



## Pennsylvania Gun Rights

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Pennsylvania Gun Rights  
2669 Shillington Road #446  
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

To: Michelle Henry, Attorney General  
16th Floor  
Strawberry Square  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Reading, Pennsylvania "Ghost Gun" Ban

August 27, 2024

Dear Attorney General Henry,

It has come to our attention that the City Council of Reading, Pennsylvania is amending City Code Chapter 219 to prohibit the lawful manufacture of privately made firearms using modern technology such as three-dimensional printing and firearm parts kits.

This action is violative of the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution, Article I, Section 21 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, the State of Pennsylvania's preemption over firearms, as well as the Supreme Court precedent set by *NYSRPA v. Bruen* and *District of Columbia v. Heller*

The so-called "Ghost Guns" the City of Reading is banning are merely privately made firearms that fall well within the Second Amendment rights of the people of Reading.

Moreover, there is no history or tradition of firearm regulation that would serve to justify a blatantly unconstitutional ban of privately made firearms. In actuality, the history and tradition show that privately making firearms was thoroughly *encouraged* before, during, and after the founding of the United States.



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As Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, you are charged with enforcing the Constitutions of the United States, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and all applicable laws thereto.

As such: Title 18, Section 6120(a) of the Crimes Code states: "No county, municipality or township may in any manner regulate the lawful ownership, possession, transfer or transportation of firearms, ammunition or ammunition components when carried or transported for purposes not prohibited by the laws of this Commonwealth."

Furthermore, the Constitution of Pennsylvania provides that municipalities may only enact laws not superseded by Pennsylvania law. The City of Reading is a "home rule" municipality and, as such, is governed by Article IX, Section 2 of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, which states: "A municipality which has a home rule charter may exercise any power or perform any function **not denied by this Constitution, by its home rule charter or by the General Assembly at any time.**" (emphasis added)

As the General Assembly has explicitly forbade municipalities from infringing upon the landscape of firearm regulation, the City of Reading is in violation of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, the Constitution of the United States, and the Pennsylvania Crimes Code.

Pennsylvania Gun Rights expects that, irrespective of any differences on the policy debate, this issue is clear-cut and that your office will notify the City of Reading that it is in violation of multiple aspects of law.

I await your reply.

Sincerely,

Craig Stotts Jr.  
Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Gun Rights

cc: Fred Lachat, City Solicitor, City of Reading, PA  
Pennsylvania State House of Representatives, all members  
Pennsylvania State Senate, all members  
Josh Shapiro, Governor of Pennsylvania