3D & GHOST GUNS

WHAT IS A 3D GUN?
3D-printed guns are Do-It-Yourself (DIY) firearms made on demand by using Computer Aided Design (CAD) files and 3D printers. The 3D gun printing technology allows any person, anywhere in the world to make his/her untraceable guns without serial numbers, background checks, waiting periods, permits and other state and federal requirements for gun ownership.

Some 3D guns are made of entirely plastic rendering them virtually undetectable by modern security technology. Other 3D guns others are made of metal.

3D guns are untraceable, mostly undetectable and very accessible.

3D guns in the hands of terrorists, felons, domestic abusers and other prohibited users result in grave public safety, national security and international threat.

WHAT IS A GHOST GUN?
Ghost guns are DIY untraceable guns created from unfinished receivers without serial numbers. A drill press is used to create holes in the unfinished receiver to add other gun parts (such as the stock, barrel, trigger component, and magazine) to make a fully functional gun. Ghost Guns are exempted from federal regulation. Sellers of unfinished receivers and completion parts are not required to be licensed firearms dealers, and buyers are not subject to background checks or waiting periods.

3D guns are ghost guns.

WHY DOES THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAVE JURISDICTION OVER 3D GUNS?
The U.S Department of State has purview over 3-D guns because it's in charge of enforcing the Arms Export Control Act and other arms trafficking regulations. The Arms Export Control Act authorizes the president to control the import and export of defense weapons and defense services and to regulate their import and export.

The Federal Government prohibited the distribution of Computer Aided Design (CAD) files for the automated production of 3D printed weapons by including such files on the United States Munitions List (USML) and making them subject to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), which are administered by the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC) within the Department of State.

WHY SHOULD WE BE CONCERNED ABOUT 3D AND GHOST GUNS?

In 2013, Journalists used Defense Distributed files to make their own 3-D gun then smuggle a 3-D printed gun into Israeli parliament to test the security system.

In November 2017, Kevin Janson Neal massacred five people and wounded nine others in Tehama County, California, using two semi-automatic rifles he built himself. A criminal protective order and a separate restraining order that had been placed on Neal in January—he was charged with assault with a deadly weapon after allegedly stabbing and beating two neighbors he held at gunpoint—meant Neal wouldn’t have passed a background check if he’d tried.

In 2013, 23-year-old John Zawahri, who had been kept from purchasing a gun years earlier, used a homebuilt AR-15-style semi-automatic rifle in a rampage in Santa Monica, California, that left five dead.

VIOLENCE POLICY CENTER-INCIDENTS INVOLVING 3D-PRINTED FIREARMS:

There have already been several incidents that illustrate the potential dangers of making 3D-printed guns widely available. Read more HERE.

GVP ACTIONS NEEDED TO PERMANENTLY #Stop3Dguns

ON THE STATE LEVEL:

Work with your Governors and State Representatives to ban 3-D and Ghost Guns in your state.

- In 2016, California Governor Jerry Brown made untraceable firearms illegal with Assembly Bill 857, requiring anyone who manufactures or assembles a homemade firearm to first apply for a unique serial number or other marking from the state Department of Justice, which must then be affixed to the weapon. The bill also prohibits
the sale or transfer of any self-assembled firearms but not “80% receivers”. Gov. Brown vetoed AB1673, a bill that would have extended the definition of “firearm” to include unfinished frames or receivers. View Assembly Bill 857 HERE.

- Connecticut Against Gun Violence led the initiative to ban ghost guns in Connecticut however time ran out during this year’s legislative session. View Bill HB 5540 HERE.

- New Jersey is in the process of passing its ghost gun bill. View the bill HERE.

Contact your Attorney General to ask them to:

1. Protect your state by seeking a temporary/permanent injunction to stop Defense Distributed from publishing, exporting and/or distributing printable-gun computer files to IP addresses in your state.

The New Jersey Ex Parte order can be viewed HERE.

2. Join the 19 states (CT, MA, NY, MD, NJ, OR, PA, WA + California, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Virginia) + Washington, D.C. that have filed a lawsuit against the UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE; MICHAEL R. POMPEO, in his official capacity as Secretary of State; DIRECTORATE OF DEFENSE TRADE CONTROLS; MIKE MILLER, in his official capacity as Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Trade Controls; SARAH HEIDEMA, in her official capacity as Director of Policy, Office of Defense Trade Controls Policy; DEFENSE DISTRIBUTED; SECOND AMENDMENT FOUNDATION, INC.; AND CONN WILLIAMSON.

The lawsuit can be viewed HERE.

3. Join the 21 other state attorneys general in a letter criticizing Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Attorney General Jeff Sessions for settling the federal lawsuit against Defense Distributed and urge them to withdraw from the settlement before the company publishes the computer files permanently.

The multistate letter can be viewed HERE.

