

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER

**JOHN CRUMP,
GUN OWNERS OF AMERICA, INC.,
GUN OWNERS FOUNDATION,
VIRGINIA CITIZENS DEFENSE LEAGUE, and
VIRGINIA CITIZENS DEFENSE FOUNDATION,**

Plaintiffs,

v.

Case No. _____

**COLONEL JEFFREY S. KATZ,
In His Official Capacity as
Superintendent of the Virginia State Police
7700 Midlothian Turnpike
North Chesterfield, VA 23235,**

Defendant.

AFFIDAVIT OF JOHN CRUMP

This day personally appeared before me, a Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth and County aforesaid, the undersigned, after proof of identification, John Crump, who being first duly sworn, gave oath to the best of the affiant's belief, knowledge, and intentions as follows:

1. I, John Crump, am a United States citizen and resident of Loudoun County, Virginia.
2. I make this affidavit in support of Plaintiffs' Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein, and if called as a witness, I could competently testify thereto.

3. I am a law-abiding person and gun owner, am eligible to acquire and possess firearms under Virginia and federal law, and hold a valid Virginia Concealed Handgun Permit.
4. I am a member of Plaintiff Gun Owners of America, Inc., a member of Plaintiff Virginia Citizens Defense League, a supporter of Plaintiff Gun Owners Foundation, and a supporter of Plaintiff Virginia Citizens Defense Foundation.
5. In addition to other professional pursuits, I am a firearms journalist, YouTuber, and contributor to AmmoLand Shooting Sports News, where I write about news affecting gun owners.
6. As part of that work, I test and review firearms and firearm-related products and share my opinions about them online. To that end, federally licensed manufacturers and dealers often transfer to me “review copies” of various products.
7. For example, I currently am reviewing and testing preproduction firearm magazines sent to me by XTech Tactical of Gilbert, Arizona.
8. Likewise, I am expecting to receive an AR-15 rifle from OneHorse, a firearm manufacturer in Brownstown, Indiana, also for review. However, I will not receive this product until after July 1, 2026.
9. In addition to my work, I also am an avid firearms hobbyist, shooter, and collector. I often acquire new firearms and magazines specifically for self-defense, sport shooting, collecting, and as the Virginia Constitution provides, to aid in “the proper, natural, and safe defense of a free state....” Va. Const. art. I, § 13.
10. Many of my currently owned firearms and magazines fall under the definitions of “assault firearms” and “large capacity ammunition feeding devices” in Va. Code

§§ 18.2-287.4:1, 18.2-308.09(1), 18.2-308.1:9, 18.2-308.2:1, 18.2-308.2:2(A), 18.2-308.2:3, 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(1)-(7), 18.2-308.2:5(E), 18.2-309.1, and 19.2-386.28 (the “Challenged Statutes”), which now limit my ability to publicly carry, transfer, gift, and dispose of these firearms and magazines.

11. Likewise, the firearms and magazines I wish to acquire in the immediate future, either to conduct reviews for news and social media as a journalist, or to personally own, qualify as “assault firearms” and “large capacity ammunition feeding devices” under the Challenged Statutes. I will be limited, and oftentimes unable, to perform these professional activities due to the Challenged Statutes, causing me professional and financial harm.
12. In the near future, I plan on acquiring these several firearms and magazines from federally licensed dealers, including one or more from Chandler’s Firearms in Kilmarnock, Virginia, within this jurisdiction. I am familiar with Chandler’s Firearms, which I know to offer for sale various specialty, collectible, and hard-to-find firearms that I am unable to find locally, including difficult-to-find military surplus firearms.
13. I plan on visiting Chandler’s Firearms during an upcoming vacation trip this summer. Specifically, I will be traveling down the Virginia coast after July 1, 2026 and before the end of August 2026, and I plan on visiting Chandler’s Firearms along the way.
14. At Chandler’s Firearms, I plan on inquiring as to the availability of various collectible firearms. And while I am there, I plan on supporting local business and acquiring at least one (but likely more) of the following firearms and magazines.

