



THE GUN CONTROL GLOSSARY

Understanding the debate over gun control and the 2nd Amendment requires a sufficient understanding of gun terminology. Gun control advocates have long exploited public misunderstanding by distorting such terms to push their agenda.

For example, Josh Sugarmann, founder of the gun control advocacy group Violence Policy Center, argued in his 1988 analysis that handgun restriction advocates should politicize a new term called “assault weapons” to strengthen their agenda. He stated that it would be politically advantageous to adopt the term “assault weapons,” as their “menacing looks, coupled with the public’s confusion over fully automatic machine guns versus semi-automatic assault weapons—anything that looks like a machine gun is assumed to be a machine gun—can only increase the chance of public support for restrictions on these weapons...Efforts to restrict assault weapons are more likely to succeed than those to restrict handguns.”¹

As discussed below, Mr. Sugarmann’s analysis was widely adopted by the media and the public. Such widespread abuse of terminology distorts today’s discourse favorably toward gun control advocates’ agendas, rather than factually assessing the functionality of firearms. Consequentially, proposals to ban or penalize firearms and their accessories are often based on what they look like, rather than what they do. The following glossary provides a guide to appropriately define and distinguish such terms.

GLOSSARY OF COMMON GUN CONTROL TERMS

- **ACTIVE SHOOTER:** The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) defines “active shooter” as “an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a populated area.”² The FBI reports 38 people died in an active shooter incident in 2020, excluding the shooters.³
- **AR-15:** Contrary to popular belief, AR-15s are NOT assault rifles or “weapons of war.”⁴ AR-15s are named after its original manufacturer, the ArmaLite, Inc., rifle model 15.⁵ AR-15s are civilian semi-automatic rifles that require a separate trigger pull to fire each round. AR-15s are the most popular recreational firearm in America and are particularly adept at targeting small varmints.⁶ They are also commonly used across the federal government.⁷ An estimated 16 million Americans own an AR-15.⁸ The Assault Weapons Ban Act of 1996 outlawed new sale and production of AR-15s, which proved ineffective as manufacturers easily modified the design as a loophole before the law expired in 2004.⁹

AR-15s are often referred to as “military-style” weapons. This refers to the cosmetic features of the firearm but does not refer to function or capacity. This confusion over the cosmetic appearance often results in inaccurate descriptions of AR-15s as a military weapon. However, the U.S. military does not use AR-15 civilian semi-automatic rifles. Instead, the military utilizes M4 rifles –which are shortened versions of the M16, the AR-15’s military-grade counterpart – and are fully automatic weapons.

In certain states, it is illegal to use the standard cartridge the AR-15 fires to hunt deer and large game because

the .223 caliber round is deemed “underpowered.”¹⁰ [See RPC guide entitled “Dishonest Democrat Gun Grabs” for more information].¹¹

- **“ASSAULT WEAPONS”:** “Assault weapons” are generally considered to be a select fire weapon¹² in an intermediate cartridge.¹³ The Assault Weapons Ban Act of 1996 created a broad political definition of the term “assault weapon.”¹⁴

The *Washington Post* reports –

The term “assault weapon” became widely used starting the late 1980s. Many attribute its popularization to a 1988 paper written by gun-control activist and Violence Policy Center founder Josh Sugarmann and the later reaction to a mass shooting at a Stockton, Calif., school in January 1989. Sugarmann, who happens to be a native of Newtown, argued that the American public’s inability to differentiate between automatic and semiautomatic weapons made it easier to get anti-gun legislation passed...Gun rights advocates agree that the term “assault weapons” has furthered the idea that semiautomatic weapons are the same as fully automatic assault rifles, which they contend are much more dangerous.¹⁵

The branding tactic proved effective, influencing lawmakers and the public. According to the *Washington Post*, a “Nexis search shows that the term ‘assault weapon’ was used by the media just 140 times in the two years before the mass shooting in Stockton. In the two years following the shooting, as Congress began debating what gun control advocates labeled an ‘assault weapons ban,’ the term was used nearly 2,600 times by the media...Today [in 2013], the term is used widely by the news media, some of whom have style guidelines dictating neutral terminology on contentious issues.”¹⁶

Following the Assault Weapons Ban Act’s expiration in 2004, a National Institute of Justice report concluded there was no indication banning so-called “assault weapons” reduced shooting-related deaths over the decade the law was in effect. Prior to the ban, such firearms were only used in about two percent of gun-related crimes.¹⁷ [See RPC guide entitled “Dishonest Democrat Gun Grabs” for more information].¹⁸

- **AUTOMATIC WEAPONS:** Fully automatic weapons are “firearm[s] that loads another round mechanically after the first round has been fired.” Fully automatic weapons have been strictly regulated under federal law since the passage of the National Firearms Act of 1934.¹⁹ Congress has banned production of fully automatic weapons for the civilian market since 1986. Pre-existing fully automatic weapons are highly taxed and regulated. Examples of fully automatic weapons include the M16, used in military operations, and machine guns.

