



2008 Brady Campaign State Scorecard Category Descriptions

Gun Dealer Regulations:

Creating a licensing and oversight system of firearm dealers allows law enforcement to more easily identify and crack down on corrupt gun dealers.

- State licensing required: Allows states to more easily sanction gun dealers who violate state laws and allows states the opportunity to impose stronger regulations in the future.
- Record keeping and retention: Firearm dealers must record and maintain the sales records of firearms sold in their store.
- Report records to the state, and state retains records: The state maintains its own database of dealer sales record.
- Mandatory theft reporting of all firearms: Dealers must report to law enforcement all lost and stolen firearms from their inventory.
- At least one store security precaution required: State law mandates that a firearm dealer take steps to ensure his/her inventory is protected and secured. (Examples: Locked inventory, product placement requirements, employee screening, install alarm systems, etc.).
- Inspections by police are mandated or permitted: State and local law enforcement are allowed/required to inspect dealer inventories and records at any time to ensure compliance with firearm laws and accurate record keeping.

Limit Bulk Purchases:

Stopping bulk sales of handguns is one of the Brady Campaign's central tenants to stemming the flow of illegal guns. Gun traffickers typically buy guns in bulk legally and re-sell them in the illegal market.

- One handgun per month, no exceptions: Individuals may only purchase one handgun every 30 days regardless of permits held, location of purchase, etc.
- One handgun per month, one exception: Individuals may purchase more than one handgun in a 30-day period if they qualify under one specific exception (Example: Exempting conceal carry permit holders or exempting private sales).
- One handgun per month, two or more exceptions: Individuals may purchase more than one handgun in a 30-day period if they qualify under two or more exceptions. (Examples: Exempting concealed carry permit holders and exempting private sales).

Crime Gun Identification:

The ability to quickly and positively identify a firearm's source greatly enhances law enforcement's criminal investigations and can help law enforcement shut down illegal gun traffickers and apprehend armed criminals.

- Ballistic identification: Gun manufacturers are required to test-fire guns prior to sale and submit their expelled shell casings and bullets to a database that police use to match shell casing and bullets found at crime scenes. Each gun leaves unique marking on the shell casings and bullets they fire that can be used to link crime guns to their owner.

- Microstamping: Firearms are fitted with a technology that engraves on each fired bullet casing microscopic identifying markings that are specific to that firearm alone.

Report Lost/Stolen Guns:

Requiring the reporting of lost or stolen firearms to police removes excuses used by gun traffickers that "lose" their firearms.

- Mandatory reporting of lost or stolen guns: Firearm owners must inform law enforcement of the missing firearms within an allotted period of time.

Universal Background Checks:

- Universal background checks on all firearms: A Brady background check is conducted prior to each and every firearm transaction.
- Universal background checks on handguns only: A Brady background check is conducted prior to each and every handgun transaction.

Permit to Purchase:

A permit (or license) to purchase allows for a more in-depth background check on potential firearm purchasers and can include the following requirements:

- Fingerprinting
- Safety training and/or testing
- Extending the three-day limit for background checks
- Permit process involves law enforcement

Closed Gun Show Loophole:

Closing the gun show loophole helps prevent criminals and prohibited purchasers from acquiring firearms by mandating Brady background checks at or prior to the gun show.

- Background check on all firearms for each purchase: A Brady background check is conducted on all firearms for each and every sale at a gun show.
- Background check on handguns only for each purchase: A Brady background check is conducted on all handguns for each and every sale at a gun show.
- Background check on long guns only for each purchase: A Brady background check is conducted on all long guns for each and every sale at a gun show.
- Permit for all firearms, no background check per purchase: A Brady background check was conducted on the purchaser while obtaining the permit to purchase any firearm, but a background check is not conducted at the time of purchase from unlicensed gun sellers
- Permit for handguns, no background check per purchase: A Brady background check was conducted on the purchaser while obtaining the permit to purchase a handgun, but a background check is not conducted at the time of purchase from unlicensed gun sellers.
- Permit for long guns, no background check per purchase: A Brady background check was conducted on the purchaser while obtaining the permit to purchase a long gun, a background check is not conducted at the time of purchase from unlicensed gun sellers.

Childproof Handguns:

A childproof handgun is one that can only be fired by an authorized user where technology can 'read' the unique palm print or fingerprint of its legal owner. Handguns with this technology helps prevent suicide by minors, unintentional deaths and injuries and thwarts gun traffickers who steal firearms.

Child Safety Locks:

Firearm locking mechanisms include a wide range of disabling devices designed to keep unauthorized users from gaining access to guns, and to help prevent suicides by minors and unintentional deaths and injuries.

- Integrated locks sold on all handguns: A locking device is built into the handgun during manufacturing.

- External locks sold with all handguns: A locking device that prevents unauthorized people from being able to fire the weapon is sold with each handgun (i.e., child safety locks)
- Standards on all external locks: Child safety locks must be certified and/or tested by law enforcement or government officials to ensure their quality and to ensure the locks will work and cannot be easily removed by unauthorized people.

Child Access Prevention:

Requires adults to either store loaded guns in a place that is reasonably inaccessible to children, or use a device to lock the gun. If a child within specified age ranges described below obtains an improperly stored, loaded gun, the adult owner may be held criminally liable.

- Ages 16/17 and under: State defines children under this statute as those either 16 or 17 years of age and under.
- Ages 14/15 and under: State defines children under this statute as those either 14 or 15 years of age and under.
- Ages 13 and under: State defines children under this statute as those 13 years of age and under.

Juvenile Handgun Purchases:

State laws that impose minimum age requirements to purchase handguns that go beyond that of federal law are intended to decrease all types of deaths and injuries among children.

- Must be 21: Purchasers must be 21 years of age or older in order to buy a handgun regardless of the location, federally licensed dealer or private sale, in which the handgun was purchased.

Assault Weapons Ban:

A state level assault weapons ban outlaws high-powered, military style weapons from our streets.

- 1 feature test: Weapons with at least one military-style feature are regulated (i.e., protruding pistol grip, folding stock)
- 2 feature test: Weapons with at least two military-style features are regulated
- 2 feature test on assault pistols only: Pistol/handgun with at least two military-style features are regulated

Large Capacity Magazine Ban:

Ammunition magazines with a capacity of more than 10 rounds of ammunition are considered large capacity magazines. Some can hold 30, 50 or even 100 rounds.

- 10 rounds or less: A single ammunition magazine can hold a maximum of 10 rounds.
- 15 rounds or less: A single ammunition magazine can hold a maximum of 15 rounds.

No Guns Allowed in Workplace:

Businesses are not forced to allow firearms on their privately held property.

No Guns on College Campuses:

College administrators are not forced to allow firearms on their campus.

Not a CCW Shall Issue State:

Law enforcement is not forced to issue permits to carry loaded hidden handguns in public to virtually anyone in the state.

No Shoot First Law:

The use of deadly force is not allowed to be a first resort in public.

No State Preemption:

Local units of government are allowed to regulate firearms in order to ensure public safety for their citizens.