

Dave Sunday
Attorney General

STRAW PURCHASES ARE
FUELING THE GUN VIOLENCE
THAT TAKES THE LIVES OF
PENNSYLVANIANS EVERY
SINGLE DAY. BY LEARNING
ABOUT THE RISKS OF STRAW
PURCHASING AND REFUSING
TO PLAY A ROLE IN IT, WE
CAN MAKE COMMUNITIES
SAFER AND **SAVE LIVES.**



Our Track + Trace Initiative is a smart-on-crime, data-driven approach dedicated to tracing crime guns and decreasing gun trafficking and illegal transfers.

Law enforcement's mission cannot end with solving individual gun crimes – gun trafficking and crime guns are fueling this violence.

By tracing firearms used in crimes, we can identify the heart of the problem. Every serial number on a firearm tells a story – we are committed to finding out where these stories begin, and save lives.

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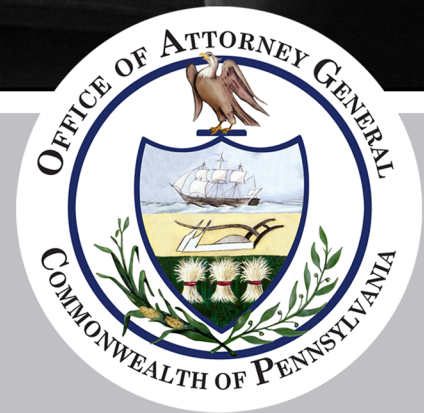
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**Silence
Won't Stop
The Violence.**

WHAT IS STRAW PURCHASING?



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**Guns that are illegal
are likely to become
lethal. Safety is not a
privilege, it's a **RIGHT**.
Make the bold choice to
use your voice;**

Speak up and Stand up!

WHAT IS STRAW PURCHASING?

Straw purchasing is when one individual buys a gun for another individual who is unable to purchase their own gun legally. Straw purchasing is the most common channel identified in trafficking investigations. Data from a national survey of firearm licensees suggests that there are more than 30,000 attempted straw purchases each year.

Common Reasons for Straw Purchasing:

- The person who wants the gun is unable to purchase due to a criminal background
- The person plans to use the gun in the commission of a crime
- The person is selling guns illegally

Pennsylvania Law on Straw Purchasing:

Illegally purchasing two or more firearms on behalf of someone else is a felony, accompanied by a **5 - 10 year mandatory minimum sentence in Pennsylvania**.

Pennsylvania Crimes Code -

Title 18 Crimes and Offenses Section 6111(g)

If an individual knowingly, or intentionally sells, delivers, or transfers a firearm to anyone not legally eligible to possess a firearm commits a crime.

WARNING: You are not the ACTUAL BUYER if you are acquiring the firearm on behalf of someone else.

Crime Guns:

Straw purchasing is one of the biggest sources of crime gun transactions and a more common way for guns to end up in the hands of the wrong people. Crime guns don't protect people; they help fuel the structural violence disproportionately affecting certain communities and families on a daily basis.

Who can not legally own a gun?

- Fugitive / wanted person
- Felony conviction & misdemeanor domestic violence offenses – **Max Term = 1+ Years**
- Drug crimes – **Max Term = 2+ Years**
- 3 DUI's in 5 years & active substance use disorder
- Dishonorable discharge from Armed Forces
- Current restraining order
- If you have ever been involuntarily committed to a mental institution / mentally defective
- Undocumented immigrant

WARNING: If you are unsure about your legal situation, get advice from an attorney in order to be sure of your legal status before you try to buy a firearm.

Every transfer of a handgun **MUST** be done through a licensed dealer.

Read federal & state forms correctly.
Lying on the form is a crime.

Firearms Transaction Form:

- You are required to fill out background forms to buy or transfer handguns
- Once forms are filled, a full background check will be performed
- Read the form carefully – they help prevent violence and lying is a serious crime

Consequences:

If you buy a gun for
someone who legally can't,
you will go to jail.

Straw Purchase 1 Gun
CRIME PUNISHABLE BY **UP TO 7 YEARS**
IN STATE PRISON

Straw Purchase 2+ Guns
MANDATORY MINIMUM 5 TO 10 YEARS
IN STATE PRISON