

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

| Term | Description |
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| 3D | Three dimensional |
| 41F | Final Rule 41F amended the regulations regarding the making or transferring of a firearm under the National Firearms Act (NFA). The goal of the final rule is to ensure that the identification and background check requirements apply equally to individuals, trusts, and legal entities who apply to make or receive NFA weapons. Final Rule 41F became effective on July 13, 2016. |
| A&D | Firearms acquisition and disposition record |
| Abandoned | Qualification inspection IOI recommendation - indicates the applicant for an FFL abandoned the application and thus, it was not approved or denied by ATF. |
| Adjusted PPI Values | PPI values from the Bureau of Labor Statistics that are adjusted to reflect price deviations from 2000. |
| AECA | Arms Export Control Act |
| AFMER | Annual Firearms Manufacturing and Exportation Report |
| NICS Alternate Permit | Permit that qualifies as an alternative to a NICS background check when purchasing a firearm from an FFL. |
| Ammunition/Ammunition Components | The term means ammunition or cartridge cases, primers, bullets, or propellant powder designed for use in any firearm. |
| Any Other Weapon (AOW) | The term means any weapon or device capable of being concealed on the person from which a shot can be discharged through the energy of an explosive, a pistol or revolver having a barrel with a smooth bore designed or redesigned to fire a fixed shotgun shell, weapons with combination shotgun and rifle barrels 12 inches or more, less than 18 inches in length, from which only a single discharge can be made from either barrel without manual reloading, and shall include any such weapon which may be readily restored to fire. Such term shall not include a pistol or a revolver having a rifled bore, or rifled bores, or weapons designed, made, or intended to be fired from the shoulder and not capable of firing fixed ammunition. |
| Approved | Qualification Inspection Recommendation – indicates the application was approved and an FFL issued. |
| AR-type | Generally, refers to weapons utilizing an AR-15 receiver/upper-lower assembly design irrespective of new or different model designations or configurations, characteristics, features, components, accessories, or attachments. |
| Assault Pistol | 1994 Assault Weapons Ban stated, semi-automatic pistols with detachable magazines and two or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magazine that attaches outside the pistol grip • Threaded barrel to attach barrel extender, flash suppressor, handgrip, or suppressor • Barrel shroud safety feature that prevents burns to the operator • A manufactured weight of 50 ounces (1.41kg) or more when the pistol is unloaded • A semi-automatic version of a fully automatic firearm. |

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| Assault Rifle | 1994 Assault Weapons Ban stated, semi-automatic rifles able to accept detachable magazines and has two or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folding or telescoping stock • Pistol grip • Bayonet mount • Flash hider or threaded barrel designed to accommodate one • Grenade launcher |
| Assault Shotgun | 1994 Assault Weapons Ban stated, semi-automatic shotguns with two or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folding or telescoping stock • Pistol grip • A fixed magazine capacity in excess of 5 rounds • Detachable magazine. |
| Assault Weapon | Under the Assault Weapons Ban of 1994, the definition of "assault weapon" included specific semi-automatic firearm models by name, and other semi-automatic firearms that possessed two or more from a set of certain features. |
| BIS | Bureau of Industry and Security |
| Burglary | Unlawful; entry of a structure with the intent of stealing |
| CAD | Computer aided design |
| Caliber | The internal diameter or bore of a firearm barrel. Also refers to the diameter of a projectile. |
| CAM | Computer-aided manufacturing |
| Cartridge | A complete round of ammunition comprised of a cartridge case, primer, propellant powder, and a projectile. |
| CCL | Commerce Control List |
| Certain Governmental Agencies | Specific, but not explicitly named or stated, government agencies. |
| CLEO | Chief Law Enforcement Officer |
| CNC | Computer numerical control - a computerized manufacturing process using pre-programmed software and coding to control the movement of the fabrication tools. |
| Combination/Combo Gun | A firearm having combination rifle and shotgun barrels |
| Commerce | Travel, trade, traffic, commerce, transportation, or communication among the several states, U.S. territories, or between the District of Columbia and any state, U.S. territory or between any foreign country or any U.S. territory or possession and any state or the District of Columbia, or between points in the same state, U.S. territory but through any other state or the District of Columbia or a foreign country. |
| Completed Inspection | Completed firearms inspection. |

