

The Newspaper Classifieds

Marketplace for Illegal Gun Transfers

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The Newspaper Classifieds Marketplace for Illegal Gun Transfers

The Newspaper Loophole

Firearms are legal consumer products in the United States. However, not all firearms transfers are legal. Illegal firearms transfers include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Purchase of firearms by persons who are prohibited by law from possessing firearms, e.g., felons, domestic abusers, minors, etc.
- Sale of firearms by persons who are unlawfully “engaged in the business” of dealing in firearms without a license to do so, e.g., gun traffickers.
- Transfer of specific firearms that are prohibited by federal, state, or municipal law, e.g., machine guns, assault weapons in states that have enacted a state assault weapons ban, handguns in cities that have enacted a city handgun ban.

Under federal law (the Brady Law), federally licensed firearms dealers are required to conduct criminal background checks on all buyers and maintain records of their transactions. However, unlicensed individuals who sell firearms from a “personal collection” are not required to conduct background checks or keep records.¹

Researchers estimate that about 40 percent of all gun transfers, an estimated 5.5 million transactions a year, occur on unregulated secondary markets not subject to Brady background checks. Major sources of non-dealer sales are gun shows, estate sales, firearms sales over the Internet, and firearms sales through classified ads in newspapers.

Unlike licensed firearms dealers, private individuals who sell guns through classified ads in newspapers have no way of conducting background checks on their buyers. Thus, the classifieds provide opportunities for persons who are prohibited by law from possessing firearms to evade a background check and illegally buy guns. The classifieds also provide a venue for gun traffickers to illegally sell guns without a license to do so.

Government studies show that approximately 90 percent of guns used in crimes are obtained from secondary markets. Only 10 percent of crime guns can be traced to the original purchaser from a licensed firearms dealer with a background check.

By allowing unlicensed sellers to advertise and sell firearms through newspaper classifieds, the newspaper industry is operating a marketplace for illegal gun transfers. We call the unregulated sale of firearms by unlicensed sellers through the classifieds the “newspaper loophole.”

Firearms Advertising Policy of U.S. Newspapers

Between April-November 2005 the Campaign to Close the Newspaper Loophole conducted a survey of daily newspapers published in the United States to determine each newspaper’s policy

¹ In fact, unlicensed individuals cannot conduct criminal background checks on their buyers because only licensed firearms dealers have access to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) operated by the FBI and used by the network of licensed firearms dealers to conduct background checks on potential gun purchasers.

regarding classified advertising of firearms. That is, does the newspaper accept classified ads for guns, and if so, under what conditions. The survey included most daily newspapers in all 50 states and the District of Columbia currently listed in Bacon's Newspaper Directory (2004). The survey did not include weekly's, community newspapers, and foreign language newspapers.

The survey was performed by calling the classified advertising department of each newspaper under the guise of being a potential advertiser. The caller told the classified agent that the caller had a shotgun and a handgun for sale and asked the classified agent if the newspaper took classified ads for guns. If the classified agent asked, the guns were described as a Remington Model 870, 12 gauge pump action shotgun and a Glock 17, 9mm semiautomatic pistol.

Based on the classified agent's response to the caller's inquiry, the firearms advertising policy of each newspaper was classified as follows:

- 1a Newspaper does not take classified ads for guns from anyone.
- 1b Newspaper does not take classified ads for guns from unlicensed sellers, but accepts ads for guns from licensed firearms dealers.
- 2a Newspaper accepts classified ads for rifles and shotguns from anyone, but does not take ads for handguns.
- 2b Newspaper accepts classified ads for rifles and shotguns from anyone, but accepts ads for handguns from licensed firearms dealers only.
- 3 Newspaper accepts classified ads for all guns from anyone – rifles, shotguns, and handguns.

Of 1,449 daily newspapers surveyed, 274 newspapers (19%) responded that they do not take classified ads for guns from unlicensed sellers (1's). Another 145 newspapers (10%) responded that they do not take classified ads for handguns from unlicensed sellers, but accept ads for long guns – rifles and shotguns (2's). The remaining 1,030 newspapers (71%) responded that they accept classified ads for all guns from unlicensed sellers – rifles, shotguns, and handguns (3's).

Combining newspapers that do not take classified ads for guns from unlicensed sellers with newspapers that do not take classified ads for handguns (1's and 2's), approximately 29 percent of the nation's daily newspapers do not take classified ads for handguns from unlicensed sellers.

Firearms Advertising Policy by State

Appendix A provides a list of daily newspapers (by state) that do not take firearms advertisements from unlicensed sellers based on the response of the newspaper (classified agent) at the time of the survey. Numerical results for each state are tabulated in Table 1.

It should be noted that a newspaper's firearms advertising policy is subject to change with changes in newspaper management and ownership. In addition, the newspaper survey is subject to false positives and false negatives. A false positive would be a classified agent that responded that the newspaper accepts gun ads when in fact the newspaper's policy is to not take gun ads. A false negative would be a classified agent that responded that the newspaper does not take gun ads when in fact the newspaper's policy is to accept gun ads. Generally, false reporting by a newspaper was the result of a break down in communication between the publisher and classified department regarding the newspaper's policy.

**Table 1. Results of Survey of Firearms Advertising Policy of
Daily Newspapers Published in the United States**

State	Date of Survey	Daily Newspapers	Policy		
			1a or 1b	2a or 2b	3
Alabama	Oct-05	23	1	0	22
Alaska	Oct-05	7	0	0	7
Arizona	Jul-05	13	3	1	9
Arkansas	Oct-05	28	0	0	28
California	Oct-05	91	40	12	39
Colorado	Oct-05	29	3	2	24
Connecticut	Jul-05	17	11	0	6
Delaware	Sep-05	2	0	1	1
District of Columbia	Nov-05	2	1	1	0
Florida	Jul-05	43	13	3	27
Georgia	Jul-05	37	0	2	35
Hawaii	Jul-05	6	1	0	5
Idaho	Sep-05	13	0	4	9
Illinois	Jul-05	68	24	1	43
Indiana	Jun-05	69	30	7	32
Iowa	Apr-05	38	10	2	26
Kansas	Jul-05	42	5	1	36
Kentucky	Sep-05	23	2	2	19
Louisiana	Oct-05	26	0	1	25
Maine	Jul-05	7	1	3	3
Maryland	Jul-05	12	2	4	6
Massachusetts	Aug-05	34	22	1	11
Michigan	Jul-05	48	5	6	37
Minnesota	Jul-05	25	2	4	19
Mississippi	Oct-05	23	0	1	22
Missouri	Jul-05	41	3	2	36
Montana	Oct-05	11	0	0	11
Nebraska	Apr-05	17	3	1	13
Nevada	Sep-05	8	0	0	8
New Hampshire	Jul-05	11	2	3	6
New Jersey	May-05	18	9	0	9
New Mexico	Sep-05	17	1	0	16
New York	Jul-05	61	11	11	39
North Carolina	Apr-05	47	4	7	36
North Dakota	Sep-05	10	0	2	8
Ohio	Dec-05	81	13	8	60
Oklahoma	Sep-05	43	3	1	39
Oregon	Jul-05	17	0	8	9
Pennsylvania	Jul-05	79	12	20	47
Rhode Island	Sep-05	6	6	0	0
South Carolina	Oct-05	15	2	2	11
South Dakota	Oct-05	11	0	0	11
Tennessee	Sep-05	25	1	2	22
Texas	Jul-05	83	10	0	73
Utah	Jul-05	6	0	0	6
Vermont	Oct-05	8	0	0	8
Virginia	Aug-05	23	3	4	16
Washington	Jul-05	23	5	3	15
West Virginia	Oct-05	21	5	1	15
Wisconsin	Jul-05	32	5	11	16
Wyoming	Sep-05	9	0	0	9
Total		1,449	274	145	1,030

The twelve states (first quartile) with the largest number of daily newspapers that do not take firearms advertisements from unlicensed sellers are:

California (91)*	40
Indiana (69)	30
Illinois (68)	24
Massachusetts (34)	22
Ohio (81)	13
Florida (43)	13
Pennsylvania (79)	12
Connecticut (17)	11
New York (61)	11
Iowa (38)	10
Texas (83)	10
New Jersey (18)	9

* Number of daily newspapers in the state.

