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11 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

12 FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

14 WILLIAM WIESE, et al.,

15 Plaintiffs,

16 vs.

18 ROB BONTA, in his official capacity as Attorney  
General of California, et al.,

20 Defendants.

Case No. 2:17-cv-00903-WBS-KJN

**MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES  
IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR  
SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

**[FRCP 56]**

Date: July 10, 2023

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Judge: Hon. William B. Shubb  
Courtroom 5, 14th Floor

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I. INTRODUCTION

In *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen*, 142 S.Ct. 2111 (2022) (“*Bruen*”), the Supreme Court “reiterate[d] that the standard for applying the Second Amendment is as follows: When the Second Amendment’s plain text covers an individual’s conduct, the Constitution presumptively protects that conduct. The government must then justify its regulation by demonstrating that it is consistent with the Nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation. Only then may a court conclude that the individual’s conduct falls outside the Second Amendment’s unqualified command.” *Id.* at 2129-30 (2022). And in further expressly rejecting and forbidding the two-step test applied by some lower courts since *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. 570 (2008), the *Bruen* Court made clear that the test it “set forth in *Heller* and apply today requires courts to assess whether modern firearms regulations are consistent with the Second Amendment’s text and historical understanding.” *Id.* at 2131.

What the Supreme Court applied in *Bruen* is precisely the theory Plaintiffs here have advanced since this case was filed on April 28, 2017.<sup>1</sup> “Despite California’s apparent legislative policy preferences and animus towards Second Amendment rights (and, by extension, those who would lawfully seek to assert and exercise them), [T]he enshrinement of constitutional rights necessarily takes certain policy choices off the table.” Compl. at 43; Third Amended Compl. (TAC) at 49 (quoting *Heller*, 554 U.S., at 636, 128 S.Ct., at 2822) (cleaned up). “Indeed, the [Supreme] Court expressly rejected the argument that the scope of the Second Amendment right should be determined by judicial interest balancing.” *Id.* (quoting *McDonald v. City of Chicago*, 561 U.S. 742, 785 (2010) [quoting *Heller*, 554 U.S., at 634-636]).

The conduct that Plaintiffs wish to engage in—keeping and bearing arms—is covered by the plain text of the Second Amendment. Accordingly, it is the government’s burden to demonstrate that

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<sup>1</sup> As this Court is aware, a similar case, *Duncan v. Becerra* (S.D. Cal. Case No. 17-cv-1017-BEN-JLB) was filed in the Southern District of California District Court on May 17, 2017 (thus, this action was the first-filed case). The Plaintiffs in this nearly 6-year-old action appreciate the Court’s consideration and leave to file this motion for dispositive adjudication.

1 its laws are “consistent with the Nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation.” That it cannot  
2 do.

3 Estimates suggest there are over *half a billion* of the firearm magazines banned by California  
4 in circulation in the United States today—far more than necessary for blanket protection under any  
5 analysis of their commonality. Moreover, the firearm magazines banned by California are *integral*  
6 for the operation of common, constitutionally protected firearms, such as handguns, that individuals  
7 use for self-defense and other lawful purposes. And because these magazines are in common use for  
8 lawful purposes, they can neither be “dangerous” *nor* “unusual.” Indeed, *unless* an arm is both  
9 “dangerous and unusual,” it is protected under the very analysis the Supreme Court applied in *Heller*  
10 (and most recently in *Bruen*).

11 Because the State cannot justify its laws under the Supreme Court’s test for Second  
12 Amendment challenges, Plaintiffs are entitled to summary judgment. The Court should declare the  
13 challenged laws unconstitutional and issue a permanent injunction against the Defendants.

## 14 15 **II. STATEMENT OF FACTS**

### 16 **A. FIREARM AMMUNITION MAGAZINES AND THE ORIGINAL CALIFORNIA MAGAZINE BAN**

17 A magazine is simply “a receptacle for a firearm that holds a plurality of cartridges or shells  
18 under spring pressure preparatory for feeding into the chamber. Magazines take many forms, such  
19 as box, drum, rotary, tubular, etc. and may be fixed or removable.” SAAMI, Glossary of Terms  
20 (<https://saami.org/saami-glossary/?letter=M>.); Statement of Undisputed Material Facts (SOU MF”)  
21 Nos. 11-14. Many of the most popular handguns in the country are manufactured with magazines  
22 holding more than 10 rounds. *See, e.g.*, Gun Digest 2018 (Jerry Lee and Chris Berens, ed. 2017)  
23 (Lee Decl., Ex. D); *id.* at 386-88 (Glocks); *id.* at 374 (Beretta); *id.* at 408 (Smith & Wesson); *id.* at  
24 408 (Sig Sauer); SOUMF Nos. 16, 17, 21. The same is true of many of the most popular semi-  
25 automatic rifles. *See, e.g.*, David B. Kopel, *The History of Firearm Magazines and Magazine*  
26 *Prohibitions*, 78 Alb. L. Rev. 849, 859 (2015) (Lee Decl., Ex. H) (“The most popular rifle in  
27 American history is the AR-15 platform, a semiautomatic rifle with standard magazines of twenty  
28

1 or thirty rounds.”); *see also* *Commonly Owned: NSSF Announces Over 24 Million MSRs in*  
2 *Circulation*, The Firearm Indus. Trade Ass’n (July 20, 2020) (Lee Decl., Ex. F),  
3 <https://bit.ly/3QBxiyv> (last accessed March 14, 2023); SOUMF Nos. 15, 18, 19. Data from the  
4 Firearm Industry Trade Association indicates that over *three quarters* of modern sporting rifle  
5 magazines in the country have a capacity of more than 10 rounds, and 52% have a capacity of 30  
6 rounds. *See* NSSF, *Modern Sporting Rifle Comprehensive Consumer Report* (Lee Decl., Ex. G),  
7 <https://bit.ly/3GLmErS> (last accessed March 14, 2023); SOUMF No. 20.

8 Along with the rest of the nation, up until 1999, millions of California citizens, including the  
9 Plaintiffs in this case, lawfully acquired and possessed semi-automatic firearms, many of which  
10 contained magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds of ammunition. Indeed, the State’s  
11 own legislative findings in connection with Proposition 63 declared, “[t]here are likely hundreds of  
12 thousands of large-capacity magazines in California at this time,” and “[t]he Department therefore  
13 expects many gun owners to be affected by the new ban.” Request for Judicial Notice (“RJN”), Ex.  
14 A, p. 1.); SOUMF Nos. 30 & 31. However, in 1999, through Senate Bill 23, California enacted  
15 legislation generally banning methods of acquiring magazines that hold more than ten rounds,  
16 legislatively branding them “large-capacity magazines” as currently defined in Penal Code § 16740.  
17 And since that time, the Code has generally forbidden the manufacture, importation, sale, or receipt  
18 of any such “large-capacity magazine.” *See* Cal. Pen. Code § 32310(a) (formerly § 12020(a)(2)).

19 As enacted under Senate Bill 23, the continued possession of lawfully-acquired “large  
20 capacity magazines” up to that point (i.e., “grandfathered” magazines) was not prohibited. SOUMF  
21 No. 5. Individual Plaintiffs and the class of persons on whose behalf this action is brought, are law-  
22 abiding citizens, who are neither prohibited from the possession of firearms or ammunition nor  
23 exempt from California’s restrictions upon firearms and ammunition, and who lawfully possessed  
24 and used such large-capacity magazines up through December 31, 1999.

## 25 **B. SENATE BILL 1446 AND PROPOSITION 63**

26 In 2016, gun control measures in California moved forward at a steady and unprecedented  
27 pace. Among these measures included additional laws pertaining to large-capacity magazines,  
28

1 contained in Senate Bill 1446 (“SB 1446”) and Proposition 63.

2 Purportedly concerned about what lawmakers presumably viewed as a prevalence of mass  
3 shootings and terrorist attacks in San Bernardino, California, the Legislature passed SB 1446 on  
4 December 2, 2015 (*see* RJN, Ex. A, p. 4), which amended Penal Code § 32310(b) to outlaw the mere  
5 possession of a “large-capacity magazine,” “regardless of the date the magazine was acquired[.]”  
6 The law as signed would have required a person in lawful possession of any large-capacity  
7 magazines prior to July 1, 2017, to dispose of such magazine(s) by surrender, sale to a licensed  
8 firearms dealer, or removal from the State in the manner provided by the statute. SOUMF No. 6. SB  
9 1446 was signed into law July 1, 2016, and became effective on January 1, 2017.

10 The author and proponents of SB 1446 never considered the actual value of the magazines  
11 subject to the ban, payment of “just compensation” to the owners of previously grandfathered  
12 magazines forced to dispossess themselves of their magazines, or whether a viable market actually  
13 existed for purposes of selling these magazines under legal compulsion. The bill’s author and  
14 sponsors simply assumed that the State, via local law enforcement agencies, had the power to force  
15 the dispossession of the magazines under the “police powers” of the State regardless of whether any  
16 of the targeted owners could obtain any fair compensation for the loss. *See* RJN, Ex. B, p. 5; SOUMF  
17 Nos. 32, 34.

18 Then, on November 8, 2016, California voters enacted Proposition 63 (titled the “Safety for  
19 All Act”), sponsored and heavily promoted as a “gun safety” initiative. *See* RJN, Ex. A. Proposition  
20 63 amended Penal Code sections 32310, 32400, 32405, 32410, 32425, 32435, 32450, added section  
21 32406, and repealed section 32420 by initiative statute, which changed the law to totally prohibit  
22 and criminalize the possession of large-capacity magazines as of July 1, 2017. *See* RJN, Ex. C.  
23 Proposition 63 took effect the day after the election; Cal. Const., Art. II, § 10(a) (“An initiative  
24 statute or referendum approved by a majority of votes thereon takes effect the day after the election  
25 unless the measure provides otherwise.”); SOUMF Nos. 7 & 8.

