military or tactical applications, including offensive or defensive combat, may indicate that it is not a sporting firearm. This may be overcome by evidence that the particular shotgun or feature has been so regularly used by sportsmen that it is generally recognized as particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes. Such evidence may include marketing, industry literature and consumer articles, scholarly and historical publications, military publications, the existence of State and local statutes and regulations limiting use of the shotgun or features for sporting purposes, and the overall use and the popularity of such features or designs for sporting purposes according to hunting guides, shooting magazines, State game commissioners, organized competitive hunting and shooting groups, law enforcement agencies or organizations, industry members and trade associations, and interest and information groups. Conversely, a determination that the shotgun or feature was originally designed as an improvement or innovation to an existing sporting shotgun design or feature will serve as evidence that the shotgun is sporting under section 925(d)(3). However, any new design or feature must still satisfy the sporting suitability test under section 925(d)(3) as outlined above.

The Attorney General and ATF are not limited to these factors and therefore may consider any other factor determined to be relevant in making this determination. The working group recognizes the difficulty in applying this standard but acknowledges that Congress specifically intended that the Attorney General perform this function. Therefore, the working group recommends that sporting determinations for shotguns not specifically addressed by this study be reviewed by a panel pursuant to ATF orders, policies and procedures, as appropriate.

Conclusion

The purpose of section 925(d)(3) is to provide a limited exception to the general prohibition on the importation of firearms without placing “any undue or unnecessary Federal restrictions or burdens on law-abiding citizens with respect to the acquisition, possession, or use of firearms....”⁵¹ Our determinations will in no way preclude the importation of true sporting shotguns. While it will certainly prevent the importation of certain shotguns, we believe that

⁵¹ 90 P.L. 351 (1968).

those shotguns containing the enumerated features cannot be fairly characterized as “sporting” shotguns under the statute. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the working group that shotguns with any of the characteristics or features listed above not be authorized for importation.

Shotgun Stock Style Comparison

Exhibit 1

“Straight” or “English” style stock (Ruger Red Label):



“Pistol grip” style stock (Browning Citori):



“Pistol grip” style stock (Mossberg 935 Magnum Turkey):



“Thumbhole” style stock (Remington SP-10):



Stock with Separate Pistol Grip



ER1380

Hunting Statutes by State

Exhibit 2

State	Gauge	Mag Restriction / plugged with one piece filler requiring disassembly of gun for removal	Attachments	Semi-Auto	Other
Alabama	10 gauge or smaller;	(Species specific) 3 shells			1
Alaska	10 gauge or smaller				
Arizona	10 gauge or smaller	5 shells			
Arkansas	≤ 10 gauge; some zones ≥ .410; ≥ 20 gauge for bear	(Species specific) 3 shells			
California	≤ 10 gauge; Up to 12 gauge in some areas	(Species specific) 3 shells			
Colorado	≥ 20 gauge; Game Mammals ≤ 10 gauge	3 shells			
Connecticut	≤ 10-gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	telescopic sights		
Delaware	20, 16, 12, 10 gauge	3 shells	Muzzleloaders may be equipped with scopes		2
Florida	Muzzleloading firing ≥ 2 balls ≥ 20-gauge; Migratory birds ≤ 10-gauge; opossums - single-shot .41 -gauge shotguns	(Species specific) 3 shells			
Georgia	≥ 20-gauge; Waterfowl ≤ 10-gauge	5 shells	Scopes are legal		
Hawaii	≤ 10 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells			
Idaho			some scopes allowed		3
Illinois	20 - 10 gauge; no .410 or 28 gauge allowed	3 shells			
Indiana		(Species specific) 3 shells	Laser sights are legal		

