

VIA FACSIMILE 916-445-4633

September 10, 2007

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

Support: AB 1471 (Feuer) – Crime Gun Identification Act of 2007

Women Against Gun Violence, a Los Angeles based gun violence prevention organization, supports AB 1471 (Feuer) which would assist law enforcement with solving gun crimes. With microstamping, law enforcement officials investigating a shooting can use the identifying microscopic serial numbers from spent shell casings and link the evidence to the specific gun that fired the round, which they could then match against the handgun database containing DROS information.

Microstamping is a more sophisticated type of ballistics technology. By intentionally inserting the microscopic serial codes found on the gun into the firing chamber and repeating them in various surfaces to prevent criminal tampering, we can help law enforcement save valuable time and dollars by narrowing down the leads they investigate after examining the casings recovered from a crime scene.

In addition to the law enforcement benefits, microstamping technology would not create an additional financial or logistical burden. This technology is supplemented by information that is already collected by state agencies; there would be no need to create additional databases, and costs to law enforcement would be minimal.

Microstamping technology could have helped solve the murder cases of many of the survivors who work with our organization to prevent gun violence in their communities. By supporting this bill we are confident that we are helping equip law enforcement with the tools they need to solve gun crimes, prosecute those committing the crimes, and help curb the epidemic that has become the leading killer of children in our state.

We urge you to sign AB 1471.

Respectfully,