CATHERINE STEFANI

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Supervisor Stefani Leading Charge to Prevent Dangers of 3D-Printed Guns

San Francisco – Supervisor Catherine Stefani announced today that she is leading an effort to combat the threat of 3D-printed guns. Supervisor Stefani will work with the City Attorney's Office and gun violence prevention groups to craft legislation that she aims to introduce in the fall.

"The Trump Administration's recklessness will allow anyone in the world, including criminals and terrorists, to create an undetectable weapon with a 3D printer," said Supervisor Stefani. "I am determined to do anything and everything possible to prevent 3D-printed guns from causing a tragedy in our community."

Stefani's action is in response to the State Department's decision to settle a lawsuit ending five years of litigation with a Texas company over 3D-printed guns – a sudden reversal from the Obama Administration's position. The settlement will allow the company to post blueprints to create 3D-printed firearms on its website beginning on August 1st. Owners of 3D printers will be able to use these blueprints to manufacture their own weapons.

Supervisor Stefani is a lifelong advocate for common sense gun reform and aims to take action as soon as possible to prevent the potential risks of 3D-printed guns. Gun violence prevention experts have offered their expertise on these dangers:

David Pucino, Giffords Center for Gun Violence Prevention: "Downloadable guns present an immediate and serious threat to public safety that gives children, criminals, and even terrorists the ability to make their own guns with the click of a mouse. These guns lack serial numbers so they can't be traced by law enforcement, and because they are made out of plastic, downloadable firearms can escape detection by metal detectors and other traditional security systems. The dangers of an undetectable, untraceable firearm in the hands of someone who is legally barred from possessing one are obvious, and the problem will only get worse as 3D-printing technology grows more sophisticated. We are encouraged that San Francisco is joining the effort by state and local governments and federal legislators to address these dangers."

Sean Kirkendall, Policy Director, Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence: "Simply put, the Department of Justice and State Department have suddenly and completely reversed themselves about the threats to public safety posed by plaintiffs' proposed actions. The resulting settlement agreement, if carried through, threatens to undermine national security and the national defense

of the United States by authorizing the posting and downloading of computer files allowing the fabrication of dangerous make-at-home firearms by any person anywhere in the world."

Local leaders on common sense gun violence prevention joined the Supervisor on the steps of City Hall to support additional regulations of 3D guns and lauded her efforts. Jason Chen, lead student organizer for March for our Lives San Francisco and Bay Area Student Activists echoed the fear of 3D-printed guns:

"Not only students, but also the general public should be terrified. Anybody – a mentally deranged individual or a convicted felon – will be able to produce their own untraceable weapons and AR-15s with an internet connection and a 3D printer. The Trump administration has jeopardized the safety of all Americans with this decision. I do not want to be scared for my own life in school. Earlier this year, we rallied for common sense gun reform, now Trump's State Department has fallen farther from the demands of the youth. We want to prevent another Parkland, not incite one. I do not want to be shot by a 3D-printed ghost gun."

Every day 96 Americans lose their lives due to gun violence. Supervisor Stefani is dedicated to ending this mass violence and plans to bring legislation to the Board in the early fall.