The twelve states (first quartile) with the highest percentage of daily newspapers that do not take firearms advertisements from unlicensed sellers are:

Rhode Island	6 out of 6	100%
Connecticut	11 out of 17	65%
Massachusetts	22 out of 34	65%
New Jersey	9 out of 18	50%
California	40 out of 91	44%
Indiana	30 out of 69	43%
Illinois	24 out of 68	35%
Florida	13 out of 43	30%
Iowa	10 out of 38	26%
West Virginia	5 out of 21	24%
Arizona	3 out of 13	23%
Washington	5 out of 23	22%

The survey revealed 15 states in which all daily newspapers in the state accept firearms advertisements from unlicensed sellers. The five states in this group with the largest number of daily newspapers in the state are:

Georgia	37 newspapers
Arkansas	28 newspapers
Louisiana	26 newspapers
Mississippi	23 newspapers
Oregon	17 newspapers

Firearms Advertising Policy by Newspaper Owner

Appendix B provides a list of daily newspapers that do not take firearms advertisements from unlicensed sellers sorted by owner. The newspaper owners with the largest number of newspapers that do not take firearms advertisements from unlicensed sellers are:

MediaNews Group (47)*	18	38%
Knight Ridder (35)	13	37%
Journal Register Company (23)	11	48%
Community Newspaper Holdings Inc. (92)	10	11%
Gannett Newspapers (95)	10	11%
Liberty Group Publishing (64)	10	16%
Tribune Company (14)	10	71%
Hollinger International Inc. (9)	8	89%
New York Times Company (17)	7	41%
Paxton Media Group (27)	7	26%
Cox Newspapers (17)	6	35%
E.W. Scripps Company (22)	6	27%
Newhouse Newspapers (25)	6	24%
Copley Press (10)	5	50%
Rust Communications (15)	5	33%

* Daily newspapers published in U.S. by owner.

The Campaign to Close the Newspaper Loophole

The Campaign to Close the Newspaper Loophole (www.gunloophole.com) is a project of Iowans for the Prevention of Gun Violence. The campaign asks newspapers to restrict firearms advertisements to licensed firearms dealers, and to not take classified ads for guns from unlicensed sellers.

Since the campaign was launched in November 2001, at least 69 daily newspapers² with a combined circulation of 7.9 million have changed their firearms advertising policy (through November 14, 2005). At least 53 newspapers have changed their policy in 2005 as a result of state campaigns in about 15 states. Appendix C provides a list of daily newspapers that have changed their firearms advertising policy after being contacted by the campaign.

A typical state campaign consists of the following elements.

- Creating a mail list of all daily newspapers in a state.
- Conducting a survey to determine the firearms advertising policy of each newspaper.
- Mailing a letter to the publisher of each newspaper with a copy to the advertising director. The letter makes the case for closing the “newspaper loophole” and asks the newspaper to consider adopting a policy that restricts firearms advertisements to licensed firearms dealers only.
- Making a follow up call to each publisher and/or advertising director.
- Mailing a letter to the state newspaper (press) association.

While the primary goal of the campaign is to persuade newspapers to restrict firearms advertisements to licensed firearms dealers only, a secondary goal is to create discussion among executives in the newspaper industry. The campaign expects to complete state campaigns in all 50 states by June 30, 2006.

² The Chicago Tribune was the first newspaper to change its policy after being contacted by the Campaign to Close the Newspaper Loophole in November 2001.

The Campaign to Close the Newspaper Loophole commends newspapers that have adopted a policy of restricting firearms advertisements to licensed firearms dealers and do not take classified ads for guns from unlicensed sellers. While the classifieds represent just one segment of the unregulated secondary gun market, these newspapers are part of the solution rather than part of the problem.

Newspaper Loophole Anecdotes

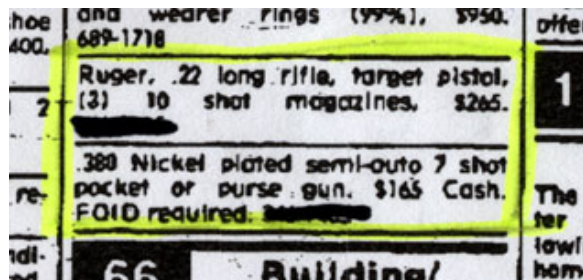
Does the newspaper loophole pose a hazard to the general public? Consider the following anecdotes.

(Peoria) *Journal Star*

How Ben Smith got his guns for shooting rampage

The tale begins with Donald Fiessinger of Pekin, Illinois. Over a two-year period 1997-1999 Fiessinger purchased 65 inexpensive handguns – often referred to as “Saturday Night Specials” – from a single gun store, the Old Prairie Trading Post in Pekin. He then resold the guns through classified ads he took out in local newspapers, selling them at up to twice the store price.

On June 23, 1999, Benjamin Nathaniel Smith, a member of a white supremacist hate group, attempted to purchase two 9mm handguns and a shotgun from a federally licensed firearms dealer in Peoria Heights, Illinois. The purchase was denied by the dealer after a background check revealed that Smith was subject to a court restraining order for domestic violence secured by an ex-girlfriend. Three days later Smith purchased two guns, a Bryco .380 caliber handgun and a Ruger .22 caliber handgun, from Fiessinger through a classified ad taken out by Fiessinger in the (Peoria) *Journal Star* newspaper.



Classified ads for two guns bought by Smith from Fiessinger. Smith killed two and wounded nine in shooting rampage.

Over the following July 4th weekend, Smith went on a shooting rampage in Illinois and Indiana that targeted African Americans, Jews, and Asians, killing two and wounding nine. The rampage included shootings in Chicago, two of its suburbs, three other Illinois cities, and Bloomington, Indiana. Killed were Ricky Byrdsong, former Northwestern University basketball coach, and Won-Joon Yoon, a South Korean doctoral student at Indiana University. Byrdsong was shot while on a walk with his children in his neighborhood in Skokie, Illinois.

The killing spree ended when Smith committed suicide following a police chase after his car was spotted in southern Illinois.

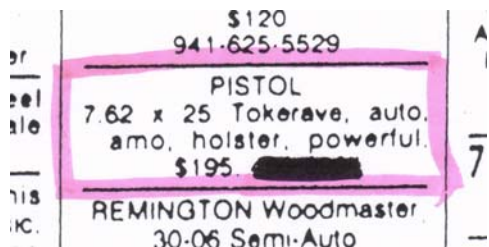
(Note: The *Journal Star* subsequently changed its firearms advertising policy in October 2005.)

Sarasota Herald Tribune

Florida man uses gun bought through newspaper ad to kill estranged wife

Mark Williams of Bradenton, Florida was involved in a contentious divorce and child custody dispute. A custody hearing was scheduled for April 28, 2003 and a divorce hearing on May 2. But neither hearing would be held.

On the morning of April 27, one day before the scheduled custody hearing, Williams bought a CZ-52 – 7.62x25mm Tokarev semiautomatic handgun from an unlicensed seller through a classified ad in the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*. Later on the same day that he bought the gun, Williams shot and killed his estranged wife, Raquel Soliz-Williams, in front of her nine-year-old daughter from a previous relationship.



Classified ad from *Sarasota Herald Tribune* for gun (right) bought by Mark Williams

CZ-52 Tokarev Semiautomatic Pistol

Williams was a convicted felon and domestic abuser. In 1987 he served 6 months in prison of an 18-month sentence for aggravated battery (stalking another woman). In 1994 he was convicted of engaging in organized crime in Texas and was sentenced to 5 years probation. Four months before the shooting, a judge issued a restraining order against Williams requested by his wife. Five weeks later, she asked the judge to vacate the order to make the situation less contentious. At the time of the shooting, Williams was also subject to a court restraining order secured by his first wife, Estella Martinez, who now lives in Illinois.