| Term | Description |
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| Compliance Inspection | By law, a firearms compliance inspection may be conducted once every 12 months. |
| Curio and Relics | What firearms are considered to be curio and relic firearms? Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives |
| Destructive Device (DD) | (a) Any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas (1) bomb, (2) grenade, (3) rocket having a propellant charge of more than 4 ounces, (4) missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, (5) mine, or (6) device similar to any of the devices described in the preceding paragraphs of this definition; (b) any type of weapon (other than a shotgun or a shotgun shell which the Director finds is generally recognized as particularly suitable for sporting purposes) by whatever name known which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter; and (c) any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled. |
| DL3 | Demand Letter 3 - Demand letter 3 is issued monthly to assist ATF in its efforts to investigate and combat the illegal movement of firearms along and across the Southwest border. ATF requires licensed dealers and pawnbrokers in Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas to submit record information on multiple sales of certain rifles defined as semiautomatic rifles capable of accepting a detachable magazine and with a caliber greater than .22 (including .223/5.56 caliber). |
| DOC | Department of Commerce |
| DOS | Department of State |
| EAR | Export Administration Regulations |
| ECCN | Export Control Classification Number |
| eForms | Applications - eForms Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (atf.gov) |
| EMSV | Estimated minimum sales volume |
| eTrace | Fact Sheet - eTrace: Internet-Based Firearms Tracing and Analysis Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (atf.gov) |
| FEIS | ATF's Firearms and Explosives Import System (FEIS) |
| FELD | ATF Firearms and Explosives Law Division |
| FFL | Federal Firearm License/Federal Firearms Licensee |

| Term | Description |
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| Final Rule | The Administrative Procedure Act (APA), established a uniform process for publishing, obtaining comments on, and finalizing regulations. This standard rulemaking process is known as “informal rulemaking.” The APA requires that agencies in most cases issue a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) and provide an opportunity for public comments. Once the comments are considered that agency may then issue a final rule. Any final rule must include a preamble and rule text. The preamble includes a response to the significant, relevant issues raised in public comments and a statement providing the basis and the purpose of the rule. Typically, agencies respond to all public comments in the preamble of the final rule and make the final rule effective a minimum of 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. |
| Flats | A receiver blank that has the shape and other features of a frame or receiver on a single flat piece of metal that must be folded into the final shape of the frame or receiver to be functional. |
| FOPA | Firearm Owners' Protection Act |
| Frame/Receiver (Final Rule 05) | (1) The term “frame” means the part of a handgun, or variants thereof, that provides housing or a structure for the primary energized component designed to hold back the hammer, striker, bolt, or similar component prior to initiation of the firing sequence (i.e., sear or equivalent), even if pins or other attachments are required to connect such component to the housing or structure. (2) The term “receiver” means the part of a rifle, shotgun, or projectile weapon other than a handgun, or variants thereof, that provides housing or a structure for the primary component designed to block or seal the breech prior to initiation of the firing sequence (i.e., bolt, breechblock, or equivalent), even if pins or other attachments are required to connect such component to the housing or structure. |
| GCA | A term used for the Gun Control Act of 1968 and its latter amendments. |
| General Treasury Fund | The General Fund of the Government consists of assets and liabilities used to finance the daily and long-term operations of the U.S. Government. It also includes accounts used in management of the budget of the U.S. Government. |
| Ghost Gun | A term commonly used for a Privately Made Firearm that expels a projectile. |
| Handgun | The term “handgun” means—(A) a firearm which has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand; and (B) any combination of parts from which a firearm described in subparagraph (A) can be assembled. |
| IIC | International Import Certificate |
| Implements of War | The term "Implements of War" is a term which indicated weapons considered collectively: arms, munitions, weaponry, weapon systems, ammo, ammunition parts, components, or accessories. This term of art is now generally covered in the broader designation of <i>defense articles</i> , which includes (but is not limited to) any item designated in Title 27 CFR Ch.2, §§447.21 or 447.22. The term is still retained on many official documents or forms. |
| IOI | Industry Operations Investigator |