15. For instance, I wish to acquire a new handgun within three months after July 1, 2026 to publicly carry for self-defense – specifically, a KelTec PR-5.7 pistol featuring a fixed, 20-round, top-loading internal magazine. However, because this entirely ordinary handgun is a “semi-automatic center-fire ... pistol with a fixed magazine capacity in excess of 15 rounds,” Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(1), which cannot be changed through the use of a different magazine, it is a prohibited “assault firearm” under the Challenged Statutes. I would acquire and at times publicly carry this pistol for self-defense within three months after July 1, 2026, but for my fear of criminal prosecution under the Challenged Statutes.
16. I also wish to acquire a new AR-15-style rifle for home defense, training, and sport shooting. I have decided that a Daniel Defense DDM4 V7 rifle chambered in 5.56 NATO would offer the best combination of features and components for my budget, and I wish to acquire one such rifle within three months after July 1, 2026. However, because this rifle is a “semi-automatic center-fire rifle that has the ability to accept a detachable magazine, not including an attached tubular device designed to accept and capable of operating only with .22 caliber rimfire ammunition,” and features (i) a “folding, telescoping, or collapsible stock,” (ii) a “pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the rifle,” (iii) a “second handgrip or a protruding grip that can be held by the non-trigger hand,” and (iv) a “threaded barrel capable of accepting (a) a muzzle brake, (b) a muzzle compensator, (c) a sound suppressor, or (d) a flash suppressor,” Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(2), it is a prohibited “assault firearm” several times over under the Challenged Statutes. I would acquire this AR-15-style rifle, “the most popular rifle in the country” (*Smith*

& Wesson Brands, Inc. v. Estados Unidos Mexicanos, 605 U.S. 280, 297 (2025)), within three months after July 1, 2026, but for my fear of criminal prosecution under the Challenged Statutes.

17. Likewise, I wish to acquire standard-capacity magazines for my desired Daniel Defense DDM4 V7 rifle, such as Magpul PMAG 20 and PMAG 30 magazines (with 20- and 30-round capacities, respectively), and a Magpul PMAG D-60 drum magazine (with a 60-round capacity), also within three months after July 1, 2026. However, because each of these 5.56 NATO magazines “has a capacity of, or ... can be readily restored or converted to accept, more than 15 rounds of ammunition,” and they are not “tubular device[s] designed to accept and capable of operating only with .22 caliber rimfire ammunition,” Va. Code § 18.2-309.1(A), they are prohibited “large capacity ammunition feeding devices” under the Challenged Statutes. I would acquire these magazines within three months after July 1, 2026, but for my fear of criminal prosecution under the Challenged Statutes.
18. The same is true for my desired acquisition of additional training magazines for my Glock 17 pistol. Within three months after July 1, 2026, I wish to acquire several new Glock 17 magazines. However, because these 9-millimeter magazines “ha[ve] a capacity of, or ... can be readily restored or converted to accept, more than 15 rounds of ammunition,” and they are not “tubular device[s] designed to accept and capable of operating only with .22 caliber rimfire ammunition,” Va. Code § 18.2-309.1(A), they are prohibited “large capacity ammunition feeding devices” under the Challenged Statutes. I would acquire these magazines within three months after

July 1, 2026, but for my fear of criminal prosecution under the Challenged Statutes for acquiring magazines with capacities of just *two rounds* over the legal limit.

19. Next, I wish to enhance my personal collection with the addition of an AR-15-style firearm shorter in length than my desired Daniel Defense DDM4 V7 rifle. Specifically, I wish to acquire a Palmetto State Armory PA-15 pistol chambered in 5.56 NATO and equipped with a stabilizing brace in lieu of a shoulder stock. However, because this pistol is a “semi-automatic center-fire pistol” that features (i) the “capacity to accept a magazine that attaches to the pistol outside of the pistol grip,” (ii) a “shroud that is attached to, or partially or completely encircles, the barrel and that permits the shooter to hold the pistol with the non-trigger hand without being burned,” (iii) a “threaded barrel capable of accepting (a) a sound suppressor, (b) a flash suppressor, (c) a barrel extender, or (d) a forward handgrip,” and (iv) a “buffer tube, arm brace, or other part that protrudes horizontally behind the pistol grip and is designed or redesigned to allow or facilitate the firing of a firearm from the shoulder,” Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(3), it is a prohibited “assault firearm” under the Challenged Statutes. I would acquire this pistol within three months after July 1, 2026, but for my fear of criminal prosecution under the Challenged Statutes.
20. I also wish to acquire new shotguns in the near future. Specifically, I wish to acquire a collectible Benelli M4 Tactical 12-gauge shotgun featuring an ergonomic telescoping shoulder stock. However, because this shotgun is a “semi-automatic shotgun that expels single or multiple projectiles by action of an explosion of a combustible material” and features (i) a “folding, telescoping, or collapsible stock”

and (ii) a “pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the shotgun,” Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(4), it appears to be a prohibited “assault firearm” under the Challenged Statutes. I would acquire this shotgun within four months after July 1, 2026, but for my fear of criminal prosecution under the Challenged Statutes.