4. Send a letter to DreamHost to inform them that the website https://defcad.com/ (“Defcad Website”), operated by the company Defense Distributed, is violating their Acceptable Use Policy.

The DreamHost letter can be viewed HERE.

ON THE FEDERAL LEVEL:

Contact your Congressional Representatives—including Republican Members of Congress, to cosponsor and support the following federal legislative proposals to regulate 3-D and ghost guns.

1. Representatives David Cicilline (D-RI) and Seth Moulten have introduced H.R. 6643, The Untraceable Firearms Act to prohibit the manufacture or possession of 3-D printed guns that are made of plastic, rendering them virtually undetectable by modern security technology-----to ensure that all firearms are traceable. View the bill HERE.
2. Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL) and Representative Ted Deutch (D-FL) have introduced the “3D Printed Gun Safety Act of 2018” to prohibit the publication of 3D printer plans for the printing of firearms. View the Senate bill [HERE].

3. Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-NY) along with Senators Bill Nelson (D-FL), Edward J. Markey (D-MA), Chuck Schumer (D-NY), and Robert Menendez (D-NJ), introduced the Untraceable Firearms Act to ban untraceable, undetectable and downloadable 3-D “ghost” guns. View the bill [HERE].

Ask your supporters to call Donald Trump at 202-456-1111 to ask him to demand that Mike Pompeo and Jeff Sessions withdraw their settlement with Defense Distributed.

Ask your supporters to contact the State Department. One Pulse for America has created [THIS] toolkit for this action.

MITIGATE 3D FILE SHARING ONLINE:
Regrettably, Cody Wilson breached the settlement with the State Department by releasing the files on August 27th and copycat websites and FB group pages are popping up.

If you find any websites or social media pages/people that/who are sharing the 3D gun files then please contact NoRA’s Ben Jackson at ben@noranow.org or NAA’s Po Murray at pmurray@newtownaction.org so that we can report them to Facebook, Google and other online entities.

GUNS DOWN-ENGAGE 3D PRINTER MANUFACTURERS:
Ask manufacturers of 3D printers to prohibit people from printing homemade guns on their machines. Take action [HERE].

SIGN PETITIONS:
NoRA: Tell Congress to Stop 3D Guns [HERE].
Everytown for Gun Safety: Click [HERE] to e-mail Secretary Pompeo to Stop the Threat of Downloadable Guns.
Sandy Hook Promise: Block the release of blueprints for 3D-printed guns [HERE].

3D GUN HISTORY

Prepared by the Newtown Action Alliance August 6, 2018
May, 2013:
25-year-old radical libertarian anarchist Cody Wilson from Austin, TX made and fired the world’s first fully 3D-printed gun, the “Liberator” after launching Defense Distributed site (defcad.com) months earlier along with an anarchist video manifesto, declaring that gun control would never be the same in an era when anyone can download and print their own guns. His files were downloaded 100,000 times. The “Liberator” is a single shot pistol made entirely of plastic materials except for a metal nail inserted as the firing pin.

The U.S. State Department demands that he take down the printable 3D gun blueprints or face prosecution for violating the International Trade in Arms Regulations (ITAR) for exporting weapons without a license.

*He now makes and sells the consumer-grade desktop “Ghost Gunner” milling machine that uses downloadable files to make aluminum gun parts including untraceable AR-15 receivers that skirt state and federal gun regulations. He has made millions selling ~6,000 “Ghost Gunner” machines that cost $1675 each.

November, 2013:
Solid Concepts released a handgun called “The 1911” made of 3D printed metal parts better equipped for repeat fire. Read more HERE.

2014:
Solid Concepts (now owned by Stratasys) announced their second 3D-printed metal gun, “the Reason”. Read more HERE:

November, 2014:
a machinist from Pennsylvania released plans for a plastic 3D printed firearm with a bullet chamber designed to withstand multiple rounds of firing without cracking or deforming. Read more HERE.

2015:
Wilson from Defense Distributed and the Second Amendment Foundation filed a lawsuit against the State Department and several of its officials, including Secretary of State John Kerry claiming that a State Department agency called the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC) violated their first amendment right to free speech.

April 2018:
The Trump Administration files a motion to dismiss Wilson’s lawsuit arguing that 3D guns can be regulated for export.

June 2018:
Then in a sudden reversal, the State Department, led by Trump’s Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, settled the case with Wilson. Under that agreement, Defense Distributed is authorized to post downloadable instructions for 3D-printable guns starting Wednesday, August 1, 2018 and Wilson was awarded $40,000 for his legal fees.

**RECENT ADVOCACY EFFORTS**

July 24:
Fred Guttenberg, whose daughter was taken at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14th and the Founder of Orange Ribbons For Jamie, Newtown Action Alliance (NAA), Jr Newtown Action Alliance and NoRA spent the day on Capitol Hill to alert Congress that the State Department settled Wilson’s lawsuit and to urge all to take immediate action to stop the release of 3D downloadable files.

