



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives

www.atf.gov

July 14, 2017

REFER TO: 2015-0705

Mr. William F. Marshall
Judicial Watch, Inc.
425 3rd Street SW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20024-3232

Dear Mr. Marshall:

This is in response to your March 9, 2015, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Your request is part of ongoing litigation with this agency. This is the first release of documents that ATF has provided to you in response to your request.

Certain material has been withheld from these documents pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C), and 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5).

For this release, we have processed a total of 87 pages of potentially responsive material. We are releasing 69 pages in part and 15 pages in full. We are withholding 3 pages in their entirety. Each page of this production indicates whether it is being released in full ("RIF") or released in part ("RIP"). Individual redactions identify the exemption pursuant to which the redacted material has been withheld. If pages were withheld in their entirety, a deletion sheet is included noting the reason for the withholding.

We are withholding third party information, including the names of ATF employees, under FOIA Exemption (b)(6). To disclose personal information about a living individual to a member of the public, we need the written consent from the persons whose information you requested. Without written consent, proof of death, or an overriding public interest, personal information is exempt from disclosure under the FOIA. The FOIA does not require agencies to disclose information that would be a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy (5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)).

Mr. William F. Marshall
Page 2

We are withholding third party information, including the names of ATF employees, under Exemption (b)(7)(C). Exemption (b)(7)(C) permits the withholding of information compiled for law enforcement purposes that “could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.” The public interest in disclosure is limited to the FOIA’s core purpose of shedding light on an agency’s performance of its statutory duties. The public interest under Exemption (b)(7)(C) must be both significant and compelling in order to overcome the legitimate personal privacy interests of a third party. In this matter, the disclosure would not serve the core purpose of the FOIA, but rather, would serve as an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy (5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C)).

We are withholding deliberative materials in the records you requested under FOIA Exemption (b)(5). FOIA Exemption 5 permits the withholding of “inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency.” FOIA Exemption 5 protects advice, opinions, recommendations, predecisional discussion, and evaluative remarks that are part of the government decision-making process. Release of such predecisional advisory communications would harm the quality of agency decision-making and the policy of encouraging frank, open discussion among agency personnel before making a decision (5 U.S.C. §552 (b)(5)).

The most commonly invoked privilege within Exemption 5 is the deliberative process privilege. The general purposes of this privilege are to prevent injury to the quality of agency decisions and to protect government agencies’ decision-making processes. The deliberative process privilege allows agencies to freely explore alternative avenues of action and to engage in internal debates without fear of public scrutiny (Missouri ex rel. Shorr v. United States Army Corps of Engineers, 147 F.3d 708, 710 (8th Cir. 1998)). Exemption 5 protects not merely documents, but also the integrity of the deliberative process itself, where the exposure of that process could result in harm.

Sincerely,



Stephanie M. Boucher
Chief, Disclosure Division

Attachments

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Sunday, March 8, 2015 10:41 AM
To: PGA - Legislative Affairs
Subject: FINAL: Media Stmt on the ATF Regulations Publishing Error

If you have not seen it, the below is the ONLY approved statement on the recent ATF Regulations Publishing Error with respect to AP ammunition:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Chief - ATF Legislative Affairs

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) - cellular

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 7:34 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Attachments: Document1.docx

Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S. .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

1

PAGE(S) WITHHELD IN FULL

Page Number 3

Exemption (b)(1)

Exemption (b)(2)

Exemption (b)(3)

Applicable Statute

Exemption (b)(4)

Exemption (b)(5)

Applicable Privilege

NA

Deliberative Process Privilege

Attorney Work Product Privilege

Attorney Client Privilege

Exemption (b)(6)

Exemption (b)(7)(A)

Exemption (b)(7)(B)

Exemption (b)(7)(C)

Exemption (b)(7)(D)

Exemption (b)(7)(E)

Exemption (b)(7)(F)

Duplicate

Non-Responsive

Outside the Scope of Request

String E-Mail

Located in Document

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 7:48 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: Milanowski, Frederick J.
Subject: FW: Message posting Tonight

FYSA.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:45 PM
To: Richardson, Marvin G. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Gilbert, Curtis (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Message posting Tonight

All, See message below--we are posting tonight & pulling down the 2014 e-versions; need to have the 2014 PDF version updated **tomorrow**.

DOES ANYTHING ELSE NEED TO BE ADDED OR CORRECTED IN THE PDF version??