ER1381

Hunting Statutes by State

Exhibit 2

Iowa	10-, 12-, 16-, and 20-gauge			
Kansas	≥ 20 gauge; ≤ 10 gauge,	(Species specific) 3 shells		
Kentucky	up to and including 10-gauge, includes .410-	(Species specific) 3 shells	Telescopic sights (scopes)	
Louisiana	≤ 10 gauge	3 shells	Nuisance Animals; infrared, laser sighting devices, or night vision devices	
Maine	10 - 20 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	may have any type of sights, including scopes	Auto-loading illegal if hold more than 6 cartridges
Maryland	Muzzle loading ≥ 10 gauge ; Shotgun ≤ 10-gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	may use a telescopic sight on muzzle loading firearm	
Massachusetts	≤ 10 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells		
Michigan	any gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells		Illegal: semi-automatic holding > 6 shells in barrel and magazine combined
Minnesota	≤ 10 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells		
Mississippi	any gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	Scopes allowed on primitive weapons	
Missouri	≤ 10 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells		
Montana	≤ 10 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells		
Nebraska	≥ 20 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells		Illegal: semi-automatic holding > 6 shells in barrel and magazine combined
Nevada	≤ 10 gauge; ≥ 20 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells		
New Hampshire	10 - 20 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells		
New Jersey	≤ 10 gauge; ≥ 20 gauge; or .410 caliber	(Species specific) 3 shells	Require adjustable open iron, peep sight or scope affixed if hunting with slugs. Telescopic sights Permitted	
New Mexico	≥ 28 gauge, ≤ 10 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells		
New York	Big game ≥ 20 gauge		scopes allowed	No semi-automatic firearm with a capacity to hold more than 6 rounds

ER1382

Hunting Statutes by State

Exhibit 2

North Carolina	≤ 10 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	
North Dakota	≥ 410 gauge; no ≤ 10 gauge	3 shells (repealed for migratory birds)	
Ohio	≤ 10 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	
Oklahoma	≤ 10 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	
Oregon	≤ 10 gauge; ≥ 20 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	Scopes (permanent and detachable), and sights allowed for visually impaired
Pennsylvania	≤ 10 gauge; ≥ 12 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	
Rhode Island	10, 12, 16, or 20-gauge	5 shells	
South Carolina		(Species specific) 3 shells	
South Dakota	(Species specific) ≤ 10 gauge	5 shells	No auto-loading firearm holding > 6 cartridges
Tennessee	Turkey: ≥ 28 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	May be equipped with sighting devices
Texas	≤ 10 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	scoping or laser sighting devices used by disabled hunters
Utah	≤ 10 gauge; ≥ 20 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	
Vermont	≥ 12 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	
Virginia	≤ 10 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	
Washington	≤ 10 gauge	(Species specific) 3 shells	
West Virginia			
Wisconsin	10, 12, 16, 20 and 28 gauge; no .410 shotgun for deer/bear	(Species specific) 3 shells	
Wyoming			

4

- 1 Shotgun/rifle combinations (drilling) permitted
- 2 large game training course - Students in optional proficiency qualification bring their own pre-zeroed, ≥ .243 , scoped shotgun
- 3 no firearm that, in combination with a scope, sling and/or any attachments, weighs more than 16 pounds
- 4 no relevant restrictive laws concerning shotguns

ER1383

General Firearm Statutes by State

Exhibit 2

State	Source	Semi-Auto Restrictions	Attachments	Prohibited* (in addition to possession of short-barrel or sawed-off shotguns by non-authorized persons, e.g., law enforcement officers for official duty purposes)
Alabama	Alabama Code, title 13:			
Alaska	Alaska Statutes 11.61.200.(h)			
Arizona	Arizona Rev. Statutes 13-3101.8.	single shot	silencer prohibited	
Arkansas	Arkansas Code Title 5, Chapter 73.			
California	California Penal Code, Part 4.12276. and San Diego Municipal Code 53.31.	San Diego includes under "assault weapon," any shotgun with a magazine capacity of more than 6 rounds		"Assault weapons": Franchi SPAS 12 and LAW 12; Striker 12; Streetsweeper type S/S Inc. ; semiautomatic shotguns having both a folding or telescoping stock and a pistol grip protruding conspicuously beneath the action of the weapon, thumbhole stock, or vertical handgrip; semiautomatic shotguns capable of accepting a detachable magazine; or shotguns with a revolving cylinder.
Colorado	2 CCR 406-203			
Connecticut	Connecticut Gen. Statutes 53-202a.			"Assault weapons": Steyr AUG; Street Sweeper and Striker 12 revolving cylinder shotguns
D.C	7-2501.01.			

