



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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April 8, 2024
Senator Catherine Blakespear
1021 O Street, Suite 7340
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senate Bill 1038
SUPPORT

Dear Senator Blakespear:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Senate Bill 1038 (Blakespear).

SB 1038 would amend existing law to shorten the timeframe in which gun owners must report lost or stolen firearms from 5 days to 48 hours. CA's current reporting requirement is longer than that of 13 other states. This bill also requires the Department of Justice to inspect the 25 firearm dealer locations that are the source of the highest gross number of guns used in crimes in the previous year and requires firearm dealers to annually certify their inventory to the DOJ. SB 1038 further requires, beginning January 1, 2027, firearm dealers to report to DOJ acquisitions of firearms from a wholesaler and acquisitions from parties licensed pursuant to federal law, which are currently exempt from reporting under existing law.

In 2023, the DOJ released their mandated report to the Legislature reviewing crime gun data between 2010 and 2022. The report revealed that during that period, law enforcement in every county recovered crime guns. Roughly 545,946 crime guns with identifiable serial numbers were recovered by CA law enforcement agencies and 85,402 were without a serial number. Of the guns with serial numbers, 76,135 were associated with 1,929 distinct California firearms licensees. Of those dealers, 82 were associated with roughly half of all crime guns and one specific dealer was associated with 1,652 crime guns.

SB 1038 aims to deter straw purchases, gun trafficking, careless storage practices, and thefts by employees. It also helps provide law enforcement with crucial information they can use to trace crime guns and prevent future gun trafficking.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Tamar Tokat in our Legislative Office at 916-442-0668.

Very Truly Yours,

GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney