



GUN OWNERS OF AMERICA

April 8, 2015

The Honorable Diane Black
1131 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Rep. Black:

Gun Owners of America (GOA) would like to extend our sincere thanks for your efforts to defend Americans' 2nd Amendment rights by reintroducing the FIREARM (Freedom From Intrusive Regulatory Enforcement of Arbitrary Registration Mandates) Act. As you know, this legislation would prevent the Obama Administration's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) from requiring race or ethnicity to be disclosed in connection with the purchase of a firearm.

In 2012, the ATF quietly implemented a change to its form 4473 requiring gun retailers to collect buyers' race and ethnicity. Failure to answer these intrusive questions is considered an ATF violation and firearm stores could be put out of business for repeated offenses.

By now Americans are all too familiar with the Obama Administration's underhanded and unlawful efforts to expand its authority by regulatory fiat. But, even by ATF standards, there can be no legitimate reason for this burdensome line of questioning.

It should be of interest to both conservatives and liberals that this law enforcement agency is snooping into the racial and ethnic identity of gun owners without just cause. Your legislation will protect gun buyers' privacy, prevent the federal government from needlessly putting gun retailers out of business, and ultimately strengthen Americans' constitutional right to keep and bear arms.

Gun Owners of America applauds your efforts to prohibit the ATF from using Form 4473s to pry into the racial identities of gun owners. We urge every Member of Congress to cosponsor this critical legislation and call upon House leadership to bring the measure up for a vote without delay.

In Liberty,

Chris Stone
Director of Federal Affairs