ER1384

General Firearm Statutes by State

Exhibit 2

Delaware	7.I.§ 711.		7.I.§ 711. Hunting with automatic-loading gun prohibited; penalty (a) No person shall hunt for game birds or game animals in this State, except as authorized by state-sanctioned federal depredation/conservation orders for selected waterfowl species, with or by means of any automatic-loading or hand-operated repeating shotgun capable of holding more than 3 shells, the magazine of which has not been cut off or plugged with a filler incapable of removal through the loading end thereof, so as to reduce the capacity of said gun to not more than 3 shells at 1 time, in the magazine and chamber combined. (b) Whoever violates this section shall be guilty of a class C environmental misdemeanor. (c) Having in one's possession, while in the act of hunting game birds or game animals, a gun that will hold more than 3 shells at one time in the magazine and chamber combined, except as authorized in subsection (a) of this section, shall be prima facie evidence of violation of this section.
Florida	Florida statutes, Title XLVI.790.001.		
Georgia			
Hawaii	Hawaii Rev. Statutes, Title 10., 134-8.	silencer prohibited	
Idaho	Idaho Code, 18-3318.		
Illinois	Code of Ordinances, City of Aurora 29-43.	Aurora includes under "assault weapon," any shotgun with a magazine capacity of more than 5 rounds	"Assault weapons": Street Sweeper and Striker 12 revolving cylinder shotguns or semiautomatic shotguns with either a fixed magazine with a capacity over 5 rounds or an ability to accept a detachable magazine and has at least a folding / telescoping stock or a pistol grip that protrudes beneath the action of firearm and which is separate and apart from stock

General Firearm Statutes by State

Exhibit 2

Indiana	Indiana Code 35-47-1-10. and Municipal Code of the City of South Bend 13-95.	South Bend under "assault weapon" firearms which have threads, lugs, or other characteristics designed for direct attachment of a silencer, bayonet, flash suppressor, or folding stock; as well as any detachable magazine, drum, belt, feed strip, or similar device which can be readily made to accept more than 15. rounds	South Bend includes under "assault weapon," any shotgun with a magazine capacity of more than 9 rounds
Iowa	Iowa Code, Title XVI. 724.1.		Includes as an offensive weapon, "a firearm which shoots or is designed to shoot more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger"
Kansas			
Kentucky	Kentucky Revised Statutes- 150.360		
Louisiana	Louisiana RS 56:116.1		
Maine	Maine Revised Statutes 12.13.4.915.4. §11214. F.		
Maryland	Maryland Code 5-101.		"Assault weapons": F.I.E./Franchi LAW 12 and SPAS 12 assault shotgun; Steyr-AUG-SA semi-auto; Holmes model 88 shotgun; Mossberg model 500 Bullpup assault shotgun; Street sweeper assault type shotgun; Striker 12 assault shotgun in all formats; Daewoo USAS 12 semi-auto shotgun

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General Firearm Statutes by State

Exhibit 2

Massachusetts	Massachusetts Gen L. 140.121.	under "assault weapon": any shotgun with (fixed or detachable) magazine capacity of more than 5 rounds	"Assault weapons": revolving cylinder shotguns, e.g., Street Sweeper and Striker 12; also "Large capacity weapon" includes any semiautomatic shotgun fixed with large capacity feeding device (or capable of accepting such), that uses a rotating cylinder capable of accepting more than 5 shells
Michigan	Il.2.1. (2)		
Minnesota	Minnesota Statutes 624.711		"Assault weapons": Street Sweeper and Striker-12 revolving cylinder shotgun types as well as USAS-12 semiautomatic shotgun type
Mississippi	Mississippi Code 97-37-1.	silencer prohibited	
Missouri	Code of State Regulations 10-7.410(1)(G)		
Montana			
Nebraska	Nebraska Administrative Code Title 163 Chapter 4 001.		
Nevada	Nevada Revised Statutes 503.150 1.		
New Hampshire			
New Jersey	New Jersey Statutes 23:4-13. and 23:4-44. and New Jersey Rev. Statutes 2C39-1.w.	magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds	"Assault weapons": any shotgun with a revolving cylinder, e.g. "Street Sweeper" or "Striker 12" Franchi SPAS 12 and LAW 12 shotguns or USAS 12 semi-automatic type shotgun; also any semi-automatic shotgun with either a magazine capacity exceeding 6 rounds, a pistol grip, or a folding stock
New Mexico	New Mexico Administrative Code 19.31.6.7H., 19.31.11.10N. , 19.31.13.10M. and 19.31.17.10N.		