21. Likewise, I wish to acquire a Derya DY12 magazine-fed 12-gauge shotgun within four months after July 1, 2026. However, because this shotgun is a “semi-automatic shotgun that expels single or multiple projectiles by action of an explosion of a combustible material” and features (i) a “folding, telescoping, or collapsible stock,” (ii) a “pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the shotgun,” and (iii) the “ability to accept a detachable magazine,” Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(4), it appears to be a prohibited “assault firearm” under the Challenged Statutes. I would acquire this shotgun within four months after July 1, 2026, but for my fear of criminal prosecution under the Challenged Statutes.
22. Alternatively, I do not know whether the Benelli M4 Tactical and Derya DY12 shotguns qualify as “assault firearms” under the Challenged Statutes, because they each have *more than* one regulated characteristic (not “*one* of the following characteristics”).
23. I also face uncertainty in my planned acquisition of a Taurus Judge Public Defender within four months after July 1, 2026. Although this firearm (and others like it) has the form factor of a revolver, it is capable of firing .410-bore shotshells. Because the Challenged Statutes do not define the term “shotgun,” I do not know whether this firearm would qualify as a prohibited “shotgun with a revolving cylinder”

under Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(5), and so I will refrain from acquiring it for fear of criminal prosecution under the Challenged Statutes.

24. Next, I have long desired to acquire a semi-automatic belt-fed firearm to enhance my personal collection. To that end, Lima Six, a manufacturer of belt-fed upper receivers for AR-15-style rifles, has offered to send me a belt-fed upper receiver for testing and review on AmmoLand. However, due to a lengthy backlog, this belt-fed upper receiver will not be ready for shipment to me until after the Challenged Statutes' July 1, 2026 effective date. And, in order to test and review this product, I will need to acquire an AR-15 stripped lower receiver and complete it into a fully functioning firearm with the Lima Six upper receiver. Yet under the Challenged Statutes, this will constitute manufacture of an "assault firearm," because such a rifle would be a "firearm that has the capacity to accept a belt ammunition feeding device," Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(6).
25. Finally, I currently own at least one "stripped" AR-15-style lower receiver that does not contain any other parts. Thus, without any enumerated features, this lower receiver is not currently an "assault firearm" under the Challenged Statutes. However, I wish to acquire parts over the coming months, and plan to assemble this lower receiver within four months after July 1, 2026 with a Magpul CTR shoulder stock, a Magpul MOE-K2+ pistol grip, a Magpul MVG second handgrip, and a Palmetto State Armory 5.56 NATO upper receiver group featuring a threaded barrel and flash hider. However, because this desired configuration would feature (i) a "folding, telescoping, or collapsible stock," (ii) a "pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the rifle," (iii) a "second handgrip or a

protruding grip that can be held by the non-trigger hand,” and (iv) a “threaded barrel capable of accepting (a) a muzzle brake, (b) a muzzle compensator, (c) a sound suppressor, or (d) a flash suppressor,” Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(2), respectively, it would be a prohibited “assault firearm” under the Challenged Statutes. I would acquire parts and would assemble this lower receiver with these parts within four months after July 1, 2026, and therefore “manufacture” an “assault firearm,” but for my fear of criminal prosecution under the Challenged Statutes.

26. In addition to acquiring the above-described firearms and magazines, I also wish to engage in various other innocuous and constitutionally protected conduct that the Challenged Statutes now prohibit.
27. For instance, within three months after July 1, 2026, I wish to acquire new 10-round AR-15 magazines for use with one of my firearms chambered in .458 SOCOM. However, a 10-round .458 SOCOM AR-15 magazine *is the same magazine as a 30-round 5.56 NATO AR-15 magazine*. The Challenged Statutes thus appear to criminalize my intended purchase of even 10-round magazines.
28. Within three months after July 1, 2026, I also wish to assemble a new 17-round magazine for my Glock 17 and a new 30-round magazine for my AR-15, each made from component parts I will acquire. Because Va. Code § 18.2-309.1(B) criminalizes only the import, sale, barter, transfer, and purchase of “large capacity ammunition feeding devices,” but not their initial manufacture, I understand this contemplated *manufacture* of new magazines to fall outside the statute’s reach.
29. Next, I have a close friend and fellow GOA and VCDL member who has developed an interest in firearms and wishes to acquire firearms and magazines. For a total

price of \$600, I have agreed to sell an AR-15-style rifle chambered in 5.56 NATO to my friend, along with five 30-round 5.56 NATO magazines, in a private sale to take place within three months after July 1, 2026, when my friend has the funds. However, because this AR-15-style rifle features a telescoping stock, pistol grip, and threaded barrel, it is a prohibited “assault firearm” under Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(2). Likewise, my five 30-round 5.56 NATO magazines exceed the 15-round legal limit for magazines and therefore are prohibited “large capacity ammunition feeding devices” under Va. Code § 18.2-309.1(A). Thus, the Challenged Statutes criminalize my planned sale. I would complete this sale but for my fear of criminal prosecution under the Challenged Statutes.


