

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

FEDERAL FIREARMS)	
LICENSEES OF ILLINOIS, <i>et al.</i>,)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	
vs.)	
)	
JAY ROBERT "J.R." PRITZKER, et al.,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

Case No. 3:23-215-SPM

**DECLARATION OF DAN ELDRIDGE ON BEHALF
OF FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSEES OF ILLINOIS**

I, DAN ELDRIDGE, being first duly sworn upon oath, state the following:

1. I make this Declaration in support of the actions being taking in this matter to challenge 720 ILCS 5/24-1.9, et seq. ("Illinois' Firearms Ban Act");
2. I have personal knowledge of the allegations contained in this Declaration and, if called to testify at a hearing and/or trial in this matter, will competently testify to the allegations contained in this Declaration;
3. I am over 21 years of age;
4. I am a citizen and resident of the State of Illinois and of the United States of America;
5. I am a law-abiding individual and legally eligible under state and federal laws to acquire, maintain, modify, possess, purchase, repair, sell, supply and/or transfer to others, transport and/or travel freely with, and/or use firearms, firearms attachments and/or firearms parts;
6. I am the President of Plaintiff FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSEES OF ILLINOIS ("FFL-IL");

7. FFL-IL is an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, with its principal place of business in the State of Illinois;

8. FFL-IL represents federally licensed gun dealers throughout the State of Illinois and in this judicial district;

9. In my capacity as President of FFL-IL, I have personal knowledge of the background, history, mission and operations of FFL-IL;

10. In my capacity as President of FFL-IL, I have daily contact with members and/or supporters regarding their concerns, questions, requests and/or suggestions on how FFL-IL can best represent their interests;

11. In my capacity as President of FFL-IL, many members and/or supporters have reached out to me to voice their concerns and fears of how Illinois' Firearms Ban Act threatens the viability of their businesses and threatens their personal arrest(s) and possible felony conviction(s) for engaging in the very business and/or personal activities that was 100% lawful in the State of Illinois a little more than one month ago;

12. In my capacity as President of FFL-IL, I received numerous personal reports from our members and/or supporters whose businesses have been adversely affected by Illinois' Firearms Ban Act because their respective abilities to acquire, maintain, modify, possess, purchase, repair, sell, supply and/or transfer to others, transport and/or travel freely with, and/or use the firearms, the attachments and/or parts banned by Illinois' Firearms Ban Act have been curtailed and, therefore, they are now considering closing their businesses;

13. In my capacity as President of FFL-IL, it is my understanding that members and/or supporters will be irreparably harmed, more specifically, by the ban on sales, because their respective retail establishments sell the commonly used, banned firearms, attachments

and/or parts which make up a significant portion of their sales, resulting in them being driven out of business if Illinois' Firearms Ban Act is implemented and enforced;

14. Even more specifically, if Illinois' Firearms Ban Act is implemented and enforced, our members and/or supporters will be irreparably harmed in the following ways:

A. Prior to the passage of Illinois' Firearms Ban Act, FFL-IL's members and/or supporters sold currently banned and/or non-compliant firearms, attachments and/or parts but, because of the passage of Illinois' Firearms Ban Act, our members and/or supporters have been forced to cease such sales almost entirely;

B. In other words, since the passage of the Illinois Firearms Ban Act, FFL-IL's member dealers have pulled large amounts of inventory from their respective shelves, unsure if they can send the inventory back to distributors, resulting in reduced sales and economic viability, with some of FFL-IL's member dealers experiencing reductions in sales of 60%;

C. The prohibition on "parts" pursuant to Illinois Firearms Ban Act is so broad that it encompasses "[a]ny part or combination of parts designed or intended to convert a firearm into an assault weapon, including any combination of parts from which an assault weapon may be readily assembled if those parts are in the possession or under the control of the same person";

D. That an otherwise law-abiding individual cannot acquire, nor our member dealers sell, a new slide for a Glock pistol, should one of their customers prefer an upgrade, or a different sight requiring a different slide, has caused our member dealers to be hesitant in selling any "part", the combination of which with a "threaded" barrel, for example, might be deemed the "assembly" of a prohibited firearm under Illinois' Firearms Ban Act, subjecting our member dealers to criminal felony prosecution(s) and administrative sanction(s) like licensure revocations;

E. FFL-IL's member dealers are harmed by the ban on sales of the commonly sought after firearms and the vagueness of the definition of firearms qualifying as a so called "assault weapons";

F. While the focus of the ban has been on AR-15s and the like, the ban is dramatically broader, ensnaring firearms like the 7 million 10/22 (a .22 caliber rifles), and traditional shotguns like the 4 million Remington 1100/11-87, and the 2 million Browning Auto-5;

G. In addition, Illinois' Firearms Ban Act prohibits any semi-automatic shotgun capable of holding more than 5 rounds of ammunition; the standard capacity magazines for semi-automatic shotguns is five 3" rounds. There are mini-shells that can as much as double that capacity, thereby rendering the 5 round magazines on all semi-automatic shotguns capable of holding more than 5 rounds. Federally licensed firearms dealers are, therefore, uncertain if they may continue to sell common semi-automatic shotguns as their tubular magazines can hold more than 5 "mini" rounds;

H. Illinois' Firearms Ban Act places an undue burden on our member dealers in this State by requiring them to ascertain what firearms are legal for sale, transfer or delivery, as well as what attachments and/or parts are legal and in what combination(s) they may or may not be sold, subjecting them to felony criminal prosecution(s) and administrative sanction(s) like licensure revocations;

I. The reduction of sales and vagueness of the law are also impacting gunsmithing activities, because the ban on attachments and/or parts, and/or deliveries, returns and/or transfers of prohibited firearms to their owners, is causing our member dealers to consider reductions in their staffing of gunsmiths; and/or

J. FFL-IL's member dealers are concerned that the vague language of Illinois Firearms Ban Act, because of its imprecise general definitions, could lead to felony criminal penalties and/or administrative sanctions for the rental of firearms for use on gun ranges they operate and/or at which they provide training classes;

15. FFL-IL's members and/or supporters have no plain, speedy and adequate remedy at law to fully redress the continued violation of their civil and constitutional rights caused by Illinois' Firearms Ban Act;

16. FFL-IL's members and/or supporters desire, and overwhelmingly support, FFL-IL's involvement in this matter to protect the rights which they believe are being unconstitutionally infringed upon by Illinois' Firearms Ban Act;

17. FFL-IL's representational capacity in this matter, on behalf of our members' and/or supporters' interests, to protect their constitutionally protected civil rights is a routine function of FFL-IL throughout the Nation, this State and/or this judicial district and, therefore, is germane to FFL-IL's mission; and

FURTHER DECLARANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

I, DAN ELDRIDGE, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.



DAN ELDRIDGE, PRESIDENT

Prepared By:

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