ER1387

General Firearm Statutes by State

Exhibit 2

New York	New York Consolidated Laws 265.00. 22. and Code of the City of Buffalo 1801B.	magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds	sighting device making a target visible at night may classify a shotgun as an assault weapon	"Assault weapons": Any semiautomatic shotgun with at least two of the following: folding or telescoping stock; pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the weapon; fixed magazine capacity in excess of five rounds; an ability to accept a detachable magazine; or any revolving cylinder shotguns, e.g., Street Sweeper and Striker 12; Buffalo 1801B. Assault Weapon: (2) A center-fire rifle or shotgun which employs the force of expanding gases from a discharging cartridge to chamber a fresh round after each single pull of the trigger, and which has: (a) A flash suppressor attached to the weapon reducing muzzle flash; (c) A sighting device making a target visible at night; (d) A barrel jacket surrounding all or a portion of the barrel, to dissipate heat therefrom; or (e) A multi-burst trigger activator. (3) Any stockless pistol grip shotgun.
North Carolina	North Carolina Gen. Statutes 14-288.8		silencer prohibited	
North Dakota	North Dakota Century Code 20.1-01-09. Section 20.1-04-10, SHOTGUN SHELL-HOLDING CAPACITY RESTRICTION, repealed/eliminated			
Ohio	Ohio Rev. Code 2923.11. and Columbus City Codes 2323.11.	magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds		semiautomatic shotgun that was originally designed with or has a fixed magazine or detachable magazine with a capacity of more than five rounds. Columbus includes under "Assault weapon" any semi-automatic shotgun with two or more of the following: pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the receiver of the weapon; folding, telescoping or thumbhole stock; fixed magazine capacity in excess of 5 standard 2-3/4, or longer, rounds; or ability to accept a detachable magazine; also any shotgun with revolving cylinder
Oklahoma				
Oregon	Oregon Rev. Statutes 166.272.		silencer prohibited	
Pennsylvania	Title 34 Sec. 2308. (a)(4) and (b)(1)			
Rhode Island	Rule 7, Part III, 3.3 and 3.4			
South Carolina	SECTION 50-11-310. (E) and ARTICLE 3. SUBARTICLE 1. 123 40			

General Firearm Statutes by State

Exhibit 2

South Dakota	South Dakota Codified Laws 22,1,2, (8)	silencer prohibited	
Tennessee			
Texas			
Utah	Utah Administrative Code R657-5-9. (1), R657-6-6. (1) and R657-9-7.		
Vermont			
Virginia	Virginia Code 18.2-308.	magazine capacity no more than 7 rounds (not applicable for hunting or sport shooting)	"Assault weapons": Striker 12's commonly called a "streetsweeper," or any semi-automatic folding stock shotgun of like kind with a spring tension drum magazine capable of holding twelve shotgun shells prohibited
Washington	Washington Administrative Code 232-12- 047		
West Virginia	West Virginia statute 8-12-5a.		
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Administrative Code – NR 10.11 and NR 10.12		
Wyoming	Wyoming Statutes, Article 3. Rifles and Shotguns [Repealed] and 23-3-112.	silencer prohibited	