As a convicted felon and a person subject to a court restraining order for domestic violence, Williams was a prohibited purchaser. As such, he could not buy a gun from a licensed firearms dealer because he could not pass a criminal background check mandated by the Brady Law on all gun store sales. However, a loophole in the federal law allows unlicensed individuals to sell firearms from their “personal collection” without conducting a criminal background check on the buyer. Williams evidently knew that he could avoid undergoing a criminal background check by buying from an unlicensed seller in a private transaction – in this case by exploiting the “newspaper loophole”.

Williams was charged with first-degree capital murder. In November 2004, he pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and aggravated assault and was sentenced to 40 years in prison.

John Spearman, the man who sold Mark Williams the gun he used to kill his estranged wife, was a frequent advertiser in the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*. In the six months before the shooting, Spearman advertised guns for sale in the classifieds at least 17 different times.

(Note: The *Sarasota Herald-Tribune* subsequently changed its firearms advertising policy in September 2003.)

Austin American Statesman

Texas man convicted of illegally trafficking in firearms through newspaper classifieds

Hen-Jen “Andrew” Wu, a civil engineer from Cedar Park, Texas wanted to earn some extra money. So Wu went into business selling guns through classified ads in the newspaper and over Internet sites. But Wu was not a licensed firearms dealer and he never applied for a dealer’s license.

Between Feb. 11, 2004 and June 9, 2005 (16 months), Wu acquired at least 107 guns in 65 separate transactions from a single Austin gun store known as The Cost Plus 10% Gun Shop. For each transaction, Wu completed ATF Form 4473 required on all dealer sales and passed the criminal background check mandated by the Brady Law on dealer sales.

During this period, Wu placed ads for guns in the classified section of the *Austin American Statesman* at least 20 times. All the ads listed multiple guns for sale, usually with the words “and more” at the end of the ads.

At least three of the guns acquired by Wu from The Cost Plus 10% Gun Shop and resold by Wu were subsequently involved in unlawful criminal acts.

- On Jan. 5, 2005, a 27 year-old male named Shad Coleman was arrested in Austin for unlawfully carrying a concealed weapon after he accidentally shot himself in the leg. Coleman is an unlawful user of methamphetamine and has a prior criminal record.
- On March 20, 2005, a 23 year-old male named Daren Jackson was arrested in Dallas for unlawfully carrying a concealed weapon after waving the gun in a parking lot. Jackson has prior arrests for failure to identify, fugitive from justice, possession of marijuana, coercion of a public servant/voter threat, and assault causing bodily injury to a family member. Jackson pledged guilty to the domestic assault charge. Jackson’s domestic violence conviction means that he is prohibited by Federal law from purchasing or possessing firearms.
- On March 25, 2005, a 28 year-old male named Howard McCall was arrested in Austin for unlawfully carrying a concealed weapon and possession of drug paraphernalia while in possession of a firearm. McCall has prior arrests for possession of a controlled substance, prohibited weapons possession, and criminal mischief.

On May 23, 2005, an ATF special agent, acting in an undercover capacity, called Wu about several guns for sale advertised in the classified section of the May 20 edition of the *Austin*

American Statesman. The agent met Wu around 9 pm in the parking lot of the Barnes & Noble bookstore in Lakeline Mall in Austin. Wu showed the agent three 9mm pistols – a Daewoo DP51C, a Norinco, and a Taurus Millennium. The agent purchased the Daewoo pistol from Wu for \$350 cash.

During the transaction, the agent asked Wu if he would be interested in selling a gun to a friend of the agent who had a criminal record and could not pass a background check. Wu said that he would.

On June 2, 2005, the ATF special agent met Wu at approximately 8 pm in the Barnes & Noble parking lot. The agent introduced Wu to his friend, who was in fact an ATF confidential informant, and a convicted felon. (He had served 3 years in prison for a 1993 felony robbery.) The confidential informant told Wu that he was a convicted felon and could not pass a background check. Wu showed the confidential informant four guns – a semiautomatic assault rifle, a Glock .40-caliber pistol, a Glock .357-caliber pistol, and an Intratec TEC-9 9mm assault pistol with a 30-round detachable ammunition magazine. The confidential informant purchased the TEC-9 pistol (shown right) from Wu for \$600 cash.



Intratec TEC-9

On June 3, 6, and 7, 2005, Wu contacted the confidential informant about selling more firearms to the confidential informant. On June 8, the confidential informant met with Wu again in the Barnes & Noble parking lot where he purchased a Glock .357-caliber pistol from Wu for \$570 cash.

Wu, who is married and has two children, is not a U.S. citizen. He was born in Taiwan and is in the United States as a nonimmigrant alien sponsored by his employer. As such, Wu is prohibited by Federal law from possessing firearms. Yet he was able to acquire over 100 guns from The Cost Plus 10% Gun Shop by lying on ATF Form 4473, which must be completed on all firearms purchases from licensed firearms dealers, about his citizenship.

On June 14, 2005 Wu was arrested and taken into custody for violating numerous Federal firearms laws, including making false statements in the acquisition of firearms, being “engaged in the business” of dealing in firearms without a license, and selling firearms to a person that the seller knows is prohibited by law from possessing firearms.

Wu pleaded guilty in July to dealing in firearms without a license and selling firearms to a convicted felon. He was sentenced on November 1 to three years in federal prison.

Appendix A

Daily Newspapers That Do Not Take Firearms Advertisements From Unlicensed Sellers – Sorted by State

(Newspapers that changed their firearms advertising policy after being contacted by the Campaign to Close the Newspaper Loophole are indicated by an asterisk*.)

Newspaper	Daily Circulation	Owner
Alabama		
The Decatur Daily*	26,255	Tennessee Valley Printing Co. Inc.
Alaska		
None		
Arizona		
(Lake Havasu City) Today's News Herald	9,475	River City Newspapers LLC
(Tucson) Arizona Daily Star	92,127	Pulitzer Newspapers Inc.
Tucson Citizen	107,815	Gannett Newspapers
Arkansas		
None		
California		
(Costa Mesa) Daily Pilot	26,725	Tribune Company
The Davis Enterprise	10,047	McNaughton Newspapers
(El Centro) Imperial Valley Press	16,500	Schurz Communications Inc.
(Fairfield) Daily Republic	20,020	McNaughton Newspapers
(Freemont) The Argus	31,873	MediaNews Group
The Fresno Bee	165,647	McClatchy Newspapers
(Glendale) News-Press	19,026	Tribune Company
The Lompoc Record	7,736	Pulitzer Newspapers Inc.
Manteca Bulletin	6,946	Morris Multimedia Inc.
(Monterey) The Monterey County Herald	34,197	Knight Ridder
(Napa) The Napa Valley Register	19,352	Pulitzer Newspapers Inc.
(Oakland) Alameda Times-Star	7,158	MediaNews Group
The Oakland Tribune	67,308	MediaNews Group
(Ontario) Inland Valley Daily Bulletin	74,300	MediaNews Group
(Palm Springs) The Desert Sun	46,949	Gannett Newspapers
Pasadena Star News	45,000	MediaNews Group
(Placerville) Mountain Democrat	12,934	McNaughton Newspapers
Porterville Recorder	11,000	Freedom Communications Inc.
(Red Bluff) Daily News	9,000	MediaNews Group
Redlands Daily Facts	6,667	MediaNews Group
(Ridgecrest) Daily Independent	7,493	Swift Newspapers
(Riverside) The Press-Enterprise	188,091	Independent
(Salinas) The Californian	19,566	Gannett Newspapers
(San Bernardino) The Sun	72,300	MediaNews Group
San Francisco Chronicle	514,265	Hearst Newspapers

