

Action Item: Supporting the Proposed ATF Rule

A new rule has been proposed by the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) that would close a major loophole in the current Federal background check system. The proposed rule would broaden and clarify the definition of who is “engaged in the business” of dealing in firearms and would therefore be required to obtain a federal firearms license (FFL) and perform background checks. The broader definition would include “all persons who devote time, attention, and labor to dealing in firearms ... to predominantly earn a profit through the repetitive purchase and sale of firearms.” This new definition targets occasional sellers of firearms, who tend to be at gun shows and on-line but are not federally licensed and therefore do not conduct background checks. Guns sold without background checks can fall into dangerous hands, including convicted felons, domestic abusers, gun traffickers, and other prohibited persons, with no questions asked. Colorado closed this loophole in 2000 but is surrounded by states that haven’t.

Please submit your individual comments supporting this proposed rule. **We have until December 7, 2023 by 10:00 PM Mountain Time.**

For a summary and full text of the proposed rule and instructions for submitting comments:

<https://www.regulations.gov/document/ATF-2023-0002-0001>

Two excellent sources of talking points:

Everytown for Gun Safety:

<https://secure.everyaction.com/w8uoozjqEy5nhCc9OR1aA2?sourceid=1000305>

Colorado Ceasefire:

- 1) Three of the four guns used in the Columbine massacre were purchased at a gun show. The buyer testified that she deliberately sought out tables indicating “no background check required” as she did not want a record of her purchases.
- 2) Coloradans overwhelmingly (70%) approved closing the gun show loophole in 2000.
- 3) Despite strong arguments in 2000 that gun shows would disappear because of the law closing the loophole, gun shows continue to flourish in Colorado.
- 4) We need to staunch the flow of guns to prohibited buyers. Background checks are the first step in doing that.
- 5) There are hundreds of thousands of unlicensed gun sellers, and their numbers are increasing, according to ATF director Steve Dettelbach.
- 6) One in five gun sales are completed without a background check.
- 7) Nearly 90% of Americans support background checks.
- 8) At a gun show, having unlicensed sellers next to federally licensed sellers is like boarding a plane where some people had to go through security and others skipped it entirely.
- 9) Guns that don’t go through background checks are therefore unaccompanied by

sales records that could later be used in crime gun tracing.

10) In addition to background checks and record keeping, bringing all those engaged in the business of selling firearms for a profit increases compliance with other ATF safety rules, thereby improving public safety.

It's crucial that everyone in the gun violence prevention community submit a comment in support of this new rule.

Vigils around the Denver Metro Area to Honor the Victims of Gun Violence on December 6

CFCU will participate in the 11th Annual National Memorial for the Victims of All Gun Violence, on Wednesday, December 6. There are several vigils planned across the Front Range, sponsored by CFCU faith communities. Please see the listing below for location, time, details and contact information. Everyone is invited to join us!

(You can read more about the [National Memorial](#) here.)



Find a Vigil near You

Downtown Denver

Central Presbyterian - 1660 Sherman St., Denver 80203 Candlelight Procession to First Baptist Church. Wed. Dec. 6. 5:00 pm at Central Presbyterian Arrive at First Baptist at 5:30 for indoor service

Bring light sources – battery candles, flashlights, cell phones

Contact: Cheryl Fleetwood: 303-877-0211

cherylrfleetwood@gmail.com

Southeast Denver

First Plymouth UCC – 3501 S. Colorado Blvd. Cherry Hills Village, CO 801113

Wed. Dec. 6 4:15 pm Prayer and Reflection 4:30 – 5:30 Vigil on 4 corners with signs. Parking in lot south of the church. Bring light sources

Contact: Susan Oakes: 720-447-1981 soakes1219@gmail.com

Park Hill

Messiah Community Church – 1750 Colorado Blvd. Denver, 80220

Wed. Dec. 6 4:30 pm for Prayer and Reflection moving to 17th and CO Blvd. with signs and flashlights

Contact: Susie Pappas: 319-321-1978 susiepappas@hotmail.com

Hill Top

B'nai Havurah and Congregation Rodef Shalom. Meet at B'nai Havurah, 6445 East Ohio Ave. Wed. Dec. 6: 5 p.m. Remarks and then moving to the southwest corner of Leetsdale and Monaco to display signs 6 p.m. Warm-up and light refreshments. Contact: Alana Smart: 303-807-1173

alanaks@aol.com

Boulder

Boulder Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Community UCC, Congregation Bonai Shalom, Congregation Har HaShem, First Congregational UCC, St. Ambrose Episcopal, St. John's Episcopal.

We will have a table outside of the main branch of the Boulder Public Library (1001 Arapahoe Ave.) and will be distributing safe storage, ERPO, suicide prevention, emergency hotline, and other information.

Dec. 6th and Dec. 14th, 11 AM- 1 PM. Other locations TBD. For information on locations, contact Stephanie Greenberg:

researchswgreenberg@gmail.com

Arvada

Arvada United Methodist Church 6750 Carr St, Arvada, CO 80004.

Meet in the parking lot at 12 noon, Prayer at 12:15 We will pray the Unison Prayer. Ending around 12:45 p.m. Contact: Sue Tourjee

susan.tourjee@gmail.com