ER1389

Drum Magazine

Exhibit 3



ER1390

Integrated Rail System

Exhibit 4

Sporting



Sporting



Non-Sporting



Non-Sporting

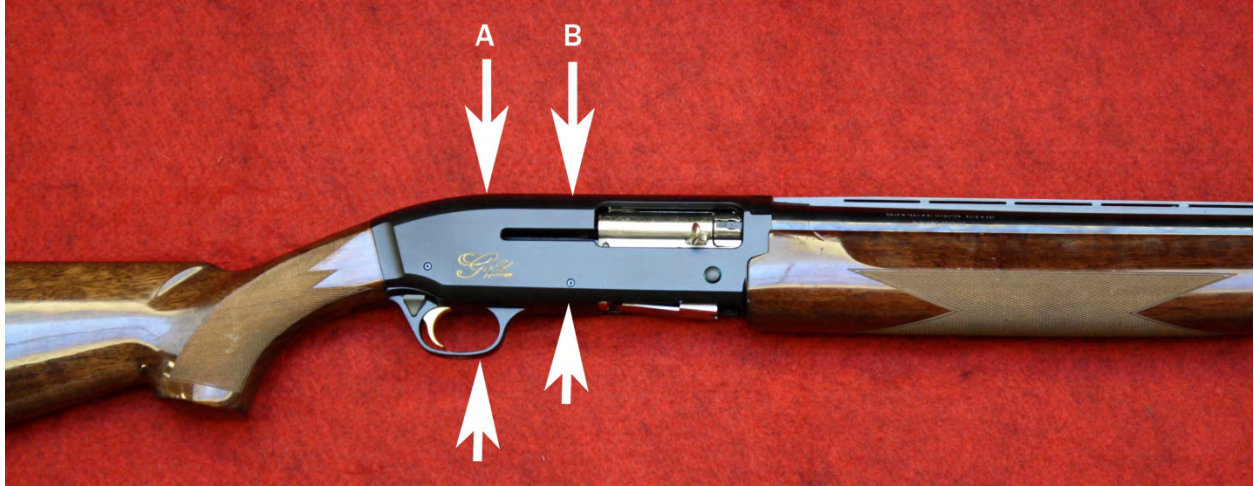


ER1391

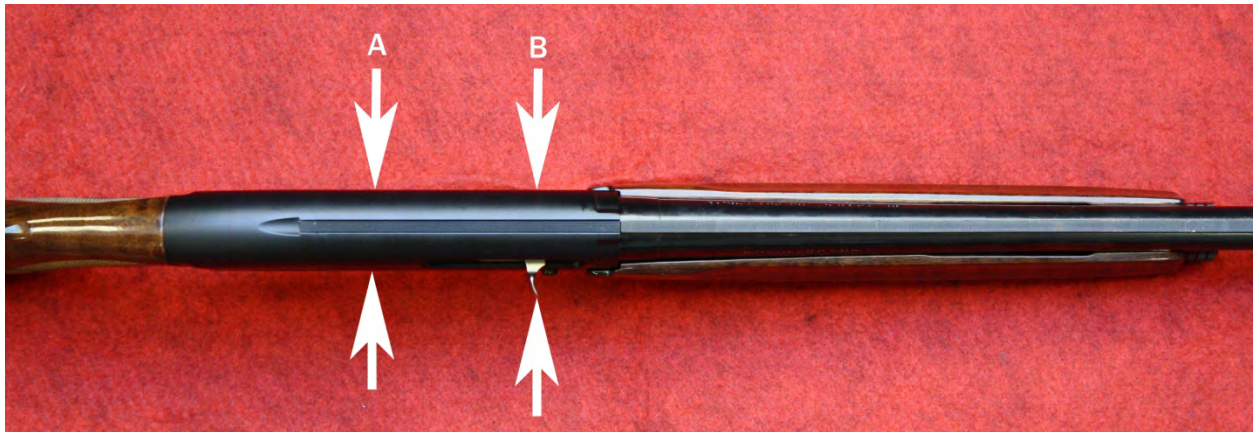
Bulk Measurements

Exhibit 5

Depth refers to the distance from the top plane of the shotgun to the bottom plane of the shotgun. Depth measurement “A” below is INCORRECT; it includes the trigger guard which is not part of the frame or receiver. Depth measurement “B” below is CORRECT; it measures only the depth of the frame or receiver:



Width refers to the length of the top or bottom pane of the firearm and measures the distance between the sides of the shotgun. Width measurement “A” below is CORRECT; it measures only the width of the frame or receiver. Width measurement “B” below is INCORRECT; it includes the charging handle which is not part of the frame or receiver:



ER1392

Forward Pistol Grip

Exhibit 6



ER1393

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Exhibit 65

Report on the Importability of Certain Shotguns

July 2, 2012

The Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA) generally prohibits the importation of firearms into the United States. However, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 925(d), the GCA creates four narrow exceptions under which the Attorney General shall authorize firearms for importation. Under one such category, section 925(d)(3), the Attorney General shall approve applications for importation when the firearms are generally recognized as particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes (the “sporting purposes test”).