San Francisco Examiner	90,000	Exin LLC
San Jose Mercury News	276,787	Knight Ridder
(San Luis Obispo) The Tribune	38,317	Knight Ridder
Santa Cruz Sentinel	27,620	Ottaway Newspapers
Santa Maria Times	19,555	Pulitzer Newspapers Inc.
Santa Monica Daily Press	5,000	Independent
(Santa Rosa) The Press Democrat	92,470	The New York Times Company
(Sonora) The Union Democrat	11,823	Western Communications Inc.
(Torrance) The Daily Breeze	85,529	Copley Press
(Vacaville) Reporter	18,383	MediaNews Group
(Ventura) Ventura County Star	62,393	E.W. Scripps Company
(Watsonville) Register Pajaronian	8,204	News Media Corporation
(West Covina) San Gabriel Valley Tribune	120,562	MediaNews Group
Whittier Daily News	21,105	MediaNews Group
(Woodland Hills) Daily News	177,562	MediaNews Group
Colorado		
Denver Post*	301,108	MediaNews Group
(Denver) Rocky Mountain News*	301,005	E.W. Scripps Company
Telluride Daily Planet	4,100	Womack Publishing Company Inc.
Connecticut		
(Bridgeport) Connecticut Post	78,455	MediaNews Group
The Bristol Press	12,067	Journal Register Company
Greenwich Times	12,261	Tribune Company
The Middletown Press	9,992	Journal Register Company
(New Britain) The Herald	17,779	Journal Register Company
New Haven Register	94,685	Journal Register Company
(New London) The Day	41,113	Day Publishing Company
(Norfolk) The Hour	16,225	The Hour Publishing Company
Norwich Bulletin	29,402	Gannett Newspapers
(Stamford) The Advocate	26,528	Tribune Company
(Willimantic) The Chronicle	9,668	Independent
Delaware		
None		
District of Columbia		
The Washington Post	796,397	Washington Post Company
Florida		
Boca Raton News	13,469	BRN Media Group
Bradenton Herald*	37,350	Knight Ridder
(Ft Lauderdale) South Florida Sun Sentinel	248,962	Tribune Company
(Fort Pierce) The Tribune	107,122	E.W. Scripps Company
Miami Herald*	328,124	Knight Ridder
(Ocala) Star Banner*	49,343	The New York Times Company
Orlando Sentinel	266,770	Tribune Company
Palm Beach Daily News	7,329	Cox Newspapers Inc.
Sarasota Herald Tribune*	116,044	The New York Times Company
Stuart News	32,786	E.W. Scripps Company

(Vero Beach) Press Journal	32,318	E.W. Scripps Company
(West Palm Beach) The Palm Beach Post	181,312	Cox Newspapers Inc.
Georgia		
None		
Hawaii		
(Wailuku) The Maui News	17,940	Ogden Newspapers
Idaho		
None		
Illinois		
(Arlington Heights) Daily Herald Newspapers	151,321	Paddock Publications
(Aurora) Beacon News*	28,394	Hollinger International Inc.
The Benton Evening News	3,581	Liberty Group Publishing
Chicago Sun-Times	492,196	Hollinger International Inc.
Chicago Tribune*	693,659	Tribune Company
Hoy Chicago	60,000	Tribune Company
(Crystal Lake) Northwest Herald	35,500	Shaw Newspapers
(Elgin) The Courier-News*	18,000	Hollinger International Inc.
(Galesburg) The Register Mail*	17,300	Copley Press
(Joliet) The Herald News*	37,732	Hollinger International Inc.
(Kewanee) Star Courier	5,872	Liberty Group Publishing
(Lincoln) The Courier	7,000	Copley Press
Litchfield News Herald	5,880	Litchfield News Herald Inc.
(Moline) The Dispatch*	27,289	Small Newspaper Group
Morris Daily Herald	7,544	Shaw Newspapers
Mt Carmel Republican Register*	4,176	Brehm Communications Inc.
Naperville Sun*	21,342	Hollinger International Inc.
Pekin Daily Times*	12,537	Liberty Group Publishing
(Peoria) Journal Star*	69,439	Copley Press
(Pontiac) The Daily Leader	6,117	Liberty Group Publishing
The Rock Island Argus*	13,333	Small Newspaper Group
(Springfield) The State Journal Register	57,923	Copley Press
(Tinley Park) Daily Southtown	47,880	Hollinger International Inc.
(Waukegan) The News Sun*	26,576	Hollinger International Inc.
Indiana		
(Bedford) The Times-Mail*	14,036	Schurz Communications Inc.
Brazil Times*	5,058	Rust Communications
Columbia City Post & Mail*	4,800	Horizon Publications
(Columbus) The Republic	21,938	Home News Enterprises
Decatur Daily Democrat*	5,292	Horizon Publications
(Fort Wayne) The Journal Gazette	60,360	The Journal Gazette Company
(Fort Wayne) The News-Sentinel	46,375	Knight Ridder
(Frankfort) The Times*	7,282	Paxton Media Group
(Franklin) Daily Journal	18,730	Home News Enterprises
(Greencastle) Banner-Graphic*	5,580	Concord Publishing Inc.
(Greenfield) Daily Reporter	9,425	Home News Enterprises

Hartford City News-Times*	2,198	Whitewater Valley Publishing
Huntington Herald Press	7,200	Huntington Newspapers Inc.
The Indianapolis Star*	255,286	Gannett Newspapers
(Lafayette) Journal & Courier	38,000	Gannett Newspapers
Linton Daily Citizen*	4,500	Rust Communications
(Merrillville) Post-Tribune	70,351	Hollinger International Inc.
(Monticello) Herald Journal	5,467	Home News Enterprises
(New Castle) The Courier-Times	10,475	Paxton Media Group
Noblesville Daily Times	6,000	Independent
Peru Daily Tribune	6,946	Paxton Media Group
(Portland) The Commercial Review*	5,945	Graphic Printing Company Inc
Rochester Sentinel*	4,698	The Sentinel Corporation
(Seymour) The Tribune	10,482	Freedom Communications Inc.
Shelbyville News	10,555	Paxton Media Group
Spencer Evening World*	3,700	Spencer Evening World, Inc.
South Bend Tribune	72,858	Schurz Communications Inc.
Vincennes Sun Commercial	12,100	Paxton Media Group
Wabash Plain Dealer	6,255	Paxton Media Group
(Winchester) The News Gazette*	3,700	Community Media Group
Iowa		
(Burlington) The Hawk Eye*	19,665	Harris Enterprises
(Carroll) The Daily Times Herald	6,525	Herald Publishing Company
Centerville Daily Iowegian*	3,028	Community Newspaper Holdings
(Cherokee) Chronicle Times	6,150	Rust Communications
Clinton Herald	13,548	Community Newspaper Holdings
(Dubuque) Telegraph Herald*	29,376	Woodward Communications Inc.
Iowa City Press-Citizen*	14,743	Gannett Newspapers
La Mars Daily Sentinel*	3,732	Rust Communications
(Oelwein) Daily Register	3,925	Independent
(Vinton) Cedar Valley Daily Times	2,000	Mid-America Publishing Corp.
Kansas		
Derby Daily Reporter	6,000	Liberty Group Publishing
Kansas City Kansan	8,000	Liberty Group Publishing
Newton Kansan	7,786	Morris Multimedia Inc.
The Olathe Daily News	7,962	Knight Ridder
Wellington Daily News	3,298	Liberty Group Publishing
Kentucky		
(Fort Mitchell) The Kentucky Enquirer	21,495	Gannett Newspapers
Lexington Herald Leader*	113,129	Knight Ridder
Louisiana		
None		
Maine		
(Brunswick) The Times Record	11,233	Brunswick Publishing Co. Inc.
Maryland		
The Baltimore Sun	304,244	Tribune Company
(Columbia) Patuxent Newspapers		Patuxent Publishing Company