Semi-automatic rifles require a separate trigger pull to fire each round. The AR-15 is a semi-automatic rifle.

- **BUMP STOCK:** Bump stocks are firearm accessories and devices that “harness recoil energy to facilitate the continuous operation of a semiautomatic firearm [to which it is affixed] after a single pull of the trigger.”²⁰ The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) issued a rule banning bump stocks in 2019 after reclassifying the devices as machine guns. There is pending litigation in front of the Supreme Court challenging the ban.²¹
- **CALIBER:** A measurement of the diameter of the inside of the barrel of a firearm, usually listed in inches or millimeters. For example, a .30 Caliber rifle is a rifle with a barrel with an interior diameter of 0.30 inches, and a 9 mm handgun is a handgun with a barrel with an interior diameter of 9 mm.
- **CARTRIDGE:** A self-contained unit of ammunition, wherein gunpowder, a bullet (or other projectile), and primer are all held in place by a casing. An intermediate cartridge is a cartridge with a diameter between 6 to

8 mm. Generally, the power of a firearm is determined by the cartridge, not the gun itself.

- **FIREARM:** Federal law defines a “firearm” as “(A) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (B) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (C) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (D) any destructive device.”²² Such term does not include an antique firearm.”²³

There are an estimated 393 million civilian firearms in the U.S.²⁴ Gun control advocates often link gun ownership—and the number of firearms in the U.S.—to the rate of firearm-related homicides. However, as a 2016 *New York Times* editorial acknowledges, “The number of guns in America has increased by more than 50 percent since 1993, and in that same period the gun homicide rate in the United States has dropped by half.”²⁵

- **“GHOST GUNS”:** “Ghost guns” broadly refer to privately made firearms. Under federal law, licensed manufacturers of firearms for sale or resale are required to identify each manufactured firearm with a serial number, “which facilitates ATF’s ability to trace them if lost or used in crime.”²⁶ Moreover, “ghost guns,” which are not made for resale, but for private use, are and have always been legal to manufacture and possess at a federal level throughout U.S. history. It is a federal crime to make “ghost guns” or private, unlicensed firearms for resale.²⁷ [See also RPC guide entitled “Biden’s Gun Control Orders”].²⁸

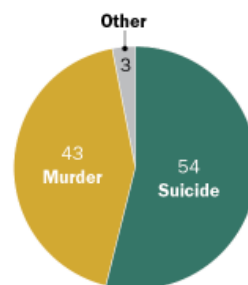
- **GUN-RELATED DEATHS:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported 39,707 cases of gun-related deaths in the U.S. in 2019.²⁹ Of that number, less than 1%—ranging as low as an estimated 0.2%, by some analyses³⁰—were caused by mass shootings in 2019. 60% of gun-related deaths are suicides, about 30% are domestic and gang violence episodes that do not meet the FBI’s definition of an “active shooter,” and 1% were unintentional shootings. [See also RPC guide entitled “Dishonest Democrat Gun Grabs”].³¹

The CDC reports individual cases of U.S. gun-related deaths rose to a record 45,222 cases in 2020,³² likely due in part to the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Pew Research Center, the rate of gun-related deaths in 2020 (13.7 deaths per 100,000 people) remains below the peak rate in 1974 (16.3 deaths per 100,000 people), despite the record individual number of gun-related deaths occurring in 2020.³³

The Pew Research Center chart, which analyzes CDC data, shows that about 54% of all U.S. gun-related deaths were suicides (24,292 deaths) and 43% percent were murders (19,384) in 2020. The remaining 3% of gun-related deaths involved law enforcement (611), were unintentional (535), or had undetermined circumstances (400).³⁴