ATF has long approved the importation of shotguns under section 925(d)(3). However, although ATF previously provided guidance on the sporting purposes test in regard to rifles and handguns, it had provided no such guidance for the importation of shotguns. Prior to publication of the “ATF Study on the Importability of Certain Shotguns” in January 2011 (the 2011 report), there was no definitive guidance to the firearms industry or to the public regarding the standards for the importation of shotguns under this exception. Although shotguns were regularly imported, licensees were forced to rely upon private correspondence from ATF or previously approved applications as guidance on whether a particular shotgun would be approved for importation. Importers could assume that previously approved shotguns satisfied the sporting purposes test, but any changes to the configuration of these shotguns might result in disapproval of an import application. To complicate matters further, although shotguns had retained classic sporting configurations for decades, importers recently sought to import firearms utilizing features typically found on military *rifles*. ATF recognized this and determined that, commensurate with its responsibilities to enforce the law as written, it was necessary to provide guidance on this topic. The resulting 2011 report provides the necessary guidance for importers and the public.

Following publication of the 2011 report, from January 31, 2011 through May 1, 2011, ATF accepted comments from the public and members of the firearms industry regarding the determinations made in the report. ATF has reviewed the comments and, in an effort to provide guidance on the sporting suitability of shotguns, provides the following information to revise the January 2011 report.

Public Comments

ATF received approximately 21,000 individual comments on the 2011 report. Many of the commenters argued, in effect, that 18 U.S.C. 925(d)(3) was unconstitutional and that the sporting purposes test was invalid, or questioned ATF’s interpretation of the sporting purposes test as it was applied to shotguns. Several commenters argued that although the report stated that certain features were not particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes, the features allowed disabled sporting enthusiasts to use shotguns. Principally, the commenters noted that forward pistol grips are an essential feature for this group of sporting enthusiasts.

Approximately 15,000 commenters addressed one or more of three points in opposing the 2011 report. First, the commenters focused on the impact upon an individual's Second Amendment rights. Second, the commenters questioned whether some shotguns could be more dangerous than others and argued that all shotguns are appropriate for home defense. Finally, many commenters questioned the validity of the sporting purposes test as required by the GCA.

ATF understands the concerns expressed in these comments, but notes that Federal law *requires* ATF to make sporting determinations of firearms before they may legally be approved for importation. This is because section 922(l) of the GCA prohibits the importation of *any* firearms or ammunition, and therefore a firearm may be imported only if it meets one of the exceptions found in the statute, 18 U.S.C. § 925. One of these exceptions, the sporting purposes test found in section 925(d)(3), currently provides the only avenue by which firearms or ammunition may legally be imported in any quantity for possession and use by private individuals.

Further, the constitutionality of section 925(d)(3) is in little doubt even after *District of Columbia v. Heller* and its progeny. In *Heller*, the Supreme Court noted that, although not unlimited, “[T]here seems to us no doubt, on the basis of both text and history, that the Second Amendment conferred an individual right to keep and bear arms.” Even without this qualifying language, concerns about the constitutionality of section 925(d)(3) or ATF application of this statute are without legal basis.

Specifically, section 925(d)(3) does not limit or pose an undue burden on possession of shotguns. As stated above, section 925(d)(3) actually permits the importation of firearms and has no impact upon the legal possession of more than 743,000 shotguns that were manufactured in the United States in 2010 alone. Section 925(d)(3) and the 2011 report impact only those shotguns that are to be imported and, in fact, prohibit only a small number of shotguns that Congress has determined should not be imported.

A number of the commenters expressed various concerns, including possible negative effects on self defense or the increased costs of firearms because of limitations on the importation of shotguns. However, it should be noted that the sporting purposes test under 18 U.S.C. § 925(d)(3) applies as a limitation only on the *importation* of shotguns. Accordingly, the 2011 report results in no “ban” on any shotguns, even those with nonsporting features. In fact, any domestically made shotguns with these features are unaffected by 18 U.S.C. 925(d)(3) or the report. Therefore, shotguns with these features remain available for self defense.