Massachusetts

(Attleboro) The Sun Chronicle	20,894	United Communications Corp.
(Beverly) Salem Evening News	34,000	Eagle-Tribune Publishing Company
Boston Globe	448,817	The New York Times Company
Boston Herald	247,885	Herald Media Inc.
(Brockton) The Enterprise	40,059	Enterprise News Media LLC
(Fall River) The Herald News	25,714	Journal Register Company
(Fitchburg) Sentinel & Enterprise	19,723	MediaNews Group
(Framingham) Metrowest Daily News	49,362	Herald Media Inc.
Gloucester Daily News	11,806	Eagle-Tribune Publishing Company
(Lawrence) The Eagle Tribune	54,256	Eagle-Tribune Publishing Company
(Lynn) The Daily Item	20,021	Hastings and Sons Publishing Co.
Milford Daily News	12,679	Herald Media Inc.
(Needham) The Daily News Transcript	7,445	Herald Media Inc.
(New Bedford) The Standard Times	40,700	Ottaway Newspapers
North Adams Transcript	8,157	MediaNews Group
(Newburyport) The Daily News	13,844	Eagle-Tribune Publishing Company
(Pittsfield) The Berkshire Eagle	31,802	MediaNews Group
(Quincy) The Patriot Ledger	70,107	Enterprise News Media LLC
Taunton Daily Gazette	14,945	Journal Register Company
Westfield Evening News	5,900	Allbritton Communications
(Woburn) Daily Times Chronicle	11,900	Woburn Daily Times Inc.
(Worcester) Telegram & Gazette	103,477	The New York Times Company

Michigan

(Big Rapids) Pioneer	5,966	Pioneer Newspapers
(Coldwater) The Daily Reporter	5,596	Liberty Group Publishing
Dowagiac Daily News	2,750	Boone/Narragansett Publishing
Manistee News-Advocate	5,278	Pioneer Newspapers
Niles Daily Star	3,124	Boone/Narragansett Publishing

Minnesota

Fairibault Daily News*	7,580	Huckle Publishing Inc.
(Mankato) The Free Press*	27,000	Community Newspaper Holdings

Mississippi

None

Missouri

Carthage Press	4,294	Liberty Group Publishing
Clinton Daily Democrat	4,112	Democrat Publishing Company Inc.
The Fulton Sun	6,500	Mrs. William H. Weldon

Montana

None

Nebraska

Alliance Times Herald	3,125	Alliance Publishing Company
Hastings Tribune	12,740	Seaton Newspapers
Nebraska City News-Press*	2,300	Nebraska City News Press Inc.

Nevada

None

New Hampshire

(Laconia) The Citizen	10,136	Citizen Publishing Company
(Nashua) The Telegraph	27,645	Independent Publications Inc.

New Jersey

Bridgeton News	9,271	Newhouse Newspapers
(Hackensack) The Record	191,034	North Jersey Media Group Inc.
(Jersey City) The Jersey Journal	45,808	Newhouse Newspapers
(Newark) The Star-Ledger	407,730	Newhouse Newspapers
(Salem) Today's Sunbeam	10,432	Newhouse Newspapers
(Trenton) The Times	76,870	Newhouse Newspapers
(West Paterson) Herald News	48,890	North Jersey Media Group Inc.
(Willingboro) Burlington County Times	39,255	Calkins Media
(Woodbury) Gloucester County Times	22,000	Newhouse Newspapers

New Mexico

(Gallup) Independent	16,509	The Gallop Independent Company
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New York

(Corning) The Leader		
(Herkimer) Evening Telegram	7,500	Liberty Group Publishing
(Massena) Daily Courier Observer	7,800	Johnson Newspaper Corporation
(Melville) Newsday	579,351	Tribune Company
(New York) Daily News	737,030	Daily News L.P.
The New York Times	1,130,740	The New York Times Company
The New York Sun	20,000	Independent
The Wall Street Journal	1,890,041	Dow Jones & Company Inc.
(Schenectady) The Daily Gazette	56,646	Daily Gazette Company
(West Nyack) The Journal News-Rockland	40,681	Independent
(White Plains) Gannett Newspapers	139,980	Gannett Newspapers

North Carolina

The Charlotte Observer	242,082	Knight Ridder
(Eden) The Daily News	5,700	Media General Inc.
(Forest City) The Daily Courier	12,401	Paxton Media Group
(Lexington) The Dispatch	13,493	The New York Times Company

North Dakota

None

Ohio

(Alliance) The Review	13,200	Alliance Publishing Company
The Cincinnati Enquirer*	191,780	Gannett Newspapers
The Cincinnati Post*	61,288	E.W. Scripps Company
(Cleveland) Sun Newspapers	260,000	Sun Newspapers Inc.
Dayton Daily News*	134,812	Cox Newspapers Inc.
The Delphos Herald*	3,775	The Delphos Herald
(Hamilton) Journal News*	23,718	Cox Newspapers Inc.
The Ironton Tribune*	6,833	Ray Barnes Newspapers
Kenton Times*	7,200	Ray Barnes Newspapers
Middletown Journal*	22,800	Cox Newspapers Inc.
Portsmouth Daily Times*	15,064	Community Newspaper Holdings

Springfield News Sun*	31,300	Cox Newspapers Inc.
Wapakoneta Daily News*	4,871	Horizon Publications
Oklahoma		
(Chickasha) Express-Star	4,017	Community Newspaper Holdings
The Shawnee News-Star*	10,623	Morris Multimedia Inc.
(Stillwater) The News Press	9,776	Community Newspaper Holdings
Oregon		
None		
Pennsylvania		
(Clearfield) The Progress	13,911	Progressive Publishing Company
Corry Journal	4,114	Sample News Group
Indiana Gazette	17,012	Community Newspaper Holdings
(Levittown) Bucks County Courier Times	67,472	Calkins Media
(Lock Haven) The Express	9,754	Ogden Newspapers
Philadelphia Daily News	152,435	Knight Ridder
The Philadelphia Inquirer*	386,890	Knight Ridder
(Pottstown) The Mercury	25,566	Journal Register Company
(State College) Centre Daily Times	25,969	Knight Ridder
(Tyrone) The Daily Herald	2,400	Calkins Media
(West Chester) Daily Local News	31,207	Journal Register Company
(Wilkes Barre) The Times Leader	49,806	Knight Ridder
Rhode Island		
The Newport Daily News	13,540	Sherman Publishing Company
(Pawtucket) The Times	15,671	Journal Register Company
The Providence Journal	165,628	A.H. Belo Corporation
(West Warwick) The Kent County Daily Times	5,502	Journal Register Company
The Westerly Sun	11,113	Record-Journal Publishing Co.
(Woonsocket) The Call	17,774	Journal Register Company
South Carolina		
Aiken Standard*	14,398	Evening Post Publishing Company
(Seneca) Daily Journal-Messenger	14,500	Oconee Publishing
South Dakota		
None		
Tennessee		
Dyersburg State Gazette	7,123	Rust Communications
Texas		
Baytown Sun*	10,368	Southern Newspapers Inc.
Conroe Courier	11,652	Westward Communications, LLC
The Dallas Morning News*	515,909	A.H. Belo Corporation
Del Rio News Herald*	5,585	Southern Newspapers Inc.
Denton Record Chronicle*	16,004	A.H. Belo Corporation
Edinburg Daily Review	5,000	Pearl Austin Mathis
Houston Chronicle*	548,508	Hearst Newspapers
The Orange Leader	8,074	Community Newspaper Holdings
Pasadena Citizen	6,161	Westward Communications LLC

(Sherman) Herald Democrat*	23,754	Stephens Media Group
Utah		
None		
Vermont		
None		
Virginia		
Manassas Journal Messenger	6,300	Media General Inc.
The Winchester Star	21,513	Byrd Newspapers
(Woodbridge) Potomac News	19,500	Media General Inc.
Washington		
(Bellevue) King County Journal-Eastside	28,443	Horvitz Newspapers Inc.
(Everett) The Herald	51,067	Washington Post Company
(Kent) King County Journal-South County	22,060	Horvitz Newspapers Inc.
Seattle Post Intelligencer	155,813	Hearst Newspapers
(Sunnyside) Daily Sun News	3,800	Eagle Newspapers Inc.
West Virginia		
(Beckley) The Register-Herald	30,710	Community Newspaper Holdings
Charlestown Daily Mail	39,192	MediaNews Group
The Charlestown Gazette	53,017	Daily Gazette Company
(Fairmont) Times West Virginian	12,426	Community Newspaper Holdings
Moundsville Daily Echo	4,460	Charles Walton
Wisconsin		
(Ashland) The Daily Press*	7,400	Murphy McGinnis Media
(Eau Claire) Leader Telegram*	27,220	Eau Claire Press Company
(Fort Atkinson) Daily Jefferson County Union	8,600	W.D. Hoard & Sons Company
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel	257,599	Journal Communications
The Monroe Times	6,300	Bliss Communications Inc.
Wyoming		
None		

Appendix B

Daily Newspapers That Do Not Take Firearms Advertisements From Unlicensed Sellers – Sorted by Owner

(Newspapers that changed their firearms advertising policy after being contacted by the Campaign to Close the Newspaper Loophole are indicated by an asterisk*.)

