



House of Commons

Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security

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On February 10, 2022, I presented testimony to the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security on the topics of “*gun control, illegal arms trafficking and gun crimes committed by members of street gangs.*”

Based on my experience as a police officer responsible for investigating and preventing gang and gun violence, I presented the following remedies for the Standing Committee’s consideration:

1. Regulating the possession, sale and importation of firearms components used to manufacture privately made firearms (“ghost guns”).

Barrels, slides and trigger assemblies are components commonly used to complete the assembly of 3D Printed and modified receivers into fully functioning firearms.

The receiver is currently the only component that is subject to regulation. To avoid current regulatory processes, receivers can be created using a 3D printer or modified from lawfully purchased “Air soft” guns. In order to mitigate the technological advancements that allow for the manufacture of “ghost guns”, new regulatory requirements are needed for components such as barrels, slides and triggers.

2. Amending the definition of a firearm in Section 2 of the *Criminal Code* to include “*blank castings of frames or receivers not yet capable of holding various firing components.*”

This amendment to the definition of a firearm would reflect the realities of privately made firearms (“ghost guns”).

3. A requirement that businesses, dealers and individuals selling non-restricted firearms keep point-of-sale records. These records could be made available to law enforcement pursuant to judicial authorization and would be subject

to regulations governed by the Canadian Firearms Program. This information would allow law enforcement to more accurately trace non-restricted firearms used to commit crimes and more effectively investigate “straw purchasers”.

A “straw-purchaser” is a person who lawfully purchases firearms for people who are unable or unwilling to do so for themselves.

4. Regulating the possession, sale and importation of replica, imitation and “air soft” guns that are neither “firearms” nor “replicas” as currently defined in the *Criminal Code*.

High quality replica, imitation and “air soft” firearms are becoming more commonly used during the commission of criminal offences and are often found in close proximity to real firearms.

The receivers used to make some high quality air soft guns can be modified into fully functioning firearms with the addition of barrels, slides and trigger assemblies.