Suicides accounted for more than half of U.S. gun deaths in 2020

% of U.S. gun deaths, by type



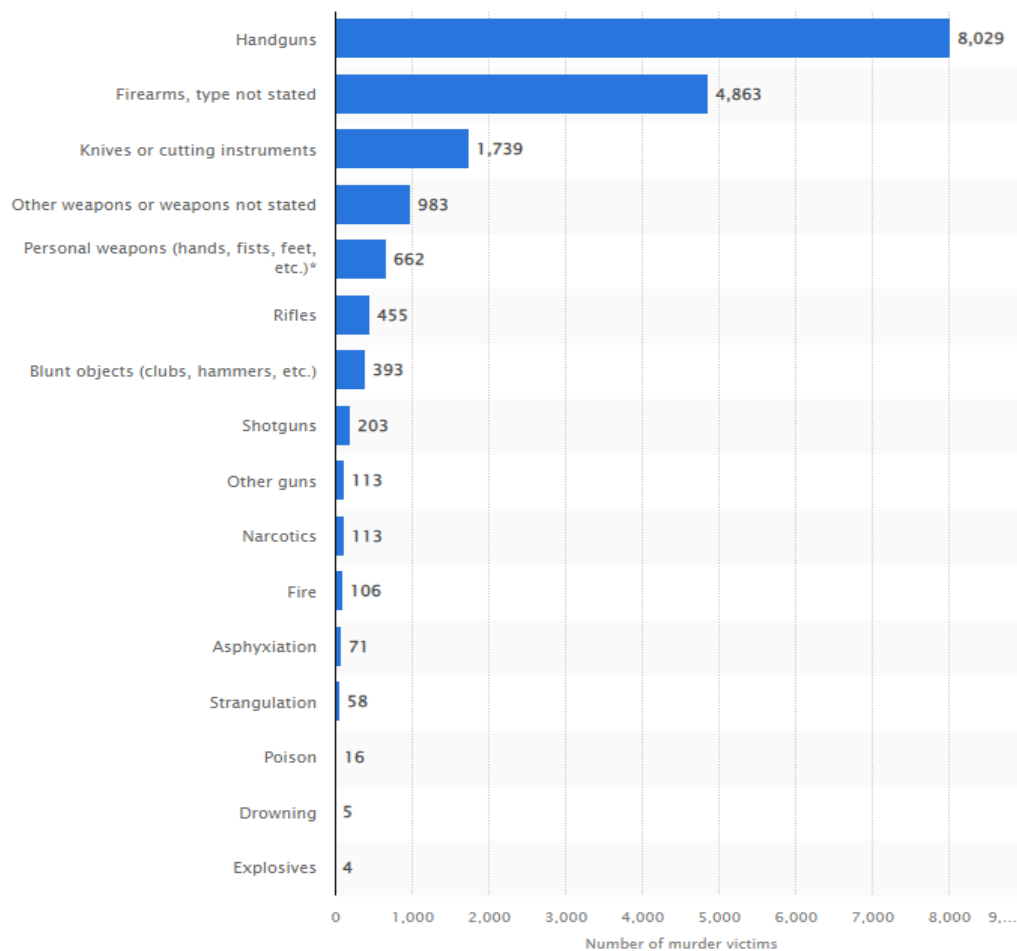
Note: “Other” includes gun deaths that were unintentional, involved law enforcement or had undetermined circumstances.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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- **GUN-RELATED HOMICIDES:** The FBI references voluntarily disclosed data from Statista on gun-related homicides by murder weapon in the U.S., as shown in the chart below.³⁵ The data found that handguns (8,029 deaths) were the most common weapon used in homicides in 2020, the year with the most recently available data. By contrast, rifles (455 deaths), shotguns (203 deaths), and other guns (113 deaths) accounted for a relatively small percentage of firearm-related homicides in 2020.