Newspaper	State	Owner
The Providence Journal	RI	A.H. Belo Corporation
The Dallas Morning News*	TX	A.H. Belo Corporation
Denton Record Chronicle*	TX	A.H. Belo Corporation
Westfield Evening News	MA	Allbritton Communications
Alliance Times Herald	NE	Alliance Publishing Company
(Alliance) The Review	OH	Alliance Publishing Company
The Monroe Times	WI	Bliss Communications Inc.
Dowagiac Daily News	MI	Boone/Narragansett Publishing
Niles Daily Star	MI	Boone/Narragansett Publishing
Mt Carmel Republican Register*	IL	Brehm Communications Inc.
Boca Raton News	FL	BRN Media Group
(Brunswick) The Times Record	ME	Brunswick Publishing Co. Inc.
The Winchester Star	VA	Byrd Newspapers
(Willingboro) Burlington County Times	NJ	Calkins Media
(Levittown) Bucks County Courier Times	PA	Calkins Media
(Tyrone) The Daily Herald	PA	Calkins Media
Moundsville Daily Echo	WV	Charles Walton
(Laconia) The Citizen	NH	Citizen Publishing Company
(Winchester) The News Gazette*	IN	Community Media Group
Centerville Daily Iowegian*	IA	Community Newspaper Holdings
Clinton Herald	IA	Community Newspaper Holdings
(Mankato) The Free Press*	MN	Community Newspaper Holdings
Portsmouth Daily Times*	OH	Community Newspaper Holdings
(Chickasha) Express-Star	OK	Community Newspaper Holdings
(Stillwater) The News Press	OK	Community Newspaper Holdings
Indiana Gazette	PA	Community Newspaper Holdings
The Orange Leader	TX	Community Newspaper Holdings
(Beckley) The Register-Herald	WV	Community Newspaper Holdings
(Fairmont) Times West Virginian	WV	Community Newspaper Holdings
(Greencastle) Banner-Graphic*	IN	Concord Publishing Inc.
(Torrance) The Daily Breeze	CA	Copley Press
(Galesburg) The Register Mail*	IL	Copley Press
(Lincoln) The Courier	IL	Copley Press
(Peoria) Journal Star*	IL	Copley Press
(Springfield) The State Journal Register	IL	Copley Press
Palm Beach Daily News	FL	Cox Newspapers Inc.
(West Palm Beach) The Palm Beach Post	FL	Cox Newspapers Inc.

Dayton Daily News*	OH	Cox Newspapers Inc.
(Hamilton) Journal News*	OH	Cox Newspapers Inc.
Middletown Journal*	OH	Cox Newspapers Inc.
Springfield News Sun*	OH	Cox Newspapers Inc.
(Schenectady) The Daily Gazette	NY	Daily Gazette Company
The Charlestown Gazette	WV	Daily Gazette Company
(New York) Daily News	NY	Daily News L.P.
(New London) The Day	CT	Day Publishing Company
Clinton Daily Democrat	MO	Democrat Publishing Company Inc.
The Wall Street Journal	NY	Dow Jones & Company Inc.
(Ventura) Ventura County Star	CA	E.W. Scripps Company
(Denver) Rocky Mountain News*	CO	E.W. Scripps Company
(Fort Pierce) The Tribune	FL	E.W. Scripps Company
Stuart News	FL	E.W. Scripps Company
(Vero Beach) Press Journal	FL	E.W. Scripps Company
The Cincinnati Post*	OH	E.W. Scripps Company
(Sunnyside) Daily Sun News	WS	Eagle Newspapers Inc.
(Beverly) Salem Evening News	MA	Eagle-Tribune Publishing Company
Gloucester Daily News	MA	Eagle-Tribune Publishing Company
(Lawrence) The Eagle Tribune	MA	Eagle-Tribune Publishing Company
(Newburyport) The Daily News	MA	Eagle-Tribune Publishing Company
(Eau Claire) Leader Telegram*	WI	Eau Claire Press Company
(Brockton) The Enterprise	MA	Enterprise News Media LLC
(Quincy) The Patriot Ledger	MA	Enterprise News Media LLC
Aiken Standard*	SC	Evening Post Publishing Company
San Francisco Examiner	CA	Exin LLC
Porterville Recorder	CA	Freedom Communications Inc.
(Seymour) The Tribune	IN	Freedom Communications Inc.
Tucson Citizen	AZ	Gannett Newspapers
(Palm Springs) The Desert Sun	CA	Gannett Newspapers
(Salinas) The Californian	CA	Gannett Newspapers
Norwich Bulletin	CT	Gannett Newspapers
Iowa City Press-Citizen*	IA	Gannett Newspapers
The Indianapolis Star*	IN	Gannett Newspapers
(Lafayette) Journal & Courier	IN	Gannett Newspapers
(Fort Mitchell) The Kentucky Enquirer	KY	Gannett Newspapers
(White Plains) Gannett Newspapers	NY	Gannett Newspapers
The Cincinnati Enquirer*	OH	Gannett Newspapers
(Portland) The Commercial Review*	IN	Graphic Printing Company Inc
(Burlington) The Hawk Eye*	IA	Harris Enterprises
(Lynn) The Daily Item	MA	Hastings and Sons Publishing Co.
San Francisco Chronicle	CA	Hearst Newspapers
Houston Chronicle*	TX	Hearst Newspapers
Seattle Post Intelligencer	WS	Hearst Newspapers
Boston Herald	MA	Herald Media Inc.
(Framingham) Metrowest Daily News	MA	Herald Media Inc.

Milford Daily News	MA	Herald Media Inc.
(Needham) The Daily News Transcript	MA	Herald Media Inc.
(Carroll) The Daily Times Herald	IA	Herald Publishing Company
(Aurora) Beacon News*	IL	Hollinger International Inc.
Chicago Sun-Times	IL	Hollinger International Inc.
(Elgin) The Courier-News*	IL	Hollinger International Inc.
(Joliet) The Herald News*	IL	Hollinger International Inc.
Naperville Sun*	IL	Hollinger International Inc.
(Tinley Park) Daily Southtown	IL	Hollinger International Inc.
(Waukegan) The News Sun*	IL	Hollinger International Inc.
(Merrillville) Post-Tribune	IN	Hollinger International Inc.
(Columbus) The Republic	IN	Home News Enterprises
(Franklin) Daily Journal	IN	Home News Enterprises
(Greenfield) Daily Reporter	IN	Home News Enterprises
(Monticello) Herald Journal	IN	Home News Enterprises
Columbia City Post & Mail*	IN	Horizon Publications
Decatur Daily Democrat*	IN	Horizon Publications
Wapakoneta Daily News*	OH	Horizon Publications
(Bellevue) King County Journal-Eastside	WS	Horvitz Newspapers Inc.
(Kent) King County Journal-South County	WS	Horvitz Newspapers Inc.
Fairibault Daily News*	MN	Huckle Publishing Inc.
Huntington Herald Press	IN	Huntington Newspapers Inc.
(Oelwein) Daily Register	IA	Independent
Noblesville Daily Times	IN	Independent
The New York Sun	NY	Independent
(West Nyack) The Journal News-Rockland	NY	Independent
(Riverside) The Press-Enterprise	CA	Independent
Santa Monica Daily Press	CA	Independent
(Willimantic) The Chronicle	CT	Independent
(Nashua) The Telegraph	NH	Independent Publications Inc.
(Massena) Daily Courier Observer	NY	Johnson Newspaper Corporation
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel	WI	Journal Communications
The Bristol Press	CT	Journal Register Company
The Middletown Press	CT	Journal Register Company
(New Britain) The Herald	CT	Journal Register Company
New Haven Register	CT	Journal Register Company
(Fall River) The Herald News	MA	Journal Register Company
Taunton Daily Gazette	MA	Journal Register Company
(Pottstown) The Mercury	PA	Journal Register Company
(West Chester) Daily Local News	PA	Journal Register Company
(Pawtucket) The Times	RI	Journal Register Company
(West Warwick) The Kent County Daily Times	RI	Journal Register Company
(Woonsocket) The Call	RI	Journal Register Company
(Monterey) The Monterey County Herald	CA	Knight Ridder
San Jose Mercury News	CA	Knight Ridder