26 **C. THE INSTANT ACTION**

27 Plaintiffs commenced the instant action on April 28, 2017. Plaintiffs Wiese, Morris,  
28

1 Macaston, Flores, Dang, and Federau are individual and law-abiding California residents, who  
2 acquired, prior to 2000, large-capacity magazines, as intrinsic parts of their legally-possessed  
3 firearms. Wiese Decl., ¶ 4; Morris Decl., ¶ 4; Macaston Decl., ¶ 5; Flores, Decl.; ¶ 4, Dang Decl., ¶¶  
4 4-5; Federau Decl., ¶ 4; SOUMF No. 9. Each of them wishes to keep these magazines in the State  
5 of California, and is naturally unwilling to destroy or “surrender” his property to the State. Wiese  
6 Decl., ¶¶ 5-6; Morris Decl., ¶¶ 5-6; Macaston Decl., ¶ 8; Flores Decl., ¶ 9; Dang Decl., ¶ 7; Federau  
7 Decl., ¶¶ 5-6; SOUMF Nos. 10, 35. Plaintiffs Normandy, Nielsen, and Cowley currently reside out  
8 of State, but California’s magazine ban continues to adversely impact them because each of them  
9 maintains strong ties to the State through employment or familial connections, regularly travels back  
10 to and remains physically present in the State for extended periods of time, desires to keep and use  
11 these magazines for self-defense and other lawful purposes while in the State, and would do so were  
12 it not for California’s ban. Normandy Decl., ¶¶ 6-9; Nielsen Decl., ¶¶ 6-9.

13 Some of the individual Plaintiffs have “pre-ban” magazines of substantial value, either  
14 intrinsically or because they have historical value. Dang Decl., ¶ 4; Third Amended Complaint  
15 (“TAC”), ¶ 12. Some of these magazines are the only magazines that the Plaintiffs may have for that  
16 particular firearm. Dang Decl. ¶ 5; Macaston Decl., ¶ 6; SOUMF Nos. 38. And some of the  
17 magazines are the only magazines that were ever made for that particular firearm. Dang Decl., ¶ 5;  
18 TAC, ¶ 13; SOUMF Nos. 39.

19 Plaintiffs are bringing this matter individually, and as representatives on behalf of the class of  
20 individuals who are or would be affected by the ban; that is, those law-abiding residents, who are  
21 not otherwise exempt, and who lawfully possessed large-capacity magazines in this State before  
22 December 31, 1999. *See Residents of Beverly Glen, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles*, 34 Cal.App.3d 117  
23 (1973); *Tenants Assn. of Park Santa Anita v. Southers*, 222 Cal.App.3d 1293, 1299-1300 (1990) (a  
24 right to sue in a representative capacity may be recognized where the question is one of public  
25 interest). Further, organizational Plaintiffs California Gun Rights Foundation (formerly the Calguns  
26 Foundation), FPC Action Foundation (formerly Firearms Policy Foundation) Firearms Policy  
27 Coalition, and Second Amendment Foundation are bringing this action on behalf of their many  
28

1 similarly situated California members. Hoffman Decl., ¶ 4 (CGR); Silvester Decl., ¶ 4 (FPCAF);  
2 Normandy Decl., ¶ 11 (FPC); Gottlieb Decl., ¶ 3 (SAF).

3 After filing a First Amended Complaint (Dkt. No. 7), Plaintiffs sought a motion for a  
4 temporary restraining order and issuance of a preliminary injunction to enjoin enforcement of the  
5 law, on June 12, 2017 (Dkt. No. 9). On June 29, 2017, this Court denied Plaintiffs' motion. (Dkt.  
6 No. 52). Before Defendants answered, by stipulation of the parties (Dkt. No. 53) and order of this  
7 Court (Dkt. No. 54), Plaintiffs filed their Second Amended Complaint on August 17, 2017 (Dkt. No.  
8 59). Defendants moved to dismiss the Second Amended Complaint under FRCP 12(b)(6), and this  
9 Court granted that motion on February 7, 2018 (Dkt. No. 74). Plaintiffs then filed the current and  
10 operative Third Amended Complaint on February 26, 2018. Meanwhile, in *Duncan v. Becerra*, S.D.  
11 Cal. No. 17-56081, Judge Benitez had issued a preliminary injunction in another case challenging  
12 the magazine ban as unconstitutional, and a panel of the Ninth Circuit affirmed that judgement in  
13 July of 2018. *Duncan v. Becerra*, 742 F. App'x 218, 221–22 (9th Cir. 2018).

14 Thereafter, Defendants moved to dismiss the TAC (Dkt. No. 95), and the Court held a hearing  
15 on Defendants' motion on February 19, 2019. Following the Ninth Circuit's affirmance of the  
16 preliminary injunction in *Duncan*, this Court denied the motion to dismiss as to the Second  
17 Amendment, Takings, and Equal Protection claims. (Dkt. No. 103, at pp. 5-6.) However, the Court  
18 dismissed the claims that the law was unconstitutionally vague and overbroad. (*Id.* at p. 8.)

19 **D. SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDINGS IN *DUNCAN***

20 On March 29, 2019, Judge Benitez issued a final judgment and memorandum decision in  
21 *Duncan v. Becerra*, S.D. Cal. No. 3:17-cv-01017-BEN-JLB, declaring Penal Code § 32310  
22 unconstitutional. On April 4, 2019, the Attorney General appealed the judgment to the Ninth Circuit,  
23 and the district court stayed in part its judgment pending final resolution of the appeal.<sup>2</sup> The Attorney  
24

25  
26 <sup>2</sup> Judge Benitez stayed the injunction as to subdivisions (a) and (b) of Penal Code section 32310,  
27 which prohibits the manufacturing, importing into the State, offering for sale, giving, lending, buying,  
28 or receiving of large-capacity magazines, while he kept in place the injunction against subdivisions

1 General contemporaneously sought a stay of the proceedings in the present case pending the outcome  
2 of *Duncan*, which this Court granted on May 8, 2019. (Dkt. No. 110.)

3 Judge Benitez’s judgment was again upheld by a Ninth Circuit panel, which affirmed that the  
4 large capacity magazine was unconstitutional. *Duncan v. Becerra*, 970 F.3d 1133 (9th Cir. 2020).  
5 Following this panel decision, Plaintiffs in the instant case requested this Court lift the stay.  
6 Defendants opposed that request, signaling they would seek further review. (Dkt. No. 112.) Given  
7 the possibility of en banc review, this Court declined to lift the stay. (Dkt. No. 113.)

8 Eventually, the panel decision was reversed en banc. *See Duncan v. Bonta*, 19 F.4th 1087 (9th  
9 Cir. 2021). However, the plaintiffs in *Duncan* petitioned for a writ of certiorari to the United States  
10 Supreme Court. The Court held *Duncan*, among several other Second Amendment cases, pending  
11 its decision in *Bruen*. On June 30, 2022, following the *Bruen* decision, the Supreme Court granted  
12 certiorari, vacated the en banc decision, and remanded to the Ninth Circuit for further consideration  
13 in light of *Bruen*. *Duncan v. Bonta*, 142 S.Ct. 2895 (Mem.) (June 30, 2022).

14 On September 23, 2022, the Ninth Circuit remanded to the district court for further  
15 proceedings “consistent with” *Bruen*. *Duncan v. Bonta*, 49 F.4th 1228 (Mem.) (9th Cir. Sept. 23,  
16 2022). Shortly thereafter, on September 26, 2022, Judge Benitez issued an order “spreading the  
17 mandate and continuing the preliminary injunction,” ordering that the “previously entered  
18 preliminary injunction enjoining enforcement of California Penal Code § 32310 (c) and (d) for  
19 magazines able to hold more than ten rounds *shall remain in effect* for all those who previously  
20 acquired and possessed magazines legally (including those persons and business entities who  
21 acquired magazines between March 29, 2019 and April 5, 2019), pending further Order of this  
22 Court.” *Duncan v. Becerra*, S.D. Cal. No. 3:17-cv-01017-BEN-JLB (Dkt. No. 111). To date, the  
23 parties in *Duncan* are still briefing the case under the *Bruen* standards, and there has been no further  
24 order lifting or otherwise modifying this injunction against the possession ban.

25  
26  
27 (c) and (d) of section 32310, which prohibits “the simple possession” of such magazines. *Duncan v.*  
*Becerra*, 2019 WL 1510340, at \*3 (S.D. Cal. Apr. 4, 2019).

1 On January 13, 2023, this Court lifted the stay in this case (Dkt. No. 116), and granted  
2 Plaintiffs leave to file the instant motion for summary judgment (Dkt. No. 120).

3 **III. ARGUMENT**

4 **A. STANDARD**

5 “Summary judgment is appropriate when, viewing the evidence in the light most favorable to  
6 the nonmoving party, there is no genuine dispute as to any material fact.” *Zetwick v. County of Yolo*,  
7 850 F.3d 436, 440 (9th Cir. 2017) (citing *United States v. JP Morgan Chase Bank Account No.*  
8 *Ending 8215*, 835 F.3d 1159, 1162 (9th Cir. 2016)).

9 **B. PLAINTIFFS ARE ENTITLED TO JUDGMENT ON THEIR SECOND AMENDMENT CLAIM.**

10 “When the Second Amendment’s plain text covers an individual’s conduct, the Constitution  
11 presumptively protects that conduct. The government must then justify its regulation by  
12 demonstrating that it is consistent with the Nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation. Only  
13 then may a court conclude that the individual’s conduct falls outside the Second Amendment’s  
14 ‘unqualified command.’ ” *Bruen*, 142 S.Ct. at 2129–30.

15 **1. The Ban Prohibits Conduct Protected by the Text of the Second Amendment.**

16 At the textual level, the Second Amendment protects the right to “keep and bear Arms.”  
17 Interpreting “Arms,” the Supreme Court in *Heller* explained that “[j]ust as the First Amendment  
18 protects modern forms of communications, and the Fourth Amendment applies to modern forms of  
19 search, the Second Amendment extends, prima facie, to *all instruments that constitute bearable*  
20 *arms.*” *Heller*, 554 U.S. at 582 (citations omitted); *see also Bruen*, 142 S.Ct. at 2132. Therefore, at  
21 the level of the text the only question for this Court is whether the ban at issue impacts the rights to  
22 “keep and bear” any “instruments that constitute bearable arms.”

