



Office of the San Diego City Attorney

Mara W. Elliott
City Attorney

August 10, 2020

The Honorable Albert Y. Muratsuchi
California State Assembly
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Room 2179
Sacramento, CA 94249-0066

Assembly Bill 2362 (Muratsuchi): Firearms dealers conduct of business -- Support

Dear Assemblymember Muratsuchi:

The San Diego City Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill (AB) 2362.

AB 2362 would amend the state Penal Code, relating to firearms, allowing the California Department of Justice to impose fines on gun dealers who are in violation of state law. This will fill a void in existing law and allow the Department of Justice to better enforce regulations that keep firearms out of the wrong hands.

I am strongly in support of these amendments, which would serve to strengthen our state's firearm regulations and contribute to public safety. Our Office has been very proactive in enforcing common-sense gun laws that help keep our communities safe.

Last year I authored the local Safe Storage of Firearms Ordinance, passed by the San Diego City Council, requiring gun owners to keep their firearms safely locked or stored when in the home, unless the weapon is in the immediate possession or control of the owner. Safe storage is proven to prevent tragedies and save lives by keeping guns out of the hands of minors, unauthorized users, and individuals going through personal crises that could result in them harming themselves or others.

Our Office has also been a leader in utilizing California's Red Flag law – Gun Violence Restraining Orders – to prevent suicides, intimate partner homicides, and potential school and workplace shootings by removing guns from individuals who pose a threat to themselves or the public.

This bill would likewise help protect our communities, by incentivizing gun sellers to follow the law or risk being fined. It would bring increased accountability, transparency, and security to gun sales in California, and help ensure that firearms dealers are complying with transfer requirements, record retention requirements, waiting period requirements, and other safeguards.

The safety of our children and our neighbors requires that gun owners and sellers act responsibly. We all are safer when these laws are followed.

For these reasons, my Office strongly supports AB 2362 and urges its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mara W. Elliott".

Mara W. Elliott