The CDC reports 19,384 people died from a firearm-related homicide in 2020.³⁶ A Pew Research Center analysis of CDC data found this total accounted for 43% of all gun-related deaths in the U.S. that year.³⁷



Statista, *Number of Murder Victims in the U.S. in 2020, by weapon used*³⁸

- **“GUN SHOW LOOPHOLE:”** The so-called “gun show loophole” refers to a firearm sale by private sellers at a gun show which does not require a background check.³⁹ Gun control advocates claim that anyone can go to a gun show and buy a gun without a background check.⁴⁰ Despite the politicized term, a “gun show loophole” does not exist. There are no exemptions to firearm dealers’ requirement to run a background check, including at a gun show.⁴¹ Any person “engaged in the business”⁴² of selling firearms – meaning they sell firearms as a livelihood or devote time, attention, and labor to dealing in firearms⁴³ – must run a background check through the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) any time they sell a firearm to an individual regardless of the location of the sale. The only exemption for running a background check is if the sale is between two private, same-state individuals whose state does not require universal background checks.⁴⁴
- **HANDGUNS:** Handguns are defined as “a firearm which has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand; and any combination of parts from which a firearm...can be assembled.”⁴⁵ Handguns are the most common weapon used in gun-related homicides, resulting in 8,029 deaths in 2020, according to Statista.⁴⁶ Vice President Harris reportedly owns a handgun for personal defense.⁴⁷
- **LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES (LCM):** Magazines determine how many rounds of ammunition a gun can fire. LCMs are magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition. A so-called “high-capacity” magazine – which generally refers to a magazine with 10 or more rounds – is a term of art and is often intended to refer to LCMs in a negative context. Most firearms users and industry stakeholders refer to magazines capable of holding up to 30 rounds as “standard capacity magazines.”⁴⁸ [See RPC guide entitled “Dishonest Democrat Gun Grabs” for more information on the ineffectiveness of banning such magazines].⁴⁹

- **MACHINE GUNS:** The National Firearms Act defines machine guns as “Any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger,” including the frame or receiver of any such weapon, or “[a]ny combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.”⁵⁰ Machine guns are fully automatic weapons that fire an intermediate or large cartridge.
- **MASS SHOOTINGS:** There are multiple definitions of mass shootings. The most widely accepted definition of a mass shooting is “a single incident in which four or more people are shot or killed,” typically at a single location.⁵¹ According to UC Davis, mass shootings accounted for 0.2% of all total firearm-related deaths in 2019.⁵² Furthermore, a 2019 Rockefeller Institute report found mass shootings accounted for 0.1% of total firearm-related deaths from 2000-2014.⁵³ Gun control advocates mislead the public when they take advantage of the tragedy of a mass shooting to call for eliminating 2nd Amendment rights.
- **READILY-CONVERTIBLE STANDARD:** The ATF can apply the readily-convertible standard to designate certain semi-automatic weapons that can be easily converted to machine guns. Applying such a standard is rare and generally limited to “open bolt” semi-automatic weapons, of which there are very few. For example, the ATF has never applied this standard to an AR-15, recognizing that it would require sophisticated machining and the installation of non-standard parts⁵⁴ to convert it to a fully automatic firearm.
- **RED FLAG LAWS:** Red flag laws, also known Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPO) or Gun Violence Restraining Orders, are state laws that allow certain persons to petition a court to ex parte order the removal of firearms from an individual alleged to pose a risk to himself or others.⁵⁵ 19 states and D.C. have some form of red flag law.⁵⁶ Red flag laws vary across the states, but generally grant petition eligibility to law enforcement and family or household members.⁵⁷

A 2020 RAND Corporation report found the effects of state red flag laws inconclusive to the outcomes of shootings. In fact, the report “found no qualifying studies” showing that state red flag laws decreased mass shootings, violent crime, officer-involved shootings, and other outcomes, based on their criteria.⁵⁸ [See RPC guide entitled “Biden’s Gun Control Orders” for more information].⁵⁹

- **RIFLES:** Rifles are defined under federal law as “a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed cartridge to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger, and shall include any such weapon which may be readily restored to fire a fixed cartridge.”⁶⁰

Assault rifles are rifles which shoot an intermediate cartridge and can fire either single or multiple rounds from a single trigger pull. See “Automatic Weapons” definition above.

Conversely, semi-automatic rifles load and fire one round per trigger pull. The Heritage Foundation notes, semi-automatic rifles “are, by far, the type of firearm least likely to be used to perpetuate criminal violence, and account for only about 3% of gun-related homicides every year.”⁶¹ Semi-automatic rifles are defined as “any repeating rifle which utilizes a portion of the energy of a firing cartridge to extract the fired cartridge case and chamber the next round, and which requires a separate pull of the trigger to fire each cartridge.”⁶² AR-15’s are considered to be America’s Rifle, as the most popular civilian semi-automatic rifle.