30. I also wish to give a similar AR-15-style rifle chambered in 5.56 NATO, along with five 30-round 5.56 NATO magazines, as a gift to my nephew, who is over the age of 21 and eligible to purchase and possess firearms, and who lives within the same county as me, within three months after July 1, 2026. However, because this AR-15-style rifle features a telescoping stock, pistol grip, and threaded barrel, it is a prohibited “assault firearm” under Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(2). Likewise, my five 30-round 5.56 NATO magazines exceed the 15-round legal limit for magazines and therefore are prohibited “large capacity ammunition feeding devices” under Va. Code § 18.2-309.1(A). Although this planned gift of an “assault firearm” would be legal for an “immediate family member,” my nephew does not qualify under Va. Code § 18.2-287.4:1(C)(x). Moreover, Va. Code § 18.2-309.1(C) contains no family-transfer exception whatsoever. Thus, the Challenged Statutes criminalize my planned gift. I would give this rifle and these magazines


to my nephew but for my fear of criminal prosecution under the Challenged Statutes.

31. Next, the Challenged Statutes do not provide me with sufficient clarity to know whether certain conduct and firearm features are proscribed. For instance, Va. Code §§ 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(2) and 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(4) each provide that a “thumbhole stock or pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action” of a rifle or shotgun qualifies as an “assault firearm” feature. I do not know what this ambiguous term means. Thus, I do not know whether certain pistol grips on otherwise-lawful firearms are “conspicuous” within the meaning of the Challenged Statutes, and I fear arbitrary and discriminatory criminal enforcement under the Challenged Statutes were I to take a prohibited action such as manufacturing a new firearm from component parts.
32. Similarly, Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(3) provides that a “shroud that is attached to, or partially or completely encircles, the barrel and that permits the shooter to hold the pistol with the non-trigger hand without being burned” qualifies as another “assault firearm” feature. I do not know whether the dust cover on the frame of my Glock 17 would qualify as a “shroud.” Indeed, the dust cover of a handgun frame – its forwardmost underside protrusion – “partially ... encircles[] the barrel” from below, and since my left thumb of my “non-trigger” hand often contacts and holds the handgun at that location, the dust cover would prevent my hand from “being burned.” *Id.* Thus, I fear arbitrary and discriminatory criminal enforcement under the Challenged Statutes.

33. Relatedly, I wish to install a threaded barrel on my Glock 17 and to publicly carry this handgun in that configuration. However, because I do not know whether my handgun frame's dust cover qualifies as a "shroud," I likewise do not know whether the addition of a threaded barrel will yield an "assault firearm" with "two or more" prohibited characteristics. *See* Va. Code § 18.2-308.2:2(F)(4)(3). Thus, I fear arbitrary and discriminatory criminal enforcement under the Challenged Statutes.
34. I am neither current nor retired law enforcement and have no other government affiliation, nor do I hold a Federal Firearms License as a dealer, importer, or manufacturer, and so I do not qualify under any of the Challenged Statutes' exceptions to the general prohibitions on acquiring and transferring "assault firearms" or "large capacity ammunition feeding devices." Likewise, I do not qualify under any of the Challenged Statutes' exceptions to the general prohibition on publicly carrying "assault firearms." I wish to sell, manufacture, purchase, acquire, transfer, and publicly carry "assault firearms" and "large capacity ammunition feeding devices," free from criminal liability under the Challenged Statutes, after July 1, 2026.
35. I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.


John Crump

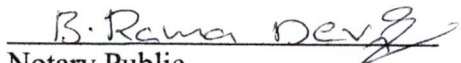

RAMADEVI BIJIVEMULA
NOTARY PUBLIC REG# 00355438
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 06/30/2029


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NOTARY PUBLIC REG# 00355438
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 06/30/2029

COMMONWEALTH OR STATE OF VIRGINIA
CITY/COUNTY OF Loudoun, to wit:

I, RAMADEVI BIJIVEMULA, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, do hereby certify that JOHN COLEMAN JR CRUMP whose name is signed to the foregoing Affidavit this 15 day of MAY, 2026, has this day personally appeared and acknowledged the same before me after sufficient proof of identity.

Given under my hand this 15 day of MAY, 2026.


Notary Public

My commission expires: 06/30/2029

Registration #: 00355438

City/County of Loudoun
Commonwealth of Virginia
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before
me This 15 day of MAY, 2026
by JOHN COLEMAN JR CRUMP
RAMADEVI BIJIVEMULA Notary Public
Reg. # 00355438 Com. Exp. 06/30/2029