

Supply-Side Solutions to the Gun Violence Epidemic in Oregon



A Supply-Side Approach to Ending Gun Violence

- The burden of ending gun violence should not rest solely on the communities and people most impacted.
- A comprehensive approach to reducing gun violence must address the supply-side, specifically the gun industry, including dealers, who contribute to, and profit from, gun violence.
- This includes reasonable standards and oversight of those businesses engaging in the sale firearms, including at a state level.
- The trafficked guns flooding communities do not appear out of thin air – we have to ask where the guns are coming from.

What we know about Crime Guns recovered in Oregon

- **Of the crime guns recovered & traced from 2017-2021, 75% of crime guns traced to a purchaser were sold by an OR dealer**
 - This is MUCH higher than neighboring states and states with strong gun laws, including dealer licensing and oversight
- **Oregon is an exporter of crime guns:**
 - Oregon dealers are also selling significant numbers of crime guns recovered in CA, WA, NV, and AZ

THE STATE CAN AND SHOULD BE ENGAGING IN OVERSIGHT OF THOSE SELLING FIREARMS IN THE STATE

Insufficient Federal Oversight

- ATF is underfunded and understaffed, and has been for decades.
 - 58% of dealers are only inspected once a decade – with no mechanisms in place to ensure they are not engaging in negligent business practices
 - The average ratio is only 1 inspector for every 142 gun dealers nationwide.
- **This is even worse in Oregon where ATF currently has 1 inspector for every 342 dealers**
 - As a result, in 2022 and 2023, less than 2% of OR FFLs were inspected
- Even dealers that openly violate the law when selling firearms are able to continue to operate.
- We can expect this to get worse, not better under new Leadership at ATF.

Insufficient Federal Standards

- No substantive or ongoing training
- No mandatory inspections
- No security requirements to prevent theft
- No video recording requirement
- Insufficient record keeping requirements
- No mandatory background checks for employees

**In the absence
of adequate
federal
oversight and
standards of
FFLs,**

17 states

**have enacted
some form of gun
dealer licensing
policy.**

State Licensing:

State-created systems to issue state licenses to FFLs. These systems *can* give states the explicit authority to engage in oversight, inspections, and enforcement of FFLs, filling gaps left by the federal government.

Dealer Code of Conduct:

A component of a state-licensing system that ensures state-licensed dealers follow responsible business practices and safety measure to prevent dangerous individuals from accessing guns. Often used to *enhance* state licensing systems.

Oversight Standards for Other Industries in Oregon

Frequency of Inspection

Restaurants
(> 10,500)

Inspections conducted
at minimum every 6
months; at-will.

Barber/Cosmetology
(> 4,700)

Inspections conducted
at-will

Cannabis
(> 800)

Inspections conducted **6
months** after dispensary
opens; **annually thereafter**.

States must take bold action to shift the burden of gun violence prevention *from* impacted communities *to* the gun industry.

Oregon is primed to step in and regulate its ~2,000 firearms dealers through policies that are proven effective in reducing gun violence and saving lives.