- **SHOTGUNS:** Shotguns are defined under federal law as “a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed shotgun shell to fire through a smooth bore either a number of projectiles (ball shot) or a single projectile for each pull of the trigger, and shall include any such weapon which may be readily restored to fire a fixed shotgun shell.”⁶³

Shotguns are distinguished from rifles by their barrel design, type of intended target, and type of ammunition.⁶⁴ Shotguns accounted for 203 deaths by gun-related homicide in the U.S. in 2020.⁶⁵

- **SILENCERS:** Federal law defines a silencer or muzzle as “any device for silencing, muffling, or diminishing the report of a portable firearm, including any combination of parts, designed or redesigned, and intended for the use in assembling or fabricating a firearm silencer or firearm muffler, any part intended only for use in such assembly or fabrication.”⁶⁶ Silencers are also referred to by some as “suppressors.”
- **STAND YOUR GROUND:** The “castle doctrine” principle states that individuals have the right to use reasonable and deadly force to protect themselves against an intruder in their home. State Stand Your Ground laws generally expand the castle doctrine principle to protect self-defense and cover from duty to retreat for individuals facing an intruder in their home.⁶⁷ Kenneth Walker, boyfriend of the late Breonna Taylor, sought legal immunity under Kentucky’s stand your ground laws before charges against him were dropped in March 2021.⁶⁸
- **STRAW PURCHASES:** ATF defines straw purchases as “the illegal purchase of a firearm by one person for another.”⁶⁹ Using a straw purchaser to obtain a firearm is illegal.

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¹ Violence Policy Center, *Assault Weapons and Accessories in America*, 1986, available at <https://www.vpc.org/studies/awaconc.htm>

² Active Shooter Resources — FBI at <https://www.fbi.gov/about/partnerships/office-of-partner-engagement/active-shooter-resources>

³ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Active Shooter Incidents in the United States in 2020*, available at <https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/active-shooter-incidents-in-the-us-2020-070121.pdf/view>

⁴ Following the Sandy Hook shooting, for example, President Obama falsely referred to the AR-15 as a “fully automatic weapon.” President Biden has also compared owning an AR-15 to falsely shouting fire in a crowded theater.

⁵ Bethania Palma, Snopes, “Does ‘AR’ in AR-15 Stand for ‘Assault Rifle’?” Sept. 2019, available at <https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/meaning-of-ar-in-ar-15-firearm/>

⁶ AR-15’s have been on the civilian market since 1964. Jon Schuppe, NBC News, “America’s rifle: Why So many people love the AR-15,” Dec. 2017, at <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/america-s-rifle-why-so-many-people-love-ar-15-n831171>

⁷ Hearing before the U.S. House Cmte on Oversight & Government Reform, 114th Congress, “Firearms and Munitions At Risk: Examining Inadequate Safeguards,” July 2016, at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-114hhrg22194/html/CHRG-114hhrg22194.htm>

⁸ Calculating U.S. firearms is highly difficult due to lack of data and recordkeeping. The Small Arms Survey estimates there are about 393 million civilian firearms in the U.S. Of that total, gun industry estimates for AR-15s, AK-47s, and other similar semi-automatic rifles, range from about 8 million to 16 million in the U.S. Aaron Karp, *Estimating Global Civilian-Held Firearms Numbers*, Small Arms Survey, <https://www.smallarmssurvey.org/sites/default/files/resources/SAS-BP-Civilian-Firearms-Numbers.pdf>. See also *Modern Sporting Rifle: Introduction* • NSSF at <https://www.nssf.org/msr/> and *Modern Sporting Rifle: America’s Rifle* • NSSF at <https://www.nssf.org/msr-americasrifle/>.

⁹ Washington Post, “4 basic questions about the AR-15,” Feb. 2018, at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/checkpoint/wp/2018/02/15/4-basic-questions-about-the-ar-15/>

¹⁰ Virginia, Illinois and Colorado are examples of such states. <https://www.uslawshield.com/virginia-deer-hunting-season/> and <https://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/RulesRegs/Brochure/BigGame/biggame.pdf#page=24>

¹¹ U.S. House Republican Policy Committee, Policy Guides, *Dishonest Democrat Gun Grabs*, at <https://republicanpolicy.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicanpolicy.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/Dem%20Dishonest%20Gun%20Grabs.pdf>

¹² A select fire weapon can switch between one shot-per-trigger press and multiple shots-per-trigger press.

¹³ Pub. L. No. 73–474 (1934).

¹⁴ Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act (commonly referred to as the “Assault Weapons Ban Act”), enacted as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, Pub. L. No. 103-322 (1994).

¹⁵ Aaron Blake, Washington Post, “Is it fair to call them ‘assault weapons’?” Jan. 17, 2013, at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2013/01/17/is-it-fair-to-call-them-assault-weapons/>

¹⁶ *Id.*

¹⁷ Christopher S. Koper, Jerry Lee Center of Criminology, University of Pennsylvania, Report to the Nat’l Institute of Justice, U.S., Dep’t of Justice, *An Updated Assessment of the Federal Assault Weapons Ban: Impacts on Gun Markets and Gun Violence, 1994-2003*, June 2004, at https://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/b/5/b531daeb-a954-41f8-a21c-268ccec4c4/55A639CA20094C1538C8B7FE50B3A94A.penn-study-koper.pdf

¹⁸ U.S. House Republican Policy Committee, Policy Guides, *Dishonest Democrat Gun Grabs*, at <https://republicanpolicy.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicanpolicy.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/Dem%20Dishonest%20Gun%20Grabs.pdf>

¹⁹ Pub. L. No. 73–474 (1934).

²⁰ Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives [hereinafter ATF], Rules and Regulations, “Bump Stocks,” available at <https://www.atf.gov/rules-and-regulations/bump-stocks>

²¹ Gun Owners of America v. Garland, *petition for writ of certiorari* (U.S.), March 3, 2022. https://www.gunowners.org/wp-content/uploads/GOA_v_Garland_Petition_for_Certiorari_and_appendix.pdf

²² Destructive devices mean any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, including bombs, grenades, rockets, and mines, certain missiles, and other similar devices. The term “firearm” shall not include an antique firearm or any device (other than a machinegun or destructive device) which, although designed as a weapon, the Secretary finds by reason of the date of its manufacture, value, design, and other characteristics is primarily a collector’s item and is not likely to be used as a weapon.” 26 U.S.C. § 5845

²³ Gun Control Act of 1934, 18 USC 921(a)(3).

²⁴ Aaron Karp, Estimating Global Civilian-Held Firearms Numbers, Small Arms Survey, <https://www.smallarmssurvey.org/sites/default/files/resources/SAS-BP-Civilian-Firearms-Numbers.pdf>.

²⁵ Nicholas Kristof, New York Times “Some inconvenient gun facts for liberals,” Jan. 16, 2016, at <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/17/opinion/sunday/some-inconvenient-gun-facts-for-liberals.html>

²⁶ Michael A. Foster, Cong. Research Service [hereinafter CRS] “Ghost Guns, Stabilizing Braces, and Red Flag Laws: Overview of Recent Executive Actions on Firearms,” Apr. 2021, at <https://www.crs.gov/Reports/LSB10592?source=search&guid=87efb43c43234d21b46e3fed203db51d&index=1>

²⁷ U.S. Dep’t of Justice, U.S. Attorneys, Northern District of Texas, Press Release, “Man Who Sold Midland/Odessa Shooter AR-15 Used in Massacre Sentenced for Unlicensed Firearms Dealing,” Jan. 7, 2021, at <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/pr/man-who-sold-midlandodessa-shooter-ar-15-used-massacre-sentenced-unlicensed-firearms>

²⁸ U.S. House Republican Policy Committee, Policy Guides, *Biden’s Gun Control Orders*, at <https://republicanpolicy.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicanpolicy.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/Dem%20Dishonest%20Gun%20Grabs.pdf>

²⁹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [hereinafter CDC], Underlying Cause of Death, 1999-2019 Results Form ([cdc.gov](https://wonder.cdc.gov/controller/datarequest/D76.jsessionid=8F98017F5D70CEE4DD04C1B2BAD2)) at <https://wonder.cdc.gov/controller/datarequest/D76.jsessionid=8F98017F5D70CEE4DD04C1B2BAD2> and CDC, National Center for Health Statistics, FastStats - Injuries ([cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/faststats/injury.htm)), at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/faststats/injury.htm>

³⁰ Univ. of California at Davis Health [hereinafter UC Davis], Facts and Figures, at <https://health.ucdavis.edu/what-you-can-do/facts.html>. See also Federal Bureau of Investigation [hereinafter FBI], *Active Shooter Incidents in the United States in 2019*, at <https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/active-shooter-incidents-in-the-us-2019-042820.pdf/view>. See also Lacey Wallace, PBS “Mass shootings are rare – firearm suicides are much more common, and kill more Americans,” at <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/mass-shootings-are-rare-firearm-suicides-are-much-more-common-and-kill-more-americans>.