| Term | Description |
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| Larceny | Unlawful taking of property, no use of force/violence |
| Licensee Out of Business | Compliance inspection recommendation - indicates the FFL has chosen to discontinue the license. |
| Long gun | A term commonly used for either a rifle or shotgun. |
| Machinegun (MG) | Any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person. |
| Machinegun conversion device | Any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts, designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun. |
| MAG | Abbreviation for Magnum |
| MAGLOCLN | Mid-Atlantic Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network |
| Northern Mariana Islands | Abbreviation codes are MK and MP |
| Miscellaneous Firearm | AFMER Category: Any firearms not included in the other categories, such as frames or receivers, etc. that are not identified as particular firearms. |
| Missing/Loss | Losses of firearm inventory not associated with a crime |
| MOCIC | Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center |
| MSR | Multiple Sales Report |
| Multiple Sale | Each licensee shall prepare a report of multiple sales or other dispositions whenever the licensee sells or otherwise disposes of, at one time or during any five consecutive business days, two or more pistols, or revolvers, or any combination of pistols and revolvers totaling two or more, to an unlicensed person. Multiple sales also include reporting requirements associated with the DL3. |
| Nebraska | Abbreviation codes are NE and NB |
| NESPIN | New England State Police Information Network |
| NFA | A term that is used for the National Firearms Act of 1934 and its latter amendments. |
| NFRTR | National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record |
| NIBIN | National Integrated Ballistic Information Network |
| NICS | National Instant Criminal Background Check System |
| No Violations Cited | Firearm compliance inspection recommendation, in which no violations were cited. |
| NTC | National Tracing Center Division |
| OCCA | Organized Crime Control Act of 1970 |

| Term | Description |
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| PARA | Abbreviation for Parabellum |
| Parent Entity | Because FFLs are issued for each specific location where regulated business activities are conducted; some business entities must use multiple licensed locations to accomplish their manufacturing or sales objectives. For example, firearm manufacturer ABC Company may use multiple product specific manufacturing locations in different states to produce their full product line. Similarly, many retailers / pawnbrokers have multiple sales locations through which they service the needs of their clientele. Finally, many manufacturers and retailers expand their capacity through the acquisition of other manufacturers or retailers' business locations but retain the brand or store names to promote brand / consumer loyalty. To fully comprehend the scope of all regulated activity conducted by these controlling business entities, ATF aggregated related FFLs and/or licensees owned or controlled by the same business organization using the term "parent entity" to describe the relationship to each related "child entity." This allows for the aggregation of related data at the parent entity level. As used in these reports, the parent entity represents the current structure of the regulated firearms industry. Because the dates of mergers and acquisitions are not captured in ATF information systems, we attribute all current and historical data to the parent entity as that business organization existed on April 6, 2022. |
| PII | Personally identifiable information. |
| Pistol | A weapon originally designed, made, and intended to fire a projectile (bullet) from one or more barrels when held in one hand, and having (a) a chamber(s) as an integral part(s) of, or permanently aligned with, the bore(s); and (b) a short stock designed to be gripped by one hand and at an angle to and extending below the line of the bore(s). |
| PMF | Privately Made Firearm |
| Polymer | Descriptive term used for a product made from a natural or synthetic chemical liquid compound that ultimately hardens to form the final product. |
| PPI | A family of indexes that measures the average change over time in the selling prices received by domestic producers of goods and services. See Producer Price Index Home: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (bls.gov) |
| Private Sale | The lawful sale of a firearm from an unlicensed seller to an unlicensed buyer. |
| Purpose Code | NICS codes used to indicate the type of firearm sale and the type of firearms involved. |
| Qualification Inspection | Prior to issuance of an FFL or FEL/P, ATF conducts an inspection of the applicant to verify eligibility of the license. |