Second, the 2011 report has not resulted in the denial of any of the most popular shotguns that were previously approved for importation. For example, concerns that the Saiga shotgun would be prohibited from importation based upon the 2011 report are unfounded. As currently imported, the Saiga contains none of the nonsporting features discussed in the report.

Numerous commenters questioned the scope of sporting purposes, including ATF's long-held interpretation that this includes the traditional shooting sports of hunting, skeet and trap shooting and target shooting. Specifically, some argued that “three gun” competitions should be

considered to fall within the scope of sporting purposes. However, as discussed in the 2011 report, the legislative history indicates that this was not meant to include police and military style shooting competitions. Three gun competitions generally require competitors to use a rifle, a pistol and a shotgun to engage targets in timed events. Competitors and organizers emphasize tactical deployment of these firearms to properly engage the targets. These competitions are clearly based upon military or police training and therefore are the type of activity that Congress sought to exclude as “sporting.”

Further, statistics suggest that the United States Practical Shooting Association has approximately 19,000 members who participate in “three gun” or similar competitions. Conversely, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that in 2006, 10.7 million licensed individuals participated in hunting within the U.S. Using this data, those participating in tactical shooting comprised approximately .18% of those participating in hunting. For tactical shooting events to affect the type of shotgun that may be considered as “generally recognized as particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes,” ATF would have to consider use by .18% of the sporting public as determinative of what is “generally recognized” in the community. ATF does not believe such an approach is consistent with the congressional intent in enacting this provision.

Amendments

The 2011 report set forth 10 features that the agency determined are disqualifying under the sporting purposes test. These include the forward pistol grip and the integrated rail system, including rails on the side and underside of the firearm.

In discussing the forward pistol grip, the 2011 report noted that the feature allowed for “continued accuracy during sustained shooting over long periods of time.” The report concluded that this was not particularly advantageous for recognized sporting purposes based upon the fact that, in such activities, a few well-aimed shots are paramount. However, there is a convincing argument that this feature is generally recognized as particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes because it permits accuracy and maneuverability even for activities such as bird hunting or skeet shooting. The forward pistol grip permits a shooter to grip a shotgun at a more natural angle in that the shooter is not required to rotate the forward hand and cradle the firearm during firing. This ergonomic design provides for added comfort and more accurate engagement of fast-moving targets. Therefore, the 2011 report will be amended and this feature removed as a nonsporting feature.

Forward pistol grips are often attached to the underside of firearms through the use of an integrated rail system—another feature that the 2011 report addressed. As noted in the report, an integrated rail system, which includes rails on the side and bottom planes of the firearm, permits a shooter to add several features to include flashlights, lasers or other items that are not particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes. However, recognition of the forward pistol grip as sporting would have little effect if integrated rails systems remain a nonsporting feature. Therefore, because of the use of the forward pistol grip, it necessarily follows that the integrated rail system is generally recognized as particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes.

Based upon the above, the criteria in the 2011 report are hereby revised to read as follows:

- (1) Folding, telescoping, or collapsible stocks;
- (2) bayonet lugs;
- (3) flash suppressors;
- (4) magazines over 5 rounds, or a drum magazine;
- (5) grenade-launcher mounts;
- (6) light enhancing devices;
- (7) excessive weight (greater than 10 pounds for 12 gauge or smaller);
- (8) excessive bulk (greater than 3 inches in width and/or greater than 4 inches in depth).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Case Name: **Duncan, Virginia et al v.
Xavier Becerra**

No. **17-56081**

I hereby certify that on October 12, 2017, I electronically filed the following documents with the Clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF system:

APPELLANT'S EXCERPTS OF RECORD, VOLUME VI, ER 1194-1399

I certify that **all** participants in the case are registered CM/ECF users and that service will be accomplished by the CM/ECF system.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on October 12, 2017, at San Francisco, California.

N. Newlin
Declarant

s/ N. Newlin
Signature