³¹ U.S. House Republican Policy Committee, Policy Guides, *Dishonest Democrat Gun Grabs*, at <https://republicanpolicy.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicanpolicy.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/Dem%20Dishonest%20Gun%20Grabs.pdf>

³² CDC, National Center for Health Statistics, FastStats, All Injuries, at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/faststats/injury.htm>

³³ John Gramlich, Pew Research Center, “What the data says about gun deaths in the U.S., Feb. 3, 2022, available at <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2022/02/03/what-the-data-says-about-gun-deaths-in-the-u-s/>

³⁴ John Gramlich, Pew Research Center, “What the data says about gun deaths in the U.S., Feb. 3, 2022, available at <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2022/02/03/what-the-data-says-about-gun-deaths-in-the-u-s/>

³⁵ Homicides by murder weapon in the U.S. 2020 | Statista, available at <https://www.statista.com/statistics/195325/murder-victims-in-the-us-by-weapon-used/>

³⁶ CDC, National Center for Health Statistics, FastStats, Homicides, at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/faststats/homicide.htm>

³⁷ John Gramlich, Pew Research Center, “What the data says about gun deaths in the U.S., Feb. 3, 2022, available at <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2022/02/03/what-the-data-says-about-gun-deaths-in-the-u-s/>

³⁸ Homicides by murder weapon in the U.S. 2020 | Statista, available at <https://www.statista.com/statistics/195325/murder-victims-in-the-us-by-weapon-used/>

³⁹ Chris Haxel, WAMU 88.5, American University Radio, Guns & America Program, “What the So-Called Gun Show Loophole Really Looks Like,” Jan. 29, 2019, at <https://gunsandamerica.org/story/19/01/29/what-the-so-called-gun-show-loophole-really-looks-like/>

⁴⁰ Glenn Kessler and Salvador Rizzo, Washington Post, “Fact-checking Biden’s Remarks on Guns,” Apr. 9, 2021, at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2021/04/09/fact-checking-bidens-remarks-guns/>

⁴¹ Sean Davis, The Federalist, “7 Gun Control Myths That Just Won’t Die,” Oct. 7, 2015, at <https://thefederalist.com/2015/10/07/7-gun-control-myths-that-just-wont-die/>

⁴² ATF Guidance, *Do I need a License to Buy and Sell Firearms?* Jan. 2, 2016, at <https://www.atf.gov/file/100871/download>

⁴³ <https://www.atf.gov/file/55456/download>

⁴⁴ Sean Davis, The Federalist, “7 Gun Control Myths That Just Won’t Die,” Oct. 7, 2015, at <https://thefederalist.com/2015/10/07/7-gun-control-myths-that-just-wont-die/>

⁴⁵ 18 U.S. Code § 921

⁴⁶ Homicides by murder weapon in the U.S. 2020 | Statista, available at <https://www.statista.com/statistics/195325/murder-victims-in-the-us-by-weapon-used/>

⁴⁷ Kyung Lah, CNN, “Kamala Harris talks about owning a gun: ‘I was a career prosecutor,’” at <https://www.cnn.com/2019/04/11/politics/kamala-harris-gun-owner/index.html> and Peter Funt, USA Today, “Kamala Harris owns a handgun. That’s disqualifying for a 2020 Democrat in my book,” at <https://www.cnn.com/2019/04/11/politics/kamala-harris-gun-owner/index.html>

⁴⁸ Congressional Sportsmen Foundation, ‘Standard Capacity Magazines,’ at <https://congressionalsportsmen.org/policies/state/full-capacity-magazines#:~:text=In%20some%20cases%2C%20such%20as,generally%20to%20ten%20or%20less.>

⁴⁹ U.S. House Republican Policy Committee, Policy Guides, *Dishonest Democrat Gun Grabs*, at <https://republicanpolicy.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicanpolicy.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/Dem%20Dishonest%20Gun%20Grabs.pdf>

⁵⁰ 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b)

⁵¹ Josiah Bates, Time, “What Counts as a Mass Shooting? Why So Much of America's Gun Violence Gets Overlooked,” at <https://time.com/5947893/what-constitutes-a-mass-shooting/>

⁵² UC Davis Health, Facts and Figures, at <https://health.ucdavis.edu/what-you-can-do/facts.html>

⁵³ From 2000 to 2014, mass shootings accounted for only 0.1 percent of total firearm-related deaths, see Michael Siegel and Clair Boine, What are the Most Effective Policies in Reducing Gun Homicides? Rockefeller Institute of Government (March 29, 2019), <https://rockinst.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/3-28-19-Firearm-Laws-Homicide-DeathsBrief.pdf>.