23 This “large-capacity” magazine ban does impact that right. Magazines are integral for the  
24 operation of many common firearms. A firearm magazine is an inherent part of, and inseparable  
25 from, a functioning firearm. SOUMF No. 14. All modern, semiautomatic firearms are essentially  
26 inoperable without them. Youngman Decl., at ¶ 7 (Lee Decl., Ex. A; Dkt. No. 28-2); SOUMF No.  
27 15. Modern semi-automatic firearms of the kind in use for lawful purposes, including self-defense,  
28



1 sold at retail in the civilian and law enforcement markets include at least one magazine intended to  
2 be used as part of that firearm. *Id.* California’s own laws require a magazine to be inserted in the  
3 firearm in order to be sold as an operable pistol, a so-called “safety” feature. Consequently, many  
4 models of new pistols sold at retail in California must have “magazine disconnect mechanisms,”  
5 meaning these firearms are incapable of being fired without a magazine. *See* Pen. Code §§  
6 31910(b)(4)-(6), 32000, and 16900 (defining “magazine disconnect mechanism” as “a mechanism  
7 that prevents a semiautomatic pistol that has a detachable magazine from operating to strike the  
8 primer of ammunition in the firing chamber when a detachable magazine is not inserted in the  
9 semiautomatic pistol”).

10 Second Amendment protections would be meaningless if the State could strip away integral  
11 component parts of a firearm by claiming that prohibitions against individual component do not  
12 constitute a ban on “arms.” This would be an absurd construction. *See Jackson v. City of San*  
13 *Francisco*, 746 F.3d 953, 967 (9th Cir. 2014) (“The Second Amendment protects ‘arms,’ ‘weapons,’  
14 and ‘firearms’; it does not explicitly protect ammunition. Nevertheless, without bullets, the right to  
15 bear arms would be meaningless”). Just as the First Amendment would not allow the government to  
16 ban the ink used to print newspapers, the Second Amendment does not permit it to ban triggers,  
17 barrels, magazines, or any other component integral to the operation of a firearm. *See Or. Firearms*  
18 *Fed’n, Inc. v. Brown*, 2:22-cv-01815-IM (D. Or.) Op. and Order 19, Doc. 39 (Dec. 6, 2022) (“TRO  
19 Op.”) (“The Second Amendment covers firearms and items ‘necessary to use’ those firearms.”).  
20 Constitutional rights “implicitly protect those closely related acts necessary to their exercise.” *Luis*  
21 *v. United States*, 578 U.S. 5, 26 (2016) (Thomas, J., concurring in the judgment). The Ninth Circuit  
22 itself has recognized “caselaw supports the conclusion that there must also be some corollary, albeit  
23 not unfettered, right to possess the magazines necessary to render those firearms operable.” *Fyock*  
24 *v. Sunnyvale*, 779 F.3d 991, 998 (9th Cir. 2015). As the Third Circuit held before *Bruen*, “[b]ecause  
25 ammunition magazines feed ammunition into certain guns, and ammunition is necessary for such a  
26 gun to function as intended, magazines are ‘arms’ within the meaning of the Second Amendment.”  
27 *Ass’n of New Jersey Rifle & Pistol Clubs, Inc. v. Att’y Gen. New Jersey*, 910 F.3d 106, 116 (3d Cir.

28

1 2018) (“*ANJRPC*”); *New York State Rifle & Pistol Ass’n v. Cuomo*, 804 F.3d 242, 257 (2d Cir. 2015)  
2 (assuming that laws banning assault weapons and large capacity magazines “ban weapons protected  
3 by the Second Amendment”).

4 In *Kolbe v. Hogan*, the Fourth Circuit expressly extended this reasoning to large capacity  
5 magazines: “To the extent that firearms equipped with detachable magazines are commonly  
6 possessed by law-abiding citizens for lawful purposes, there must also be an ancillary right to possess  
7 the magazines necessary to render those firearms operable. To the extent the State can regulate these  
8 magazines, it is not because the magazines are not bearable ‘arms’ within the meaning of the Second  
9 Amendment.” *Kolbe v. Hogan*, 813 F.3d 160, 175 (4th Cir. 2016), on reh’g en banc, 849 F.3d 114  
10 (4th Cir. 2017) (abrogated by *Bruen*, 142 S.Ct. at 2126). Likewise, this Court, even in previously  
11 dismissing Plaintiffs’ Second Amended Complaint under the now-rejected interest-balancing test,  
12 Dkt. No. 74, found that other courts had assumed these magazines are protected by the Second  
13 Amendment. *Wiese v. Becerra*, 306 F.Supp.3d 1190, 1196 (E.D. Cal. Feb. 7, 2018)

14 Looking at it another way, the clear purpose and effect of California’s magazine ban  
15 provisions are to functionally ban firearms capable of firing more than ten rounds without reloading.  
16 And as discussed in more detail below, firearms capable of firing more than ten rounds without  
17 reloading are unquestionably “bearable arms” that are “in common use” and therefore entitled to  
18 protection. The Second Amendment certainly “covers an individual’s conduct” in owning,  
19 possessing, and using these magazines. *Bruen*, 142 S.Ct. at 2126.

## 20 **2. The Ban Prohibits Arms in Common Use for Lawful Purposes.**

21 Under *Bruen*, once the textual analysis is complete, if there exists an apparent conflict between  
22 the text and the challenged law, as in this case, that law should be treated as presumptively  
23 unconstitutional. 142 S.Ct. at 2126. In that event, the law is salvageable only if the government can  
24 “demonstrate that the regulation is consistent with this Nation’s historical tradition of firearm  
25 regulation.” *Id.* That means it is California’s burden to demonstrate the existence of founding-era  
26 historical evidence banning certain types of arms and that its own ban *fits* that evidence. *Heller*  
27 establishes the test for whether a ban on possession fits with this historical evidence from the time  
28

1 of the founding, and that is, are the arms in question “in common use” by law abiding citizens for  
2 lawful purposes or are they instead “dangerous and unusual” arms? It is up to the State to prove that  
3 the arms are not commonly used. As discussed below, the State cannot carry its burden.

4 The historical work has already been done here. In *Heller*, the Court held that the Second  
5 Amendment protects the right to “keep and bear” arms “in common use at the time.” *Heller*, 554  
6 U.S. at 627. “That limitation is fairly supported by the *historical* tradition of prohibiting the carrying  
7 of ‘dangerous and unusual weapons.’” *Id.* (emphasis added). So, the Court’s precedent makes clear  
8 that when firearms are “in common use at the [present] time,” they necessarily cannot be deemed  
9 “dangerous and unusual” and thus cannot be banned. The only question here then is whether  
10 magazines holding more than ten rounds are in common use for lawful purposes. They  
11 unquestionably are and thus they cannot be subject to a ban like California’s ban.

12 Forty-eight percent of gun owners have owned magazines that hold more than 10 rounds.  
13 William English, *2021 National Firearms Survey: Updated Analysis Including Types of Firearms*  
14 *Owned* at 22 (May 18, 2022) (Lee Decl., Ex. C), <https://bit.ly/3yPfoHw> (last accessed March 14,  
15 2023). Given the survey’s estimate that 81.4 million Americans own firearms, approximately 39  
16 million Americans have owned at least one magazine that holds more than 10 rounds. SOUMF No  
17 26. And that is a conservative estimate since only current gun owners were polled. Those individuals  
18 frequently owned more than one such magazine. In fact, Professor English found that American gun  
19 owners have owned as many as 269 million handgun magazines that hold over 10 rounds and an  
20 additional 273 million rifle magazines over that threshold for a total of 542 million such magazines.  
21 *Id.* at 24; *see also* Curcuruto Decl. (Lee Decl., Ex. B) at ¶ 8 (estimating that 230 million pistol and  
22 rifle magazines were in the possession of United States consumers between 1990 and 2015, and that  
23 magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition accounted for approximately half  
24 (or 115 million) of those magazines altogether during that time period). SOUMF Nos. 23, 24, 27,  
25 28.

26 There is nothing surprising about this result. As detailed above, many of the most popular  
27 handguns in the country are manufactured with magazines holding more than 10 rounds. The Ninth  
28

1 Circuit itself has acknowledged the ubiquity and commonality of large capacity magazines: “Most,  
2 but not all, firearms use magazines. For those firearms that accept magazines, manufacturers often  
3 include large-capacity magazines as a standard part of a purchase of a firearm. ‘Most pistols are  
4 manufactured with magazines holding ten to seventeen rounds, and many popular rifles are  
5 manufactured with magazines holding twenty or thirty rounds.’ [...] Although data on magazine  
6 ownership are imprecise, some experts estimate that approximately half of all privately owned  
7 magazines in the United States have a capacity greater than ten rounds.” *Duncan v. Bonta*, 19 F.4th  
8 at 1097 (quoting *Kolbe v. Hogan*, 849 F.3d 114, 129 (4th Cir. 2017) (en banc)). And, according to  
9 the National Firearms Survey, the most common reasons cited for owning these magazines are target  
10 shooting (64.3% of owners), home defense (62.4%), hunting (47%), and defense outside the home  
11 (41.7%). English, *supra*, at 23; SOUMF No. 29. Such magazines are lawful to own in the vast  
12 majority of states; only nine other states and the District of Columbia have laws as strict as  
13 California’s that limit magazine capacity to ten rounds for all firearms (Connecticut, Hawaii,  
14 Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Washington).<sup>3</sup>

15 These statistics conclusively demonstrate that the banned magazines are commonly owned  
16 and used overwhelmingly for lawful purposes. SOUMF No. 22. “[C]ourts throughout the country  
17 [including in this Circuit,] agree that large-capacity magazines are commonly used for lawful  
18 purposes.” *Duncan*, 19 F.4th at 1155–56 (Bumatay, J., dissenting); *see also Fyock*, 779 F.3d at 998  
19 (“[W]e cannot say that the district court abused its discretion by inferring from the evidence of record  
20 that, at a minimum, [large-capacity] magazines are in common use.”); *ANJRPC*, 910 F.3d at 116–  
21 17 (“The record shows that millions of magazines are owned, often come factory standard with semi-  
22 automatic weapons, are typically possessed by law-abiding citizens for hunting, pest-control, and  
23 occasionally self-defense, and there is no longstanding history of [large capacity magazine]  
24 regulation.”) (cleaned up); *New York State Rifle & Pistol Ass’n, Inc. v. Cuomo*, 804 F.3d at 255  
25

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26 <sup>3</sup> Illinois and Vermont have a 10-round magazine capacity restriction for long guns only, and a 15-  
27 round capacity restriction for handguns. 720 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/24-1.10 (enacted January 10, 2023  
28 by 2021 IL HB 5471); Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 13, § 4021 (enacted by 2017 VT S 55, Sec. 8).