*Prepared by the Newtown Action Alliance August 6, 2018*
Fred attended the House Democratic Caucus meeting to discuss the clear and present domestic and foreign threat resulting from Trump Administration's settlement with Wilson.

After numerous meetings with Senators and House Reps, it was determined that an emergency injunction from state attorneys general was needed to immediately stop the release of the 3-D blueprints on August 1st. New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy, MA AG Maura Healey and CT AG George Jepson were contacted.

**July 25:**

Senators Blumenthal works to finalize the Untraceable Firearms Act of 2018.

Senator Nelson works on his legislation to stop 3-D guns and Rep. Cicilline agrees to sponsor a house bill.

Leader Schumer works to elevate this issue in the media.

**July 26:**
Congressman Ted Deutch (FL-22) led 40 Members of Congress in a letter calling on House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte (VA-06) and House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce (CA-39) to hold a hearing on the U.S. State Department's recent settlement with Defense Distributed allowing the online publication of blueprints to produce 3-D printed guns. The letter was co-signed by Reps. Adriano Espaillat (NY-13), Alcee Hastings (FL-20), Lloyd Doggett (TX-35), Bill Pascrell, Jr. (NJ-09), Michael Capuano (MA-07), Joseph Crowley (NY-14), Jan Schakowsky (IL-09), Raul Grijalva (AZ-03), Debbie Wasserman Schultz (FL-23), Hank Johnson, Jr. (GA-04), Niki Tsongas (MA-03), Carol Shea-Porter (NH-01), Robin Kelly (IL-02), Katherine Clark (MA-05), Donald Norcross (NJ-01), Debbie Dingell (MI-12), A. Donald McEachin (VA-04), Jimmy Gomez (CA-34), Seth Moulton (MA-06), James McGovern (MA-02), Yvette Clarke (NY-09), Jared Huffman (CA-02), Albio Sires (NJ-08), Danny Davis (IL-07), Salud Carbajal (CA-24), Alan Lowenthal (CA-47), Mike Thompson (CA-05), Charlie Crist (FL-13), Brendan Boyle (PA-13), Colleen Hanabusa (HI-01), Sander Levin (MI-09), Adam Schiff (CA-28), Brad Sherman (CA-30), Scott Peters (CA-52), Stephanie Murphy (FL-07), Thomas Suozzi (NY-03), Jim Cooper (TN-05), Maxine Waters (CA-43), Josh Gottheimer (NJ-05), and Peter A. DeFazio (OR-04).

Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL) Ed Markey (D-MA), Bill Nelson (D-FL), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Chris Murphy (D-CT), Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Patrick Leahy (D-VT), and Ben Cardin (D-MD) sends a letter to Mike Pompeo to suspend the special treatment given to Defense Distributed and asks for a written explanation and briefing on the reason behind the decision to settle Cody Wilson’s lawsuit. [https://www.markey.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Letter%20to%20State%203D%20Printed%20Firearms.pdf](https://www.markey.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Letter%20to%20State%203D%20Printed%20Firearms.pdf)

The New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir Grewal sends a cease and desist letter to Defense Distributed.

The Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, Everytown for Gun Safety and Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence files a lawsuit against Defense Distributed.
50+ gun violence prevention organizations release an open letter calling on Donald Trump to intervene.

**July 27:**

U.S. District Judge Robert Pitman in Austin, Texas dismisses the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, Everytown for Gun Safety and Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence request for a temporary restraining order blocking Defense Distributed on procedural grounds.

Wilson breaching the settlement, uploads ten 3D gun files on his website and by Sunday night, his 3D files for AR-15s were downloaded 1,000 times.

**July 29:**

Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro and Governor Wolf successfully block access to new 3D downloadable gun files in Pennsylvania at an emergency hearing on Sunday night.

**July 30:**

Eight states + D.C. (@AGOWA Bob Ferguson/CT @AGJepsen/@MassAGO Maura Healey/@AGBecerra/@NewYorkStateAG Barbar Underwood/MD AG @BrianFrosh @NewJerseyOAG Gurbir Grewal/@ORDOJ Ellen Rosenblum/@PAAssistantGen Josh Shapiro/DC AG @AGKarlRacine) filed a lawsuit against the Trump Administration to stop a settlement and rule changes that would Defense Distributed to post files online to allow individuals to print guns using 3D printers.

Attorneys General from 21 states sent a letter asking Mike Pompeo and Jeff Sessions to withdraw from the settlement immediately.

NoRA’s Alyssa Milano’s Op-Ed is published on CNN to increase awareness. Read it HERE.

**July 31:**

NJ Attorney General Gurbir Grewal won in the courts in the state. Wilson agrees not to post any NEW 3D printable guns until their September hearing.