⁵⁴ Such non-standard parts include fully automatic bolt carriers, for example

⁵⁵ Ghost Guns, Stabilizing Braces, and Red Flag Laws: Overview of Recent Executive Actions on Firearms, Cong. Research Service [hereinafter CRS], at <https://www.crs.gov/Reports/LSB10592?source=search&guid=d92b35705aeb41c2871b144e88525544&index=1>

⁵⁶ California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and the District of Columbia. Leah Asmelash, CNN, “Indiana's 'red flag' law should have prevented the FedEx shooting. Here's what else you should know about these laws,” Apr. 21, 2021, at <https://www.cnn.com/2021/04/21/us/red-flag-laws-explainer-trnd/index.html>

⁵⁷ Michael A. Foster, CRS, “Firearm ‘Red Flag’ Laws in the 116th Congress,” IF11205, Aug. 7, 2019, at <https://www.crs.gov/Reports/IF11205?source=search&guid=957c1d9400584771af30c9712be9d50b&index=0>

⁵⁸ RAND Corporation, *The Effects of Extreme Risk Protection Orders* (Apr. 22, 2020), at <https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/analysis/extreme-risk-protection-orders.html>. See also Jon Miltimore, Foundation for Economic Education [hereinafter FEE], “7 Reasons to Oppose Red Flag Guns Laws,” Aug. 10, 2019, at <https://fee.org/articles/7-reasons-to-oppose-red-flag-guns-laws/>. See also Michael Barbaro, New York Times, “How a ‘Red Flag’ Law Failed in Indiana,” Apr. 22, 2021, at <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/22/podcasts/the-daily/fedex-shooting-gun-laws.html>. See also George F. Parker, National Institutes of Health, National Center for Biotechnology Information, National Library of Medicine, *Circumstances and Outcomes of a Firearm Seizure Law: Marion County, Indiana, 2006 – 2013*, Mar. 31, 2015, at <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25827648/>.

⁵⁹ U.S. House Republican Policy Committee, Policy Guides, *Biden’s Gun Control Orders*, at <https://republicanpolicy.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicanpolicy.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/Dem%20Dishonest%20Gun%20Grabs.pdf>

⁶⁰ National Firearms Act, 26 U.S. Code § 5849

⁶¹ Amy Swearer, The Heritage Foundation, *Blowing 4 Factual Holes in the b Agenda*, Mar. 1, 2019, at <https://www.heritage.org/firearms/commentary/blowing-4-factual-holes-the-biden-gun-control-agenda>

⁶² 18 U.S. Code § 921

⁶³ 26 U.S. Code § 5849

⁶⁴ https://www.hunter-ed.com/pennsylvania/studyGuide/Differences-Between-Rifles-Shotguns-and-Handguns/20103901_88439/

⁶⁵ Homicides by murder weapon in the U.S. 2020 | Statista, available at <https://www.statista.com/statistics/195325/murder-victims-in-the-us-by-weapon-used/>

⁶⁶ Gun Control Act, 18 U.S.C., § 921(A)(24).

⁶⁷ National Conference of State Legislatures, “Self Defense and ‘Stand Your Ground,’” at <https://www.ncsl.org/research/civil-and-criminal-justice/self-defense-and-stand-your-ground.aspx>

⁶⁸ Tessa Duvall, Louisville Courier Journal, “Charges dropped for good against Breonna Taylor’s boyfriend for shooting cop the night she died,” Mar. 8, 2021, available at <https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/local/breonna-taylor/2021/03/08/charges-against-breonna-taylors-boyfriend-kenneth-walker-permanently-dismissed/4628473001/>

⁶⁹ ATF, Don't Lie for the Other Guy | Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (atf.gov) at <https://www.atf.gov/firearms/dont-lie-other-guy>