1 (“Even accepting the most conservative estimates cited by the parties and by amici, the . . . large-  
2 capacity magazines at issue are ‘in common use’ as that term was used in *Heller*.”); *Heller v. Dist.*  
3 *of Columbia* (“*Heller II*”), 670 F.3d 1244, 1261 (D.C. Cir. 2011) (“As for magazines, fully 18 percent  
4 of all firearms owned by civilians in 1994 were equipped with magazines holding more than ten  
5 rounds, and approximately 4.7 million more such magazines were imported into the United States  
6 between 1995 and 2000. There may well be some capacity above which magazines are not in  
7 common use but, if so . . . that capacity surely is not ten.”); *see also* Youngman Decl. (Lee Decl.,  
8 Ex. A), at ¶ 7 (“In most other states, firearms, including many of the most popular pistols and rifles,  
9 are sold with” magazines that hold more than 10 rounds, as “*standard capacity magazines*.”) (italics  
10 added).

11       Moreover, aside from this quantitative numerical data of the common use of these magazines  
12 themselves, the fact that they constitute integral parts of handguns and rifles indisputably in common  
13 use for lawful purposes across the country, like all those discussed above, Gun Digest 2018 at 374,  
14 386-88, 408; David B. Kopel, *The History of Firearm Magazines and Magazine Prohibitions*, 78  
15 Alb. L. Rev. at 849, 859, is alone enough to establish the necessary commonality based on the prior  
16 judicial findings and pronouncements on the point. *See Heller*, 554 U.S. at 629 (“Whatever the  
17 reason, handguns are the most popular weapon chosen by Americans for self-defense in the home .  
18 . . .”); *Staples v. United States*, 511 U.S. 600, 603 (1994) (“[t]he AR-15 is the civilian version of the  
19 military’s M-16 rifle, and is, unless modified, a semiautomatic weapon”). And, again, because the  
20 conduct at issue is covered under the plain text of the Second Amendment, it is the State’s burden  
21 to prove these magazines are *not* in “common use” and are instead subject to a ban as “dangerous  
22 and unusual” weapons, which it cannot do in any event.

23       Because California’s magazine ban prohibits arms within the meaning of the Second  
24 Amendment—arms unquestionably in common use, for lawful purposes—summary judgment  
25 should be granted in Plaintiffs’ favor on their Second Amendment Claim.

26 //

27 //

28

1           **3. No Historical Basis Exists that Could Justify the Magazine Ban.**

2           The Court need go no further to resolve this case. As explained above, once it is determined  
3 that a type of arm is in “common use,” it is protected by the Second Amendment and cannot be  
4 banned. The magazines banned by California are in common use, therefore there is no historical  
5 justification for banning them. *See Bruen*, 142 S.Ct. at 2143; *Heller*, 554 U.S. at 625. But even if the  
6 Court does go further, it should find the magazine ban cannot be supported by any historical  
7 tradition.

8           To justify a regulation as “consistent with the Second Amendment’s text and historical  
9 understanding,” the government must demonstrate by “analogical reasoning” the existence of “a  
10 proper analogue.” *Bruen*, 42 S.Ct. 2131-32. The analogue must be “relevantly similar.” *Id.* at 2132  
11 (quoting C. Sunstein, *On Analogical Reasoning*, 106 Harv. L. Rev. 741, 773 (1993)). It “may be  
12 analogous enough to pass constitutional muster” even if it’s not “a historical *twin*” or a “dead ringer”  
13 for the modern regulation, but it must be “well-established and representative.” *Id.* at 2133. *Bruen*  
14 did not “provide an exhaustive survey of the features that render regulations relevantly similar” here,  
15 but “*Heller* and *McDonald* point toward at least two metrics: how and why the regulations burden a  
16 law-abiding citizen’s right to armed self-defense.” *Id.* at 2132. “[W]hether modern and historical  
17 regulations impose a comparable burden on the right of armed self-defense and whether that burden  
18 is comparably justified are ‘*central*’ considerations when engaging in an analogical inquiry,”  
19 because “individual self-defense is ‘the *central component*’ of the Second Amendment right.” *Id.* at  
20 2133 (quoting *McDonald*, 561 U.S. at 767).

21           As for what constitutes the relevant historical period, the high court explained, “when it comes  
22 to interpreting the Constitution, not all history is created equal.” *Bruen*, 142 S.Ct. at 2136. Foremost,  
23 “[c]onstitutional rights are enshrined with the scope they were understood to have when the people  
24 adopted them.” *Id.* at 2137 (quoting *Heller*, 554 U.S. at 634-35). While “[s]trictly speaking,” the  
25 States are “bound to respect the right to keep and bear arms because of the Fourteenth Amendment,”  
26 adopted in 1868, and not the Second, adopted in 1791, “we have generally assumed that the scope  
27 of the protection applicable to the Federal Government and States is pegged to the public  
28

1 understanding of the right when the Bill of Rights was adopted in 1791.” *Id.* Indeed, as noted, the  
 2 standard established in *Bruen* “requires judges to apply faithfully the balance struck *by the founding*  
 3 *generation* to modern circumstances.” *Id.* at 2132 n. 7 (italics added). While “there is an ongoing  
 4 scholarly debate” over whether the understanding of the Second Amendment in 1791 or 1868 should  
 5 be considered primary, that issue need not be resolved when “the public understanding of the right  
 6 to keep and bear arms in both 1791 and 1868 was, for all relevant purposes, the same with respect  
 7 to” the rights at stake. *Id.* at 2138.

8 What is more, while *Bruen* flagged this scholarly debate for possible future Supreme Court  
 9 consideration, lower courts are bound to look to 1791 given the Court’s repeated holdings (a) that  
 10 1791 is the key date for interpreting the Bill of Rights against the federal government, *see, e.g.,*  
 11 *Gamble v. United States*, \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_, 139 S.Ct. 1960, 1976 (2019), and (b) that incorporated  
 12 provisions of the Bill of Rights have the same meaning when applied against the states as applied  
 13 against the federal government, *see, e.g., McDonald*, 561 U.S. at 765. *See, e.g., Khan v. State Oil*  
 14 *Co.*, 93 F.3d 1358, 1363 (7th Cir. 1996) (lower courts must follow Supreme Court holdings even  
 15 with “wobbly, moth-eaten foundation” until overruled by the Supreme court), *vacated by State Oil*  
 16 *Co. v. Khan*, 522 U.S. 3, 20 (1997) (overruling precedent but making clear that the “Court of Appeals  
 17 was correct in applying [*stare decisis*] . . . for it is this Court’s prerogative alone to overrule one of  
 18 its precedents”); *see also* Mark W. Smith, *Attention Originalists: The Second Amendment was*  
 19 *adopted in 1791, not 1868*, HARV. J. OF L. & PUB. POL’Y PER CURIAM (Dec. 7, 2022),  
 20 <https://bit.ly/42BmRX3>.

21 **a. Magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds predate the Second**  
 22 **Amendment and were known to and embraced by the Founders.**

23 Magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition can trace their historical  
 24 lineage back to the late-15th or early-16th century, with the advent of repeating firearms (or  
 25 repeaters). The first known repeaters were invented between 1490 and 1530.<sup>4</sup> King Henry VIII

26 \_\_\_\_\_  
 27 <sup>4</sup> M.L. Brown, FIREARMS IN COLONIAL AMERICA: THE IMPACT ON HISTORY AND TECHNOLOGY, 1492-  
 1792 50 (1980).

1 (reigned 1509-1547) even owned one.<sup>5</sup> The first known repeater capable of firing more than 10  
2 shots—a 16-round German wheellock rifle—was invented around 1580.<sup>6</sup>

3 By 1660, both the Kalthoff and Lorenzoni repeaters had gained popularity throughout  
4 Europe.<sup>7</sup> The capacity of Kalthoff “magazines ran all the way from six or seven to thirty” charges.  
5 Peterson, *TREASURY*, at 230. “[A]t least nineteen gunsmiths are known to have made [Kalthoffs] in  
6 an area stretching from London . . . to Moscow . . . and from Copenhagen . . . to Salzburg.” *Id.*  
7 Kalthoffs saw “active service during the siege of Copenhagen in 1658, 1659, and again in the  
8 Scanian War of 1675-1679.” *Id.* “The Lorenzoni also was developed during the first half of the  
9 Seventeenth Century.” *Id.* The repeating mechanism of this magazine-fed Italian pistol was soon  
10 adopted in rifles and spread throughout Europe and the colonies. *Id.* at 232.

11 On July 3, 1662, famed London diarist Samuel Pepys observed “a gun to discharge seven  
12 times, the best of all devices that ever I saw, and very serviceable, and not a bawble; for it is much  
13 approved of, and many thereof made.”<sup>8</sup> On March 4, 1664, Pepys wrote about “several people []  
14 trying a new-fashion gun” that could “shoot off often, one after another, without trouble or danger,  
15 very pretty.” *7 id.* at 61. Pepys was referring to Lorenzoni-style firearms.

16 “Many . . . English gunsmiths . . . made guns with the Lorenzoni action during the next two  
17 or three decades.” Peterson, *TREASURY*, at 232. So did “a host of others throughout the 18th  
18 century.”<sup>9</sup> “[A]t least two New England gunsmiths actually manufactured such guns.” *Id.* at 232.  
19 The advent and innovation of repeaters and proto magazines carried through the 17th century into  
20 our early history in the 18th century.

21 Innovation and proliferation of such arms continued through our nation’s early history. Some  
22

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23 <sup>5</sup> W.W. Greener, *THE GUN AND ITS DEVELOPMENT* 81–82 (9th ed. 1910).

24 <sup>6</sup> Lewis Winant, *FIREARMS CURIOSA* 168–70 (1955); *16-Shot Wheel Lock*, *AMERICA’S 1ST FREEDOM*  
25 (May 10, 2014), <http://bit.ly/2tngSDD>.

26 <sup>7</sup> Harold Peterson, *THE TREASURY OF THE GUN* 229 (1962).

27 <sup>8</sup> 4 *THE DIARY OF SAMUEL PEPYS* 258 (Henry Wheatley ed., 1893)

28 <sup>9</sup> Harold Peterson, *ARMS AND ARMOR IN COLONIAL AMERICA* 215 (1956).



