



Office of the San Diego City Attorney

Mara W. Elliott
City Attorney

August 10, 2020

The Honorable David Chiu
California State Assembly
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0017

Assembly Bill 2847 (Chiu): Firearms: unsafe handguns -- Support

Dear Assemblymember Chiu:

The San Diego City Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill (AB) 2847.

AB 2847 would update the Unsafe Handgun Act and expand the requirements for microstamping firearms.

This bill would require that new handguns be equipped with chamber load indicators, magazine disconnect mechanisms, and microstamping technology, which imprints a unique code on the ammunition it discharges. These updates to the law would aid in solving firearm-related crimes, and help ensure that handguns in circulation in our communities are functioning properly, which will reduce accidental shootings and deaths.

I am strongly in support of these amendments, which would 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 children and families 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.

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.

We must take action to improve the safety of handguns being used by lawful gun owners, and to prevent shootings committed with untraceable guns. This bill would address an immediate and ongoing threat to public safety and reduce needless shootings.

For these reasons, my Office strongly supports AB 2847 and urges its passage.

Sincerely,

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

Mara W. Elliott