| Term | Description |
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| Redemption | When a firearm is pawned and then returned to the same person that pawned it. |
| Report of Violations Only | Compliance inspection recommendation indicating the inspection resulted in the FFL being cited for violations. |
| Reported Business Premises | The business premises reported by the FFL and recorded in the Federal Licensing System. |
| Revocation | Compliance inspection recommendation indicating that the FFL be revoked. |
| Revolver | A projectile weapon, of the pistol type, having a breechloading chambered cylinder so arranged that the cocking of the hammer or movement of the trigger rotates it and brings the next cartridge in line with the barrel for firing. |
| Rifle | The term “rifle” means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of an explosive to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger. |
| RISS | Regional Intelligence Sharing System |
| RMIN | Rocky Mountain Information Network |
| Robbery | Unlawful taking of property, with threat/usage of violence |
| ROCIC | Regional Organized Crime Information Center |
| Ruling | ATF publishes rulings and procedures to promote uniform understanding and application of the laws and regulations it administers, and to provide uniform methods for performing operations in compliance with the requirements of the law and regulations. Rulings represent ATF’s guidance as to the application of the law and regulations to the entire state of facts involved and apply retroactively unless otherwise indicated. |
| Safe Explosives Act of 2002 | This Act restricted the availability of explosives to prohibited persons, strengthened licensing and permitting requirements, and aided in the fight against terrorism. |
| Settlement in lieu of revocation | Compliance inspection recommendation indicating ATF and the FFL have reached an agreement (i.e., suspension of the license and/or fine) rather than proceeding with revoking the license. |
| Short-Barrel Rifle (SBR) | The term “short-barreled rifle” means a rifle having one or more barrels less than sixteen inches in length and any weapon made from a rifle (whether by alteration, modification, or otherwise) if such weapon, as modified, has an overall length of less than twenty-six inches. |
| Short-Barrel Shotgun (SBS) | The term “short-barreled shotgun” means a shotgun having one or more barrels less than eighteen inches in length and any weapon made from a shotgun (whether by alteration, modification or otherwise) if such a weapon as modified has an overall length of less than twenty-six inches. |
| Shotgun | The term “shotgun” means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of an explosive to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball-shot or a single projectile for each single pull of the trigger. |

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| Silencer | The terms “firearm silencer” and “firearm muffler” mean any device for silencing, muffling, or diminishing the report of a portable firearm, including any combination of parts, designed or redesigned, and intended for use in assembling or fabricating a firearm silencer or firearm muffler, and any part intended only for use in such assembly or fabrication. |
| Small Arms | Comprises small arms, other ordnance, and/or ordnance accessories associated with industry index 332994 of the North American Industry Classification System. See North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) U.S. Census Bureau |
| SOT | Special Occupational Tax |
| SPEC | Abbreviation for Special |
| Sporting | Referring to the traditional shooting sports of hunting, target shooting, skeet, and trap shooting. Does not include police or military-style shooting competitions. |
| Surrendered in lieu of revocation | Compliance inspection recommendation indicating the FFL voluntarily surrendered the license because ATF was planning to pursue revocation of the license. |
| SWB | Southwest Border includes the states of Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas. |
| Tax-Exempt Application | All other applications associated with the registration, temporary interstate transport, or export of weapons that fall under the purview of the NFA that do not require a tax to be paid. These include ATF Forms 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, and 5320.2. |
| Tax-Paid Application | Application to make or transfer a weapon that falls under the purview of the NFA. This includes the ATF Form 1 and Form 4. |
| Theft | The act of stealing, specifically the felonious taking and removing of personal property with intent to deprive the rightful owner of it. |
| Transferor | The seller |
| Transferee | The buyer |
| TTR | Time-to-Recovery. The TTR for FFL thefts inventory losses is calculated by subtracting the date the firearm was recovered from the date the FFL reported it missing to ATF. |
| Unknown/Not Reported | Compliance Inspection Recommendation is unknown. |
| USMIL | United States Munitions Import List |
| USML | United States Munitions List |
| Variance | An alternant method or procedure which still fulfills the regulatory obligations and is not contrary to the law. |
| Warning Conference | Compliance inspection recommendation indicating a meeting between the FFL and the ATF to discuss the violations found during the inspection is warranted. |

| Term | Description |
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| Warning Letter | Compliance inspection recommendation indicating the results of the inspection warrant ATF to follow-up with a letter to the FFL explaining the violations and emphasizing future violations could result in revocation of the license. |
| Withdrawn | Qualification inspection recommendation indicating the FFL applicant has voluntarily withdrawn their application for a license. |
| WSIN | Western States Information Network |
| YOY | Year-over-year |