

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
**INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION**  
11250 WAPLES MILL ROAD  
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030



**NRA**



Dear Federal Firearms Licensee:

Protecting our Second Amendment rights is a vital mission for all of us who value our liberties. As a federally licensed firearms dealer, you stand at the intersection between law-abiding Americans and the federal agencies that oversee our nation's gun laws. You occupy an important position and bear a serious burden. It is vital that you know and understand your rights and responsibilities.

To assist you in that, we have enclosed a reprint of an article that was first published in the 2008 August/September issue of "SHOT Business." The article, entitled "*Know Your Rights*" was written by one of the leading firearms rights lawyers in America, Richard Gardiner, and it spells out your legal rights when interacting with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE.)

Recent events have resulted in stepped up BATFE investigative activity, particularly along the U.S.-Mexico border, including joint operations that include agents from the FBI, DEA and ICE. The increased activity, which has included gun store visits and examination of records, has raised issues regarding the rights of dealers and the extent of BATFE authority to conduct investigations. It should be noted that regardless of the agency involved, the same regulations and protections for FFL holders apply, and FFLs should follow the same procedures when interacting with these agencies.

We hope you will read this article carefully in order to be fully informed when the BATFE visits your business. The National Rifle Association-Institute for Legislative Action (NRA-ILA) and the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) want to ensure that federal regulatory and enforcement activities are conducted fairly and within the law and that dealers are not harassed. To that end, if you are already facing difficulties with the BATFE, we would like to know the details. If that is the case, please contact NRA-ILA's Office of Legislative Counsel at (703) 267-1160, or contact the National Shooting Sports Foundation legal department by calling (203) 426-1320.

Firearms dealers play an integral part in law-abiding Americans' ability to exercise their Second Amendment rights. Your success is important to the fight to preserve those freedoms.

We greatly appreciate the work you do and the many contributions gun dealers make to the protection of our Second Amendment rights. We sincerely hope the information enclosed within will assist you in those efforts.

Sincerely,

Chris W. Cox  
Executive Director  
NRA-Institute for Legislative Action

Lawrence G. Keane  
Senior Vice President and General Counsel  
National Shooting Sports Foundation