

For Immediate Release: May 11, 2021

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**\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\***

**SUPERVISOR CATHERINE STEFANI AND BRADY UNITED AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE  
INTRODUCE FIRST GHOST GUN BAN IN CALIFORNIA**

SAN FRANCISCO -- Today, District 2 Supervisor Catherine Stefani and Brady United Against Gun Violence introduced California's first complete ban on the possession and sales of ghost gun kits and parts. This legislation will make San Francisco among the first in the nation to close the loophole that allows unregistered and unserialized firearms to flow into our cities.

"For too long the unregulated sale of untraceable ghost gun kits has devastated our communities. That stops now," said Supervisor Stefani. "We have to take every opportunity to address the growing crisis of gun violence in San Francisco, and I hope other counties will do the same," she said.

"Ghost guns are becoming the crime guns of choice for people who cannot lawfully buy firearms in California," said Ruth Borenstein, of Brady's San Francisco's chapter. "San Francisco's proposed ordinance is a huge step forward in combating the rise of ghost guns. Brady is proud to have partnered with Supervisor Stefani to address this serious threat to the safety of San Franciscans."

"As someone whose life and family was affected by gun violence, I know personally why ending this epidemic must remain a priority. Ghost Guns have proliferated in San Francisco, in California, and across the country, as a means for individuals who should not possess firearms to acquire them. These weapons threaten our community and Supervisor Stefani's ordinance will stop the sale of ghost gun parts and kits in our city, the first such law in our state. I am grateful for her strength and leadership on this issue. We need to pass this ordinance," said Steve Kerr, Head Coach of the Golden State Warriors.

In San Francisco, the number of ghost guns seized by local law enforcement jumped 2,733% from 2016 to 2020. In the first two months of 2021, ghost guns seized by law enforcement in San Francisco increased by 350% compared to 2019.

Ghost guns represent a substantial increase in the proportion of all guns seized. In 2016, ghost guns were less than 1% of all firearms seized. In 2020, ghost guns represented over 16% of all firearms seized in San Francisco.

"The 27-fold increase in the number of ghost guns we've been confiscating over the last five years is alarming, and I'm concerned that it's only the tip of the iceberg," said San Francisco Police Chief Bill Scott. "The proposed legislation authored by Supervisor Stefani and Brady United Against Gun Violence will give law enforcement an important tool to help reverse this dangerous trend and keep our communities and neighborhoods safer from gun violence."

Shootings of all kinds have risen dramatically in San Francisco during the pandemic. In 2020, shooting incidents increased by more than 62 percent year-over-year. In just the fourth quarter of 2020, shooting incidents were up more than 219 percent over the same period of 2019.

“Ghost guns are the weapon of choice for extremists and people who can't access a gun through legal means because it's still too easy to get a ghost gun without a background check,” said Celeste Perron, a volunteer with the California chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. “Our cities must continue to be leaders in the gun violence prevention movement and update our laws to protect against the growing threat of ghost guns — starting with this legislation from Supervisor Stefani to create a safer San Francisco.”

Stefani will formally introduce the legislation at the May 11, 2021 meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

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