With only hours left, Seattle Federal Judge Robert Lasnik grants Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson’s Request for Temporary Restraining Order for the Trump Administration to keep plastic gun software for 3D printers off the internet.

Senators Schumer, Markey, Blumenthal, Nelson and Menendez introduce their bill to stop 3D & ghost guns.

Though the House is out of town until September, Reps. Rep David Cicilline (D-R.I.) Seth Moulton (D-Mass.) introduced a bill during Tuesday’s pro forma session to prohibit the manufacturing or possession of a 3-D printed guns.

Donald Trump tweets “I am looking into 3-D Plastic Guns being sold to the public. Already spoke to the NRA, doesn’t seem to make much sense.”

NoRA sent communication to 3-D printer manufacturers to engage them.

**August 1:**

*Prepared by the Newtown Action Alliance August 6, 2018*
Fred Guttenberg from Orange Ribbons for Jamie contacted Sheryl Sanberg from Facebook to ask her to help mitigate the released files from being shared and the FB team will be establishing a policy on how to deal with these files. Google and Twitter have been contacted as well.

A copycat website CodeFreeSpeech.com pops up. Canadian host was contacted and the website is taken down.

Senator Ed Markey Intends to Put Hold on State Department Nominee Until President Trump Reverses Dangerous 3D Gun Policy. View the press release HERE.

Wilson tells CBS This Morning, “What I’m doing is legally protected. I will go to the appellate level. I will go to the Supreme Court. I will waste all my time.” (This is why we must #StopKavanaugh!). Read the article HERE.

August 2:
CodeFreeSpeech.com is online again.

Wilson claims the lawsuits will not hold water. Read the article HERE.

NoRA coalition letter signed by hundreds of celebrities, activists, elected leaders, and groups is expected to be sent to Mike Pompeo.

August 3:
U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) will join law enforcement, advocates and Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin in urging passage of federal legislation he has introduced to protect the public from untraceable, undetectable and downloadable 3D “ghost guns” in Hartford, Connecticut.

According to THIS Reuter's Story, "California, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Virginia were added in a Thursday court filing to the list of eight mainly Democratic-controlled states and the District of Columbia who sued the U.S. government in federal court."

Washington State AG Bob Ferguson tweeted that the preliminary injunction hearing in 3D-printed guns case is now set for 8/21. It appears the temporary restraining order (TRO) will be in effect until August 28th. View the updated TRO HERE.

Rep. Ted Deutch introduced the 3D Printed Gun Safety Act (mirrors Senator Nelson's bill) with @RepMaloney @RepSchneider @RepDWStweets to block publication of files that print 3D guns.

August 6:
Google agrees to help mitigate the 3D gun files from spreading since 3D downloadable files and ghost guns in the hands of prohibited users result in tangible world harm/danger.

August 21:
Seattle Federal Judge Robert Lasnik set a follow-up hearing for Aug. 10 in his courtroom in downtown Seattle.

August 28:
The TRO is in effect until this date.
RELEVANT ARTICLES/BLOB ON 3D GUNS:

Americans can legally download 3-D printed guns starting next month

A LANDMARK LEGAL SHIFT OPENS PANDORA’S BOX FOR DIY GUNS:
https://www.wired.com/…/a-landmark-legal-shift-opens-pando…/

What You Need to Know About the 3D Printing of Guns on Demand | Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence
http://www.bradycampaign.org/blog/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-3d-printing-of-guns-on-

THE DANGERS OF 3D-PRINTED GUNS

The Age of the Downloadable Gun Begins by Steve Israel:

Chuck Schumer warns of 3-D printed ‘ghost guns’
https://nypost.com/…/chuck-schumer-warns-of-3-d-printed-gh...

“Download this gun”: 3D-printed semi-automatic fires over 600 rounds
https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2013/03/download-this-gun-3d-printed-semi-automatic-fires-over-600-rounds/

Now there are bullets that won't break your 3D-printed gun

Plastic 3D guns printed at home will raise threat level for everyone, especially Congress
https://usat.ly/2MdGSvy

RELEVANT ARTICLES ON GHOST GUNS:

Website where people can buy ghost guns parts:
https://www.ghostguns.com/

Ghost guns: How criminals circumvent firearm laws

Ghost Guns: Untraceable firearms in hands of hobbyists, felons and children
http://wjla.com/features/7-on-your-side/ghost-guns

Sales of DIY firearm kits appear to be booming after the Parkland shooting.

Build-it-yourself ‘ghost guns’ bypass California’s tough laws

I MADE AN UNTRACEABLE AR-15 'GHOST GUN' IN MY OFFICE—AND IT WAS EASY
https://www.wired.com/2015/06/i-made-an-untraceable-ar-15-ghost-gun/