1 pre-American, colonial repeaters in the mid-1600s employed a revolving cylinder rotated by hand.<sup>10</sup>  
2 “A few repeating arms were made use of in a military way in America,” for example, “[Louis de  
3 Buade de] Frontenac<sup>11</sup> in 1690 astonished the Iroquois with his three and five shot repeaters.”<sup>12</sup>

4 In 1722, John Pim, a Boston gunsmith, demonstrated a repeater he sold.<sup>13</sup> “[L]oaded but  
5 once,” it “was discharged eleven times following, with bullets, in the space of two minutes, each  
6 which went through a double door at fifty yards’ distance.”<sup>14</sup>

7 The most common American repeaters of the early 18th century were probably Lorenzoni  
8 variants known as Cooksons—named after English gunsmith John Cookson. Peterson, TREASURY,  
9 at 230. A 10-round Cookson, later displayed at the National Museum, “found its way into Maryland  
10 with one of the early English colonists.”<sup>15</sup>

11 A Boston gunsmith, also named John Cookson, manufactured repeaters in the 18th century.  
12 The American Cookson advertised a repeater in the *Boston Gazette* on April 12 and 26, 1756,  
13 explaining that the rifle was “to be sold at his house in Boston . . . the said gun will fire 9 Times  
14 distinctly, as quick, or as slow as you please.” Peterson, ARMS AND ARMOR, at 215. “Thus this type  
15 of repeating flintlock popular in England from the third quarter of the 17th century, was known and  
16 manufactured in Massachusetts early in the 18th century.” *Id.*

17 In the late-1700s, Joseph Belton created a rifle capable of firing “Sixteen Balls loaded at one  
18  
19

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20  
21 <sup>10</sup> See, e.g., Charles Winthrop Sawyer, 2 FIREARMS IN AMERICAN HISTORY 5 (1939) (six-shot  
flintlock); Charles Edward Chapel, GUNS OF THE OLD WEST 202–03 (1961) (revolving snaphance).

22 <sup>11</sup> Frontenac was the governor of New France at the time. See Alan Gally, COLONIAL WARS OF  
23 NORTH AMERICA, 1512–1763, at 240–42 (2015).

24 <sup>12</sup> Charles Winthrop Sawyer, 1 FIREARMS IN AMERICAN HISTORY 29 (1939).

25 <sup>13</sup> Pim produced other repeaters, including a “six-shot, .52 caliber snaphaunce revolver.” Brown,  
FIREARMS IN COLONIAL AMERICA, at 257.

26 <sup>14</sup> Samuel Niles, *A Summary Historical Narrative of the Wars in New England*, in MASSACHUSETTS  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTIONS, 4th ser., vol. 5, at 347 (1837).

27 <sup>15</sup> *The Cookson Gun and the Mortimer Pistols*, AM. RIFLEMAN, Sept. 29, 1917, at 3, 4.  
28

1 time.”<sup>16</sup> Belton demonstrated his rifle before leading military officers (including General Horatio  
2 Gates and Major General Benedict Arnold) and scientists (including David Rittenhouse), who  
3 verified its functionality. Belton, *Letter*, at 139. In 1777, the Continental Congress ordered one  
4 hundred of Joseph Belton’s rifles,<sup>17</sup> which could “discharge sixteen, or twenty [rounds], in sixteen,  
5 ten, or five seconds.” Belton, *Letter*, at 123. Although the deal fell through when Belton demanded  
6 “an extraordinary allowance,”<sup>18</sup> the exchange proves that the Founders embraced repeaters capable  
7 of firing more than 10 rounds.

8 The British similarly recognized the advantage of repeaters, employing the Ferguson Rifle  
9 during the Revolutionary War, which “fired six shots in one minute” during a government test on  
10 June 1, 1776.<sup>19</sup>

11 At the time of the Second Amendment’s ratification, the state-of-the-art repeater was the  
12 Girandoni air rifle, which could shoot 21 or 22 rounds in .46 or .49 caliber.<sup>20</sup> The Girandoni was  
13 ballistically equal to a powder gun,<sup>21</sup> and powerful enough to take an elk.<sup>22</sup> At the time, “there were  
14 many gunsmiths in Europe producing compressed air weapons powerful enough to use for big game  
15 hunting or as military weapons.” Garry, *WEAPONS OF LEWIS AND CLARK*, at 91. The Girandoni was  
16 invented for the Austrian army—1,500 were issued to sharpshooters and remained in service for 25  
17 years, including in the Napoleonic Wars between 1796 and 1815.<sup>23</sup> Isaiah Lukens of Pennsylvania  
18

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20 <sup>16</sup> Joseph Belton, *Letter to the Continental Congress*, Apr. 11, 1777, in *PAPERS OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, COMPILED 1774-1789*, vol. 1 A-B, at 139.

21 <sup>17</sup> 7 *JOURNALS OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS 1774-1789*, at 324 (1907).

22 <sup>18</sup> 7 *JOURNALS OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS 1774-1789*, at 361.

23 <sup>19</sup> Roger Lamb, *AN ORIGINAL AND AUTHENTIC JOURNAL OF OCCURRENCES DURING THE LATE AMERICAN WAR* 309 (1809).

24 <sup>20</sup> James Garry, *WEAPONS OF THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION* 100–01 (2012).

25 <sup>21</sup> John Plaster, *THE HISTORY OF SNIPING AND SHARPSHOOTING* 69–70 (2008).

26 <sup>22</sup> Jim Supica, *et al.*, *TREASURES OF THE NRA NATIONAL FIREARMS MUSEUM* 31 (2013).

27 <sup>23</sup> Gerald Prenderghast, *REPEATING AND MULTI-FIRE WEAPONS* 100–01 (2018); Garry, *WEAPONS OF LEWIS AND CLARK*, at 91–94.

1 manufactured such rifles,<sup>24</sup> along with “many makers in Austria, Russia, Switzerland, England, and  
2 various German principalities.” Garry, WEAPONS OF LEWIS AND CLARK, at 99. Meriwether Lewis  
3 seemingly acquired the Girandoni rifle he famously carried on the Lewis and Clark Expedition from  
4 Isaiah Lukens. *Id.* Lewis mentioned it in his journal 39 times, always demonstrating the rifle to  
5 impress various Native American tribes encountered on the expedition—often “astonishing” or  
6 “surprising” them and making the point that although the expedition was usually outnumbered, the  
7 smaller group could defend itself.<sup>25</sup>

8 It is therefore clear that the Founders and Framers were well aware of the advent, existence,  
9 and popularity of magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds of ammunition, as well as  
10 repeating arms that were capable of firing more than ten rounds without reloading.<sup>26</sup>

11 **b. The State Cannot Identify Any Relevantly Similar Historical Analogue.**

12 Defendants cannot identify any on-point or analogous historical prohibition on firearms  
13 capable of firing more than ten rounds without reloading or magazines capable of holding more than  
14 ten rounds.

15 As demonstrated above, when the Second Amendment was ratified in 1791, repeating arms  
16 were already three centuries old. The state-of-the-art as of 1791 was a 22-shot rifle. Yet, despite the

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18 <sup>24</sup> Nancy McClure, *Treasures from Our West: Lukens Air Rifle*, BUFFALO BILL CENTER FOR THE  
19 AMERICAN WEST (Aug. 3, 2014), <https://centerofthewest.org/2014/08/03/treasures-west-lukens-air-rifle/>.

20 <sup>25</sup> See, e.g., Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, 6 THE JOURNALS OF THE LEWIS & CLARK  
21 EXPEDITION 233 (Gary Moulton ed., 1983) (Jan. 24, 1806 entry: “My Air-gun also astonishes them  
22 very much, they cannot comprehend it’s [*sic*] shooting so often and without powder; and think that it  
is *great medicine* which comprehends every thing that is to them incomprehensible.”).

23 <sup>26</sup> Additionally, the innovation surrounding these magazines and the historical analogues continued  
24 through the 19th century and became some of the most popular Arms. See, e.g., *Newly Invented*  
25 *Muskets*, N.Y. EVENING POST (Apr. 10, 1822), in 59 Alexander Tilloch, THE PHILOSOPHICAL  
26 MAGAZINE AND JOURNAL 467–68 (1822) (In 1821, the *New York Evening Post* lauded Isaiah Jennings  
27 for inventing a repeater, “importan[t], both for public and private use,” whose “number of charges  
may be extended to fifteen or even twenty . . . and may be fired in the space of two seconds to a  
charge.”); R.L. Wilson, WINCHESTER: AN AMERICAN LEGEND 11–12 (1991) (recounting the testing  
of the popular Henry Rifle at the Washington Navy Yard in 1862 and noting that “one full fifteen-  
shot magazine was fired in only 10.8 seconds”).

1 prevalence of repeaters and magazines that allowed operators to fire more than ten rounds without  
2 reloading and to quickly reload their arms, there are no Founding Era prohibitions on magazine  
3 capacity.

4 Moreover, should this Court look to the period surrounding the ratification of the Fourteenth  
5 Amendment, it will come to the same result.<sup>27</sup> By the Fourteenth Amendment’s ratification in 1868,  
6 Americans had seen 24-barreled pistols,<sup>28</sup> 12-barreled rifles,<sup>29</sup> 21-shot revolvers,<sup>30</sup> 20-round belt-  
7 fed chain pistols,<sup>31</sup> 42-shot Ferris Wheel pistols,<sup>32</sup> and rifles capable of firing 60 shots in 60  
8 seconds.<sup>33</sup> The 16-shot Henry Rifle and 18-shot Winchester Model 1866 were becoming American  
9 legends. And yet, there were also no 19th century prohibitions on firearm or magazine capacity.

10 “The first laws that restricted magazine capacity were enacted during the prohibition era,  
11 nearly a century and a half after the Second Amendment was adopted, and over half a century after  
12 the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment.” David B. Kopel, *The History of Firearm Magazines*  
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14 <sup>27</sup> Importantly, the Founding Era, and not the time surrounding the ratification of the Fourteenth  
15 Amendment, is the key historical guide when engaging in this inquiry. See Mark W. Smith, “*Not all*  
16 *History is Created Equal*”: *In the Post-Bruen World, the Critical Period for Historical Analogues is*  
17 *when the Second Amendment was Ratified in 1791, and not 1868* (Oct. 1, 2022),  
18 [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=4248297](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4248297) (working draft). This is evident for, at  
19 minimum, two reasons. First, in *McDonald v. Chicago*, the Supreme Court held that the Second  
20 Amendment bears the *same meaning* as applied against the federal government as it does against the  
21 states. 561 U.S. 742, 765 (2010). Second, the Supreme Court has always treated ratification of the  
22 Bill of Rights as the key historical period for understanding the scope of those rights—regardless of  
23 whether the Court is applying the Amendments against the federal government or against the states.  
24 See, e.g., *Crawford v. Washington*, 541 U.S. 36, 42–50 (2004); *Virginia v. Moore*, 553 U.S. 164, 168–  
25 69 (2008); *Nevada Comm’n on Gaming Ethics v. Carrigan*, 564 U.S. 117, 122–25 (2011); *Lynch v.*  
26 *Donnelly*, 465 U.S. 668, 674 (1984). Regardless, even if this Court considers the 1868 historical  
27 period in this case, the result is the same.