(San Luis Obispo) The Tribune	CA	Knight Ridder
Bradenton Herald*	FL	Knight Ridder
Miami Herald*	FL	Knight Ridder
(Fort Wayne) The News-Sentinel	IN	Knight Ridder
The Olathe Daily News	KS	Knight Ridder
Lexington Herald Leader*	KY	Knight Ridder
The Charlotte Observer	NC	Knight Ridder
Philadelphia Daily News	PA	Knight Ridder
The Philadelphia Inquirer*	PA	Knight Ridder
(State College) Centre Daily Times	PA	Knight Ridder
(Wilkes Barre) The Times Leader	PA	Knight Ridder
The Benton Evening News	IL	Liberty Group Publishing
(Kewanee) Star Courier	IL	Liberty Group Publishing
Pekin Daily Times*	IL	Liberty Group Publishing
(Pontiac) The Daily Leader	IL	Liberty Group Publishing
Derby Daily Reporter	KS	Liberty Group Publishing
Kansas City Kansan	KS	Liberty Group Publishing
Wellington Daily News	KS	Liberty Group Publishing
(Coldwater) The Daily Reporter	MI	Liberty Group Publishing
Carthage Press	MO	Liberty Group Publishing
(Herkimer) Evening Telegram	NY	Liberty Group Publishing
Litchfield News Herald	IL	Litchfield News Herald Inc.
The Fresno Bee	CA	McClatchy Newspapers
The Davis Enterprise	CA	McNaughton Newspapers
(Fairfield) Daily Republic	CA	McNaughton Newspapers
(Placerville) Mountain Democrat	CA	McNaughton Newspapers
(Eden) The Daily News	NC	Media General Inc.
Manassas Journal Messenger	VA	Media General Inc.
(Woodbridge) Potomac News	VA	Media General Inc.
(Freemont) The Argus	CA	MediaNews Group
(Oakland) Alameda Times-Star	CA	MediaNews Group
The Oakland Tribune	CA	MediaNews Group
(Ontario) Inland Valley Daily Bulletin	CA	MediaNews Group
Pasadena Star News	CA	MediaNews Group
(Red Bluff) Daily News	CA	MediaNews Group
Redlands Daily Facts	CA	MediaNews Group
(San Bernardino) The Sun	CA	MediaNews Group
(Vacaville) Reporter	CA	MediaNews Group
(West Covina) San Gabriel Valley Tribune	CA	MediaNews Group
Whittier Daily News	CA	MediaNews Group
(Woodland Hills) Daily News	CA	MediaNews Group
Denver Post*	CO	MediaNews Group
(Bridgeport) Connecticut Post	CT	MediaNews Group
(Fitchburg) Sentinel & Enterprise	MA	MediaNews Group
North Adams Transcript	MA	MediaNews Group
(Pittsfield) The Berkshire Eagle	MA	MediaNews Group

Charlestown Daily Mail	WV	MediaNews Group
(Vinton) Cedar Valley Daily Times	IA	Mid-America Publishing Corp.
Manteca Bulletin	CA	Morris Multimedia Inc.
Newton Kansan	KS	Morris Multimedia Inc.
The Shawnee News-Star*	OK	Morris Multimedia Inc.
The Fulton Sun	MO	Mrs. William H. Weldon
(Ashland) The Daily Press*	WI	Murphy McGinnis Media
Nebraska City News-Press*	NE	Nebraska City News Press Inc.
Bridgeton News	NJ	Newhouse Newspapers
(Jersey City) The Jersey Journal	NJ	Newhouse Newspapers
(Newark) The Star-Ledger	NJ	Newhouse Newspapers
(Salem) Today's Sunbeam	NJ	Newhouse Newspapers
(Trenton) The Times	NJ	Newhouse Newspapers
(Woodbury) Gloucester County Times	NJ	Newhouse Newspapers
(Watsonville) Register Pajaronian	CA	News Media Corporation
(Hackensack) The Record	NJ	North Jersey Media Group Inc.
(West Paterson) Herald News	NJ	North Jersey Media Group Inc.
(Seneca) Daily Journal-Messenger	SC	Oconee Publishing
(Wailuku) The Maui News	HI	Ogden Newspapers
(Lock Haven) The Express	PA	Ogden Newspapers
Santa Cruz Sentinel	CA	Ottaway Newspapers
(New Bedford) The Standard Times	MA	Ottaway Newspapers
(Arlington Heights) Daily Herald Newspapers	IL	Paddock Publications
(Columbia) Patuxent Newspapers	MD	Patuxent Publishing Company
(Frankfort) The Times*	IN	Paxton Media Group
(New Castle) The Courier-Times	IN	Paxton Media Group
Peru Daily Tribune	IN	Paxton Media Group
Shelbyville News	IN	Paxton Media Group
Vincennes Sun Commercial	IN	Paxton Media Group
Wabash Plain Dealer	IN	Paxton Media Group
(Forest City) The Daily Courier	NC	Paxton Media Group
Edinburg Daily Review	TX	Pearl Austin Mathis
(Big Rapids) Pioneer	MI	Pioneer Newspapers
Manistee News-Advocate	MI	Pioneer Newspapers
(Clearfield) The Progress	PA	Progressive Publishing Company
(Tucson) Arizona Daily Star	AZ	Pulitzer Newspapers Inc.
The Lompoc Record	CA	Pulitzer Newspapers Inc.
(Napa) The Napa Valley Register	CA	Pulitzer Newspapers Inc.
Santa Maria Times	CA	Pulitzer Newspapers Inc.
The Ironton Tribune*	OH	Ray Barnes Newspapers
Kenton Times*	OH	Ray Barnes Newspapers
The Westerly Sun	RI	Record-Journal Publishing Co.
(Lake Havasu City) Today's News Herald	AZ	River City Newspapers LLC
(Cherokee) Chronicle Times	IA	Rust Communications
La Mars Daily Sentinel*	IA	Rust Communications