28 <sup>28</sup> Lewis Winant, *PEPPERBOX FIREARMS* 7 (1952).

29 <sup>29</sup> Norm Flayderman, *FLAYDERMAN’S GUIDE TO ANTIQUE AMERICAN FIREARMS AND THEIR VALUES*  
30 711 (9th ed. 2007) (Bennett and Haviland Rifle).

31 <sup>30</sup> Supica, *TREASURES*, at 48–49; Winant, *PEPPERBOX FIREARMS*, at 67–70 (pin-fire revolvers).

32 <sup>31</sup> Winant, *FIREARMS CURIOSA*, at 204, 206.

33 <sup>32</sup> Winant, *FIREARMS CURIOSA*, at 208.

<sup>33</sup> Sawyer, *2 FIREARMS IN AMERICAN HISTORY*, at 147 (Porter Rifle).

1 *and Magazine Prohibitions*, 88 ALBANY L. REV. 849, 864 (2015) (Lee Decl., Ex. H). Even then,  
2 those laws were quickly repealed. During a seven-year period between 1927–1934, six states enacted  
3 restrictions involving ammunition capacity. *See* 1927 R.I. Pub. Laws 256, §§ 1, 4 (banning sales of  
4 guns that fire more than 12 shots semiautomatically without reloading); 1927 Mich. Pub. Acts ch.  
5 372, § 3 (banning sales of firearms “which can be fired more than sixteen times without reloading”);  
6 1933 Minn. Laws ch. 190 (banning “machine gun[s]” and including in the definition semiautomatics  
7 “which have been changed, altered or modified to increase the magazine capacity from the original  
8 design as manufactured by the manufacturers”); 1933 Ohio Laws 189 (license needed for  
9 semiautomatics with capacity of more than 18 rounds); 1933 Cal. Laws, ch. 450 (licensing system  
10 for machine guns, defined to include semiautomatics with detachable magazines of more than 10  
11 rounds); 1934 Va. Acts ch. 96 s137, §§ 1(a), 4(d) (defining machine guns as anything able to fire  
12 more than 16 times without reloading, and prohibiting possession for an “offensive or aggressive  
13 purpose”; presumption of such purpose when possessed outside one’s residence or place of business,  
14 or possessed by an alien; registration required for “machine gun” pistols of calibers larger than .30  
15 or 7.62mm).

16 All these statutes were repealed, with all but one being fully repealed by 1975. *See* 1959 Mich.  
17 Pub. Acts 249, 250 (sales ban applies to only actual machine guns); 1959 R.I. Acts & Resolves 260,  
18 263 (exempting .22 caliber and raising limit for other calibers to 14); 1975 R.I. Pub. Laws 738, 738–  
19 39, 742 (sales ban applies only to actual machine guns); 1963 Minn. Sess. L. ch. 753, at 1229  
20 (following federal law by defining “machine gun” as automatics only); 1965 Stats. of Calif., ch. 33,  
21 at 913 (defining a “machine gun” as firing more than one shot “by a single function of the trigger”);  
22 1972 Ohio Laws 1866 (exempting .22 caliber; for other calibers, license required for more rounds);  
23 H.R. 234, 2013-2014 Leg., 130th Sess. § 2 (Ohio 2014) (full repeal); 1975 Va. Acts, ch. 14, at 67  
24 (defining “machine gun” as automatics only).

25 Importantly, even though these statutes would themselves have been constitutionally suspect  
26 under a *Bruen* analysis, no state law actually prohibited possession of standard firearms and their  
27 magazines. California was the only state to limit magazine capacity to 10 rounds, but even then, at  
28

1 that time, it had established a licensing system, not an outright prohibition. Ohio did not require a  
2 license to purchase any firearm or magazine but did require a license for only the simultaneous  
3 purchase of the magazine and the relevant firearm.<sup>34</sup> Rhode Island and Michigan limited sales, but  
4 not possession. Minnesota had no capacity limit and forbade only altering firearms from how they  
5 had been manufactured. Virginia’s law forbade carry of some arms in public places and registered  
6 some handguns.

7 Historically, only the District of Columbia banned outright possession. A 1932 law banned  
8 any firearm that “shoots automatically or semiautomatically more than twelve shots without  
9 reloading.” Pub. L. No. 72-275, §§ 1, 8, 47 Stat. 650, 650, 652. In 1975, the District broadened its  
10 law and prohibited functional firearms in the home, and handguns altogether. When the *Heller* Court  
11 ruled these prohibitions unconstitutional in 2008, the District of Columbia enacted a new ban on  
12 magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds. 2008 District of Columbia Laws 17-372 (Act  
13 17-708). Thus, only the District of Columbia banned possession entirely, and even then, not until  
14 the 20th century.

15 First and foremost, none of these laws can be said to provide a historical antecedent to  
16 California’s current prohibition. Defendants cannot point to a single Founding Era law that limited  
17 magazine capacity or banned the sale of magazines or their historical predecessors. And the Supreme  
18 Court specifically disclaimed consideration of 20th century law in conducting the Second  
19 Amendment analysis when it contradicts the earlier Founding Era evidence, as is the case here. *See*  
20 *Bruen*, 142 S.Ct. at 2154 n.28 (“We will not address any of the 20th-century historical evidence  
21 brought to bear by respondents or their *amici*. As with their late-19th-century evidence, the 20th-  
22 century evidence presented by respondents and their *amici* does not provide insight into the meaning  
23 of the Second Amendment when it contradicts earlier evidence.”).

24 Accordingly, under both *Heller* and *Bruen*, the State can point to no appropriate historical  
25 antecedent, and its law thus cannot survive constitutional scrutiny.

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27 <sup>34</sup> *See* Kopel, *History of Firearm Magazines*, 78 ALBANY L. REV. at 865.

1 **C. PLAINTIFFS ARE ENTITLED TO JUDGMENT ON THEIR TAKINGS CLAIM.**

2 Penal Code § 32310(c) and (d), as of July 1, 2017, requires individual Plaintiffs, and a large  
3 class of similarly-affected individuals who lawfully own pre-ban magazines, to dispose of, destroy,  
4 or “surrender” their constitutionally-protected personal property, thereby resulting in a taking of  
5 such property for which no compensation has been or would be provided, in violation of both the  
6 Takings and Due Process Clauses of the United States Constitution and the California Constitution.

7 The Takings Clause of the United States Constitution guarantees property owners “just  
8 compensation” when their property is “taken for public use.” U.S. Const., 5th Amend. The Due  
9 Process Clause likewise guarantees property owners due process of law when the State “deprive[s]  
10 [them] of ... property.” U.S. Const., 14th Amend., § 1. And the California Constitution also provides  
11 that “Private property may be taken *or damaged* for a public use and only when just compensation,  
12 ascertained by a jury unless waived, has first been paid to, or into court for, the owner.” Cal. Const.,  
13 Art. I, § 19 (emphasis added).

14 As in this case, a plaintiff suffering an unconstitutional taking without compensation may seek  
15 declaratory and injunctive relief as a remedy. *See e.g., Lingle v. Chevron U.S.A. Inc.*, 544 U.S. 528,  
16 528 (2005) (plaintiffs brought suit seeking a declaration that a rent cap effected an unconstitutional  
17 taking of their property, and sought injunctive relief against application of the cap); *San Remo Hotel*  
18 *L.P. v. City and County of San Francisco*, 27 Cal.4th 643, 649 (2002) (plaintiffs challenged  
19 ordinance under California constitution by petition for writ of mandate); *Jefferson Street Industries,*  
20 *LLC v. City of Indio*, 236 Cal.App.4th 1175, 1195 (2015) (a facial challenge to an ordinance alleged  
21 to effect a regulatory taking may be brought through an action for declaratory relief).

22 Injunctive relief is available to enjoin enforcement of a statute violating the Takings Clause.  
23 *See Babbitt v. Youpee*, 519 U.S. 234 (1997) (affirming lower courts’ grant of injunctive and  
24 declaratory relief, where statute violated the Takings Clause); *Golden Gate Hotel Assn. v. City &*  
25 *County of San Francisco*, 836 F.Supp. 707, 709 (N.D. Cal. 1993) (granting injunction enjoining city  
26 from enforcing city hotel conversion ordinance constituting a taking) (reversed on other grounds, 18  
27 F.3d 1482 (9th Cir. 1994)). A court also has jurisdiction to enjoin the taking of private property  
28

1 before the amount of compensation has been determined. *Felton Water Co. v. Superior Court*, 82  
2 Cal.App. 382, 388 (1927).

3 Individual plaintiffs, all of whom are law-abiding owners of pre-ban (grandfathered)  
4 magazines, are suing for themselves and on behalf of those in a class who are similarly situated, in  
5 a representative capacity pursuant to state law. *See e.g., Residents of Beverly Glen, Inc. v. City of*  
6 *Los Angeles*, 34 Cal.App.3d 117 (1973) (plaintiffs had standing to bring takings-type challenge to  
7 ordinance, in a representative capacity under state law).

8 **1. The Retroactive Magazine Possession Ban Constitutes a *Per Se* Taking.**

9 A “classic taking” is well understood to be one in which “the government directly appropriates  
10 private property for its own use.” *Tahoe-Sierra Preservation Council, Inc. v. Tahoe Regional*  
11 *Planning Agency*, 535 U.S. 302, 324 (2002). And likewise, a “paradigmatic taking” has also been  
12 equally well understood to be “a direct government appropriation or physical invasion of private  
13 property.” *Lingle*, 544 U.S. at 537. Such takings—where the government directly appropriates the  
14 property itself—are *per se* takings for which just compensation must be provided, without regard to  
15 factors regarding the economic impact of the regulation or the nature or character of the government  
16 action. *Loretto v. Teleprompter Manhattan CATV Corp.*, 458 U.S. 419, 426 (1982).