Brazil Times*	IN	Rust Communications
Linton Daily Citizen*	IN	Rust Communications
Dyersburg State Gazette	TN	Rust Communications
Corry Journal	PA	Sample News Group
(El Centro) Imperial Valley Press	CA	Schurz Communications Inc.
(Bedford) The Times-Mail*	IN	Schurz Communications Inc.
South Bend Tribune	IN	Schurz Communications Inc.
Hastings Tribune	NE	Seaton Newspapers
(Crystal Lake) Northwest Herald	IL	Shaw Newspapers
Morris Daily Herald	IL	Shaw Newspapers
The Newport Daily News	RI	Sherman Publishing Company
(Moline) The Dispatch*	IL	Small Newspaper Group
The Rock Island Argus*	IL	Small Newspaper Group
Baytown Sun*	TX	Southern Newspapers Inc.
Del Rio News Herald*	TX	Southern Newspapers Inc.
Spencer Evening World*	IN	Spencer Evening World, Inc.
(Sherman) Herald Democrat*	TX	Stephens Media Group
(Cleveland) Sun Newspapers	OH	Sun Newspapers Inc.
(Ridgecrest) Daily Independent	CA	Swift Newspapers
The Decatur Daily*	AL	Tennessee Valley Printing Co. Inc.
The Delphos Herald*	OH	The Delphos Herald
(Gallup) Independent	NM	The Gallop Independent Company
(Norfolk) The Hour	CT	The Hour Publishing Company
(Fort Wayne) The Journal Gazette	IN	The Journal Gazette Company
(Santa Rosa) The Press Democrat	CA	The New York Times Company
(Ocala) Star Banner*	FL	The New York Times Company
Sarasota Herald Tribune*	FL	The New York Times Company
Boston Globe	MA	The New York Times Company
(Worcester) Telegram & Gazette	MA	The New York Times Company
(Lexington) The Dispatch	NC	The New York Times Company
The New York Times	NY	The New York Times Company
Rochester Sentinel*	IN	The Sentinel Corporation
(Costa Mesa) Daily Pilot	CA	Tribune Company
(Glendale) News-Press	CA	Tribune Company
Greenwich Times	CT	Tribune Company
(Stamford) The Advocate	CT	Tribune Company
(Ft Lauderdale) South Florida Sun Sentinel	FL	Tribune Company
Orlando Sentinel	FL	Tribune Company
Chicago Tribune*	IL	Tribune Company
Hoy Chicago	IL	Tribune Company
The Baltimore Sun	MD	Tribune Company
(Melville) Newsday	NY	Tribune Company
(Attleboro) The Sun Chronicle	MA	United Communications Corp.
(Fort Atkinson) Daily Jefferson County Union	WI	W.D. Hoard & Sons Company
The Washington Post	DC	Washington Post Company

(Everett) The Herald
(Sonora) The Union Democrat
Pasadena Citizen
Conroe Courier
Hartford City News-Times*
(Woburn) Daily Times Chronicle
Telluride Daily Planet
(Dubuque) Telegraph Herald*

WS Washington Post Company
CA Western Communications Inc.
TX Westward Communications LLC
TX Westward Communications, LLC
IN Whitewater Valley Publishing
MA Woburn Daily Times Inc.
CO Womack Publishing Company Inc.
IA Woodward Communications Inc.

Appendix C

Newspapers That Have Changed Their Firearms Advertising Policy

This list includes newspapers that changed their firearms advertising policy after being contacted by the Campaign to Close the Newspaper Loophole. Last update: November 14, 2005.

2001

Chicago Tribune, IL
Philadelphia Inquirer, PA

2002

Denver Post, CO
Rocky Mountain News, CO
Miami Herald, FL
Detroit Free Press, MI*
Detroit News, MI*
Sandusky Register, OH*
Willoughby News Herald, OH*

2003

Bradenton Herald, FL
Northwest Florida Daily News, FL
(Ocala) Star Banner, FL
Sarasota Herald Tribune, FL
(Dubuque) Telegraph Herald, IA
Kansas City Star, MO*
The Dallas Morning News, TX*
Houston Chronicle, TX*

2004

The Indianapolis Star, IN

2005

The Decatur Daily, AL
(Aurora) The Beacon News, IL
(Elgin) The Courier News, IL
(Galesburg) The Register Mail, IL
(Joliet) The Herald News, IL
(Moline) The Dispatch, IL
Mount Carmel Republican-Register, IL
Naperville Sun, IL
Pekin Daily Times, IL
(Peoria) Journal Star, IL
The Rock Island Argus, IL
(Waukegan) The News Sun, IL
(Bedford) The Times Mail, IN
Brazil Times, IN
Columbia City Post & Mail, IN

Decatur Daily Democrat, IN
(Frankfort) The Times, IN
(Greencastle) Banner-Graphic, IN
Hartford City News-Times, IN
Linton Daily Citizen, IN
(Portland) The Commercial Review, IN
The Rochester Sentinel, IN
Spenser Evening World, IN
(Winchester) The News Gazette, IN
(Burlington) The Hawk Eye, IA
Centerville Daily Iowegian, IA
Iowa City Press-Citizen, IA
Le Mars Daily Sentinel, IA
Lexington Herald-Leader, KY
Faribault Daily News, MN
(Mankato) The Free Press, MN
Nebraska City News Press, NE
The Cincinnati Enquirer, OH
The Cincinnati Post, OH
Dayton Daily News, OH
The Delphos Herald, OH
(Hamilton) Journal News, OH
The Ironton Tribune, OH
Kenton Times, OH
Middletown Journal, OH
Portsmouth Daily Times, OH
Springfield News Sun, OH
Wapakoneta Daily News, OH
Shawnee News Star, OK
Aiken Standard, SC
Baytown Sun, TX
The Dallas Morning News, TX
Del Rio News Herald, TX
Denton Record Chronicle, TX
Houston Chronicle, TX
(Sherman) Herald Democrat, TX
(Ashland) The Daily Press, WI
(Eau Claire) The Leader Telegram, WI

* Accepts classified ads for rifles and shotguns only – no handguns.

What People Are Saying

The Ironton Tribune, Ohio

“We didn’t receive a lot of them (gun ads) but didn’t want it on our conscience if one is used in a crime.” *Kevin Cooper, publisher (Ohio News Network, May 26, 2005)*

Denver Post/Rocky Mountain News

“We received about 40 emails from people who were opposed to the new policy, about 15 emails from people who supported the change, and five subscribers cancelled their subscriptions. With a combined circulation of 750,000, that doesn’t even show up on the radar screen.” *Jim Nolan, communications director for the Denver Newspaper Agency regarding the newspaper’s new firearms advertising policy*

Chicago Tribune

“The *Chicago Tribune* doesn’t run certain types of ads in the interest of its readers. Firearms are one such example of that.” *Jeff Bierig, Tribune spokesman (Chicago Tribune, Nov. 2, 2001)*

“It was a compelling letter they sent that asked us to review our policy.” *Patty Wetli, Tribune spokesperson (Editor & Publisher, June 16, 2003)*

Philadelphia Inquirer

“There’s not a chance in the world that we are going to compromise our standards because of tight times in advertising. We don’t want our classified columns to become an arms market. We stay out of it, because the potential exists for an illegal transaction.” *Todd Brownrout, senior vice president for sales and marketing (News Inc., April 22, 2002)*

Willoughby News Herald, Ohio

“It seemed like the kind of thing we should do. It’s not as if we are going to lose a lot of money.” *Mitch Perlin, classified advertising manager (Wall Street Journal, Oct. 17, 2002)*

(Dubuque) Telegraph Herald, Iowa

“It (no gun classifieds) makes sense.” *Tom Yunt, publisher (Telegraph Herald, Feb. 12, 2003)*

Houston Chronicle

“Groups have petitioned newspapers in the past to close what has been termed the ‘newspaper loophole’ that allows a person to purchase handguns through classified ads without federal background checks. We have adjusted our policy to address this concern.” *Chronicle statement explaining the newspaper’s new policy*

The Dallas Morning News

The change “ensures that *The Dallas Morning News* isn’t operating a marketplace that allows for the sale or trading of weapons outside the law,” *Steven Weaver, senior vice president/advertising (The Dallas Morning News, July 6, 2003)*

“We consider our new policy to be in the best interests of the community and the Dallas Morning News. We feel good about our position.” *Frank Leto, Dallas Morning News spokesperson*

Sarasota Herald-Tribune, Florida

“I believe strongly that this is the right thing to do. We certainly don’t want to make it easier for criminals to gain access to weapons.” *Diane McFarlin, publisher (Sarasota Herald-Tribune, Sept. 24, 2003)*

The Indianapolis Star

“We constantly look at [advertising policies] in terms of editorial policies. Late last year, the paper came out with an editorial supporting the sale of firearms through licensed dealers only.” *Peter Ricker, vice president/advertising (Editor & Publisher, Apr. 27, 2004)*

Campaign to Close the Newspaper Loophole

“The unregulated sale of firearms through the classifieds endangers the lives of a newspaper’s readers. Just because it’s legal doesn’t mean it’s good policy.” *John Johnson, coordinator for the Campaign to Close the Newspaper Loophole*