17 The law has further developed to recognize another type of *per se* taking, one in which  
18 government regulation of private property may be so onerous that its effect is tantamount to a direct  
19 appropriation or ouster. These regulations are also compensable takings under the Fifth Amendment,  
20 and occur when such regulations “completely deprive an owner of ‘all economically beneficial  
21 us[e]’ of her property.” *Lingle*, 544 U.S. at 538 (citing *Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council*,  
22 505 U.S. 1003, 1019 (1992) (*Lucas*)).

23 Where there has been a *per se* taking, under either theory, compensation must be paid to the  
24 property owner, irrespective of the perceived public good. *See, e.g., Loretto*, 458 U.S. at 426; *Kaiser*  
25 *Aetna v. United States*, 444 U.S. 164, 174 (1979) (“[T]here is no question but that Congress could  
26 assure the public a free right of access [...] if it so chose. Whether a statute or regulation that went  
27 so far amounted to a ‘taking,’ however, is an entirely separate question.”); *Nat’l Wildlife Fed’n v.*  
28



1 I.C.C., 850 F.2d 694, 706 (D.C. Cir. 1988) (“government action that causes a permanent physical  
2 occupation of real property amounts to a taking ‘without regard to whether the action achieves an  
3 important public benefit or has only minimal economic impact on the owner’”).

4 Here, Penal Code § 32310(c) and (d) as amended constitute both a direct physical  
5 appropriation of Plaintiffs’ personal property and a scheme so onerous that it deprives Plaintiffs of  
6 all economically beneficial use of their property. It therefore amounts to a *per se* taking, for which  
7 compensation must be provided.

8 **a. Section 32310(d) is a Taking because It compels the physical**  
9 **appropriation of property.**

10 There can be no question that the statute itself provides for the direct physical appropriation  
11 of tangible property by the government through forced physical surrender. The question is whether  
12 that is the only practical, viable (and intended) result. Penal Code § 32310(d) as enacted, states:

13 Any person who may not lawfully possess a large-capacity magazine commencing  
14 July 1, 2017 shall, prior to July 1, 2017:

- 15 (1) Remove the large-capacity magazine from the state;  
16 (2) Sell the large-capacity magazine to a licensed firearms dealer; or  
17 (3) Surrender the large-capacity magazine to a law enforcement agency for  
18 destruction.

19 Of these three purported “options,” the third option (“surrender”), we contend, is the true  
20 option which the State intends to compel, and to which its statutory scheme would effectively  
21 relegate most owners of pre-ban magazines who wish to comply with the law. It is the only viable  
22 option for the vast majority of California pre-ban magazine holders to remain in compliance with  
23 the law.

24 To illustrate, the first purported “option” under subdivision (d), which is to “remove the large-  
25 capacity magazine from the state,” is simply not viable for the vast majority of the class, i.e., lawful  
26 pre-ban magazine holders. In the first place, the State has taken great pains to prevent or prohibit the  
27 sale of such items to others within the confines of this State. Subdivision (a) of section 32310  
28 specifically states: “[A]ny person in this state who [...] offers or exposes for sale, [...] any large-  
capacity magazine is punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year or

1 imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170.” (Emphasis added.) Therefore,  
2 conscientious California pre-ban large capacity magazine holders who wish to dispose of their  
3 property using the first “option” apparently may not go on the Internet, offer it for sale, or even call  
4 a prospective purchaser in another state to arrange for the sale. They must, by statute, physically  
5 drive to a border state before they may even begin to offer or expose it for sale, or even begin to look  
6 for a willing buyer or receiver. This is simply, economically and practically, untenable. Indeed, the  
7 notion that an actual market exists for 23+ year-old firearms parts is, in itself, highly doubtful.

8 It is apparent that the Legislature and drafters of Proposition 63 simply and callously assumed  
9 (or were simply indifferent to the fact) that any lawful pre-ban large-capacity magazine holder  
10 wishing to take the magazine out of state to preserve his or her constitutionally-protected right to  
11 keep and bear arms has a friend, relative, or other recipient willing and able to take or bear the costs  
12 of storing firearms or firearms parts on the holder’s behalf. This is simply unrealistic. Yet, this is the  
13 only option available to the class of pre-ban magazine holders who actually wish to keep their  
14 firearms, intact or otherwise. If such owners wish to keep their firearms intact, they must essentially  
15 lose access to them—a substantial deprivation of their rights and interests in the property that in  
16 itself constitutes a taking. *See Nixon v. United States*, 978 F.2d 1269, 1285 (D.C. Cir. 1992) (“The  
17 retention of some access rights by the former owner of property does not preclude the finding of a  
18 per se taking.”).

19 The second purported “option” under § 32310(d) – to sell to a “licensed firearms dealer” – is  
20 equally illusory and (from a takings perspective) suffers from the same defect as the first option, i.e.,  
21 it simply presupposes that there is an actual market for such items. That is not only a callous  
22 assumption, but it is a false one. There is no guarantee (or reason to assume) that licensed firearms  
23 dealers would even be willing to participate in this state-endorsed confiscation scheme, forcing upon  
24 California gun owners the gross indignity of disassembling and selling away valuable firearms parts  
25 they have lawfully held for years. And moreover, from a purely economic point of view, there is no  
26 reason to assume that licensed firearms dealers would even be willing to buy such items, at cost, or  
27 even at all. Indeed, there are very few people within the State to whom licensed firearms dealers  
28

1 could resell such items, except for the small class of exempt people such as law enforcement officers.  
2 *See* Pen. Code § 32450(c).

3 But in the bigger picture, of course, the government’s mandate of dispossession of personal  
4 property, by forcing its sale to third parties, must itself be considered no less than a taking in the first  
5 place. At one time, during a *bona fide* national emergency/World War, the government routinely did  
6 just this, forcing property owners to relinquish valuable materiel in forcing its sale to third parties  
7 for wartime use. And in such instances, the courts routinely held these commandments to be takings,  
8 whether or not the property was directly appropriated by the government. *See Dore v. United States*,  
9 97 F. Supp. 239, 242 (Ct. Cl. 1951) (“When, as here, the United States exercises its authority to  
10 order delivery and in its sovereign capacity forces the ‘sale’ of property to it for public use there is,  
11 in our opinion, a ‘taking’ and just compensation must be made.”); *Edward P. Stahel & Co. v. United*  
12 *States*, 78 F. Supp. 800, 804 (Ct. Cl. 1948) (“But to say that when the Government forbids an owner  
13 of property to make any other use of it, and requires him to sell it, upon request, to the Government,  
14 or its designee who will use it for a Government purpose, is not a taking of the property for public  
15 use, would be to make the constitutional right contingent upon the form by which the Government  
16 chose to acquire the use of the property.”).

17 And therefore, the State cannot simply defer, deflect, or “outsource” its duty to provide just  
18 compensation under the Takings Clause, by just assuming that a market for such forced sales exists.  
19 “A ‘sale’ implies willing consent to the bargain. A transaction although in the form of a sale, but  
20 under compulsion or duress, is not a sale.” *Dore*, 97 F. Supp. at 242. “‘Just compensation,’” we have  
21 held, means in most cases the fair market value of the property on the date it is appropriated. [...]  
22 ‘Under this standard, the owner is entitled to receive ‘what a willing buyer would pay in cash to a  
23 willing seller’ at the time of the taking.” *Kirby Forest Indus., Inc. v. United States*, 467 U.S. 1, 10  
24 (1984) (citation omitted). A true market for these pre-ban magazines – comprised of voluntary  
25 buyers and sellers – simply does not exist.

26 There being no viable, true market for these pre-ban magazines, (again, which essentially  
27 cannot be offered for sale while within this State), that leaves only one plausible, practical option  
28

1 for a conscientious pre-ban magazine holder to comply with the law: to “surrender” it to a law  
2 enforcement agency for destruction. And let us make no mistake: this is the option which the State  
3 wants, for (a) it is the only viable option as discussed above, and (b) it is hard to imagine that such  
4 large-capacity magazines which the State believes “are disproportionately used in crime, and feature  
5 prominently in some of the most serious crime, including homicides, mass shootings, and killings  
6 of law enforcement officers,” as it has argued elsewhere, are somehow acceptable to export to other  
7 parts of the country. And the destruction option is, for purposes of this discussion, a direct physical  
8 appropriation of previously lawfully-held property, whether the government takes title to it or not.  
9 It is therefore a taking, for which compensation has not even been considered, or would be provided.

10 Therefore, by enactment of this confiscatory statutory scheme, the State has or will have  
11 engaged in a taking. “[T]o constitute a taking under the Fifth Amendment it is not necessary that  
12 property be absolutely ‘taken’ in the narrow sense of that word to come within the protection of this  
13 constitutional provision; it is sufficient if the action by the government involves a direct interference  
14 with or disturbance of property rights. [...] Nor need the government directly appropriate the title,  
15 possession or use of the properties[.]” *Richmond Elks Hall Ass'n v. Richmond Redevelopment*  
16 *Agency*, 561 F.2d 1327, 1330 (9th Cir. 1977) (citations omitted); *Kaiser Aetna*, 444 U.S. at 175  
17 (“[T]his Court has observed that ‘[c]onfiscation may result from a taking of the use of property  
18 without compensation quite as well as from the taking of the title[.]’”) (quoting *Chicago, R. I. & P.*  
19 *R. Co. v. United States*, 284 U.S. 80, 96 (1931)).

20 **b. The Effect of Section 32310(c) and (d) Constitutes a Taking Because the**  
21 **Statutory Scheme Completely Deprives the Owners of All Economically**  
22 **Beneficial Use of Their Property.**

23 Irrespective of whether the statute as amended will substantially result in direct physical  
24 appropriation of the pre-ban magazines, one thing is clear: it is, in any event, compelling  
25 dispossession of this property. And thus, it amounts to a compensable taking because the law will  
26 have completely deprived the owners of all economically beneficial use of their property. *Lucas*,  
27 505 U.S. at 1019; *Lingle*, 544 U.S. at 538. In doing so, the State has deprived plaintiffs and those  
28 similarly situated of “the entire ‘bundle’ of property rights,” i.e., their rights to possess, use, and

1 dispose of these items as they see fit. *Horne v. Department of Agriculture*, 576 U.S. 350, 361 (2015).

2 In *Horne*, the Supreme Court confirmed that the Takings Clause applies to direct  
3 appropriations of personal property, included within its description of a “paradigmatic” taking. That  
4 this was the first time that the Supreme Court squarely addressed the issue of whether personal  
5 property was subject to the Takings Clause is somewhat remarkable because it is self-evident.  
6 However, it has long been established that laws or regulations which essentially destroy the value of  
7 personal property, or require its surrender, may and often do constitute a taking, thereby entitling  
8 the property owner to compensation or other relief.

9 In fact, some 40 years ago, in *Andrus v. Allard*, 44 U.S. 51 (1979) (*Allard*), the Supreme Court  
10 considered the question of whether a law that affected the value of personal property could be  
11 challenged, among other grounds, for the reason that it constituted a taking without compensation –  
12 or more precisely, whether it violated the plaintiffs’ property rights under the Fifth Amendment. The  
13 specific question presented to the court was whether federal conservation statutes designed to  
14 prevent the destruction of certain species of birds violated the Fifth Amendment rights of the  
15 plaintiffs. The conservation statutes in question prohibited generally the sale of protected bird parts,  
16 but not the possession thereof. The plaintiffs were engaged in the trade of Indian artifacts, and in  
17 fact, had been prosecuted and fined for selling such artifacts which contained the feathers of  
18 protected birds. 444 U.S. at 54-55. Ultimately, the court, considering the merits of the claim,  
19 concluded that the conservation statutes did not amount to a taking, the primary reasons for which  
20 had to do with the enduring economic value of the property, and that the laws did not completely  
21 destroy that bundle of property rights to deprive the owners of any use whatsoever. But in this regard,  
22 the Court stated:

23 The regulations challenged here do not compel the surrender of the artifacts, and there  
24 is no physical invasion or restraint upon them. Rather, a significant restriction has been  
25 imposed on one means of disposing of the artifacts. But the denial of one traditional  
26 property right does not always amount to a taking. At least where an owner possesses  
27 a full “bundle” of property rights, the destruction of one “strand” of the bundle is not  
28 a taking, because the aggregate must be viewed in its entirety. [. . .] In this case, it is  
crucial that appellees retain the rights to possess and transport their property, and to  
donate or devise the protected birds.

1 444 U.S. at 65–66 (internal citations omitted).

2 Unlike the regulations in *Allard*, the relevant portions of the LCM Ban, specifically § 32310(c)  
3 and (d) as amended, do indeed compel the surrender of lawfully-held personal property. The  
4 magazine ban as enacted is a complete and retroactive ban on the possession of previously lawfully-  
5 held, and constitutionally-protected, personal property. Unlike the plaintiffs in *Allard*, but like the  
6 plaintiffs in *Horne*, the retroactive ban on the possession of pre-ban magazines in fact causes  
7 Plaintiffs here to “lose the entire ‘bundle’ of property rights in these items. The distinction from  
8 *Allard* that Chief Justice Roberts drew in *Horne* directly applies here: “*Allard* is a very different  
9 case. [...] [T]he owners in that case retained the rights to possess, donate, and devise their property.  
10 In finding no taking, the Court emphasized that the Government did not ‘compel the surrender of  
11 the artifacts, and there [was] no physical invasion or restraint upon them.’ [...] Here of course the  
12 raisin program requires physical surrender of the raisins and transfer of title, and the growers lose  
13 any right to control their disposition.” *Horne*, 576 U.S. at 364 (citing *Allard*, 444 U.S. at 65-66).

14 Again, this statutory scheme is built upon the assumption that all “pre-ban” large-capacity  
15 magazine holders in this State simply have the means and the ability to store their personal property  
16 out of State, or could simply sell the magazines to a licensed firearm dealer – with no supporting  
17 analysis of the likely burdens or costs for such out-of-state storage or the existence of a market for  
18 such forced sales. This reveals the State’s true motive here: to force law-abiding gun owners to  
19 surrender these valuable and integral components of their firearms. In other words, the State’s  
20 ultimate goal is simply confiscation and destruction of Plaintiffs’ lawfully-held personal property.

21 **2. The Retroactive Magazine Possession Ban Constitutes a Burdensome Regulatory**  
22 **Taking.**

23 The same analysis alternatively supports a conclusion that the retroactive ban on the  
24 prohibition of these grandfathered, pre-ban magazines constitutes an unreasonably burdensome  
25 regulatory taking, which also requires compensation. Aside from the direct appropriations of and  
26 interference with property constituting per se takings, discussed above, the Supreme Court has held,  
27 starting with *Pennsylvania Coal Co. v. Mahon*, 260 U.S. 393 (1922), that compensation is also  
28

1 required for a “regulatory taking” – a restriction on the use of property that goes “too far.” 260 U.S.  
2 at 415; *Horne*, 576 U.S. at 360. “And in *Penn Central Transp. Co. v. New York City*, [...], the Court  
3 clarified that the test for how far was ‘too far’ required an ‘ad hoc’ factual inquiry.” *Horne* at 360.  
4 “Primary among those factors [in *Penn Central*] are ‘[t]he economic impact of the regulation on the  
5 claimant and, particularly, the extent to which the regulation has interfered with distinct investment-  
6 backed expectations.’ [...] In addition, the ‘character of the governmental action – for instance  
7 whether it amounts to a physical invasion or instead merely affects property interests through ‘some  
8 public program adjusting the benefits and burdens of economic life to promote the common good’  
9 – may be relevant in discerning whether a taking has occurred.” *Lingle*, 544 U.S. at 539; *Palazzolo*  
10 *v. Rhode Island*, 533 U.S. 606, 617 (2001).

11 In essence, the “principal guidelines” under *Penn Central* are the economic impact on the  
12 regulation and the character of the government action. Each test focuses on the severity of the burden  
13 that the government imposes upon these private property rights. Here, the economic burden on the  
14 Plaintiffs, and upon the class of similarly-situated individuals they represent, is substantial. As  
15 discussed above, to the extent that the forced dispossession of the magazines is not a taking *per se*,  
16 there is no viable market for the “forced sale” of these items. As noted, in some cases, the value of  
17 these “pre-ban,” “grandfathered” magazines is substantial, and some of these magazines are  
18 substantial in value because they are the only type of magazine ever made for that particular firearm  
19 or the manufacturer never made original ten-round or fewer magazines for that firearm. Ironically,  
20 the very thing that makes all these magazines so valuable and essentially irreplaceable is the fact  
21 that their further acquisition and importation into the State is illegal under § 32310(a).

22 And again, even generously assuming that some semblance of a market exists, the law does  
23 not permit the offering for sale of these items while within the confines of this State. Pen. Code §  
24 32310(a). And unlike the plaintiffs in *Fyock*, this is not simply a matter of taking items of personal  
25 property to a neighboring township a few miles away in order to escape the prohibition. The  
26 statewide scale, combined with a restrictive law preventing the interstate or extra-state sale of these  
27 items, makes the burden of compliance far more substantial.

28

1 In sum, whether the retroactive ban on the continued possession of personal property, legally  
2 held for at least 23 years and more, constitutes direct appropriation, completely eliminates its value,  
3 or substantially interferes with Plaintiffs’ property rights rising to the level of a regulatory taking,  
4 compensation must be provided. In this case, the State never even considered that it might need to  
5 provide compensation as a taking, instead presumptively assuming that it could simply dispossess  
6 Plaintiffs of long-held, lawfully-owned, and integral parts of firearms under its “police powers.” In  
7 fact, the basis of the State’s claim to the exercise of such power here is that the targeted magazines  
8 constitute “dangerous weapons” that the State is free to prohibit without any compensation. RJN,  
9 Ex. B, p. 5. Again, these are neither “dangerous” *nor* “unusual,” when they must be “dangerous *and*  
10 unusual” to be constitutionally banned, and the State has made no effort or even any argument in  
11 support of the notion that these arms fall within the narrow purview of such weapons. They clearly  
12 do not, as there widespread common use for lawful purposes demonstrates beyond cavil. The State  
13 was wrong in baselessly pursuing this ban in a claimed exercise of its “police power,” and it should  
14 therefore be prevented from enforcing this retroactive ban, unless and until it provides for such  
15 compensation or amends the law to keep grandfathered magazines legal within this State.

16 **D. PLAINTIFFS ARE ENTITLED TO JUDGMENT ON THEIR EQUAL PROTECTION CLAIM.**

17 Not much else need be said about the equal protection claim, except that the law’s abject  
18 failure under the *Bruen* framework underscores that it indeed “impermissibly interferes with the  
19 exercise of a fundamental right,” subjecting it to strict scrutiny. *Mass. Bd. of Retirement v. Murgia*,  
20 427 U.S. 307, 312 (1976). Defendants haven’t even attempted to claim the law would survive such  
21 scrutiny. They just seek refuge under the “rational basis” standard—the lowest conceivably  
22 applicable form of scrutiny—for their special exemption classifications. The only argument  
23 Defendants have made in support of jettisoning strict scrutiny for rational basis is that the Legislature  
24 and the electorate “could have rationally believed that [LCMs] used solely as props were not at risk  
25 of being used in mass shootings and that such an exception would benefit an important sector of the  
26 California economy.” Dkt. No. 95. But the “mass shootings” rationale is part of the State’s false  
27 narrative, as discussed above, and protecting the *business* interests of the movie industry certainly  
28



1 cannot justify an otherwise entirely impermissible infringement of the fundamental rights of  
2 California’s law-abiding gunowners.

3 The classifications the State has drawn here are so “arbitrary or irrational” as to defeat the law  
4 even under “rational basis” scrutiny. *City of Cleburne, Tex. v. Cleburne Living Center*, 473 U.S. 432,  
5 446 (1985), as there is no demonstrated “relation between the classification adopted and the object  
6 to be attained,” *Romer v. Evans*, 517 U.S. 620, 632 (1996). Therefore, summary judgment for  
7 Plaintiffs must follow here too.

8  
9 **IV. CONCLUSION**

10 For the foregoing reasons, Plaintiffs respectfully submit that summary judgment should be  
11 entered in their favor on their claims. In the alternative, partial summary judgment should be entered  
12 in their favor on each count respectively.

13 Dated: March 31, 2023

**SEILER EPSTEIN LLP**

14  
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George M. Lee

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16  
17  
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