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 4:49 PM
To: PGA - Legislative Affairs
Subject: FW: New Updates from NSSP on 5.56 Ammo ban

NSSF letter (today) and article saying ATF made up it's mind on the framework before publishing it

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 4:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 4:01 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) -

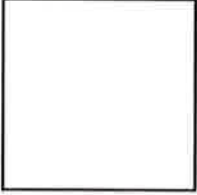
I'm sure you've been following the ATF 5.56 ammunition issue currently going on . But I wanted to let you know that despite being told on Friday the 13th that the public would have 30 days to comment on a proposed "framework" of the sporting purposes test, as well as the proposed ban on the manufacture, sale, and importation of a specific kind of 5.56 mm ammunition, the ATF had already made up its mind before the proposed framework was even released.

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation. If you have not already done so, NSSF strongly urges your boss to sign Chairman Grassley's letter on this issue. As always if you have any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Best,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Director, Government Relations - Federal Affairs
National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc.
400 N. Capitol St., NW
Suite 490
Washington, DC 20001
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

NSSF is the firearms industry's trade association.



From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:40 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Is this true? What do I say?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip "exemption"; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 8:23 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: Document1

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 7:34:56 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Document1

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 4:59 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: New Updates from NSSP on 5.56 Ammo ban
Attachments: ~WRD000.jpg

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
If fwd'ing, please strip us out.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 4:49:25 PM EST
To: PGA - Legislative Affairs (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates from NSSP on 5.56 Ammo ban

NSSF letter (today) and article saying ATF made up it's mind on the framework before publishing it

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 4:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 4:01 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) -

I'm sure you've been following the ATF 5.556 ammunition issue currently going on . But I wanted to let you know that despite being told on Friday the 13th that the public would have 30 days to comment on a proposed "framework" of the sporting purposes test, as well as the proposed ban on the manufacture, sale, and importation of a specific kind of 5.56 mm ammunition, the ATF had already made up its mind before the proposed framework was even released.

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation. If you have not already done so, NSSF strongly urges your boss to sign Chairman Grassley's letter on this issue. As always if you have any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Best,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Director, Government Relations - Federal Affairs
National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc.
400 N. Capitol St., NW
Suite 490
Washington, DC 20001

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

NSSF is the firearms industry's trade association.



Blank as Original

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:47 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This is from the NSSF thing that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) sent, which he got from (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Sen. Murphy) Thoughts?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 5:38:29 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip "exemption"; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 7:35 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Document1 FINAL

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

Blank as Original

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 8:49 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Document1

(b) (6) will need to get the post to Senator Murphy and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Can this occur once posted?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 6, 2015, at 8:23 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 7:34:56 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Document1

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Sunday, March 8, 2015 10:41 AM
To: PGA - Legislative Affairs
Subject: FINAL: Media Stmt on the ATF Regulations Publishing Error

If you have not seen it, the below is the ONLY approved statement on the recent ATF Regulations Publishing Error with respect to AP ammunition:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Chief - ATF Legislative Affairs

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) - cellular

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 7:34 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Attachments: Document1.docx

Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

1

PAGE(S) WITHHELD IN FULL

Page Number 20

Exemption (b)(1)

Exemption (b)(2)

Exemption (b)(3)

Applicable Statute

Exemption (b)(4)

Exemption (b)(5)

Applicable Privilege

NA

Deliberative Process Privilege

Attorney Work Product Privilege

Attorney Client Privilege

Exemption (b)(6)

Exemption (b)(7)(A)

Exemption (b)(7)(B)

Exemption (b)(7)(C)

Exemption (b)(7)(D)

Exemption (b)(7)(E)

Exemption (b)(7)(F)

Duplicate

Non-Responsive

Outside the Scope of Request

String E-Mail

Located in Document

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 7:48 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: Milanowski, Frederick J.
Subject: FW: Message posting Tonight

FYSA.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:45 PM
To: Richardson, Marvin G. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Gilbert, Curtis (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Message posting Tonight

All, See message below--we are posting tonight & pulling down the 2014 e-versions; need to have the 2014 PDF version updated **tomorrow**.

DOES ANYTHING ELSE NEED TO BE ADDED OR CORRECTED IN THE PDF version??

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S. .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 4:49 PM
To: PGA - Legislative Affairs
Subject: FW: New Updates from NSSP on 5.56 Ammo ban

NSSF letter (today) and article saying ATF made up it's mind on the framework before publishing it

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
office- (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 4:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 4:01 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I'm sure you've been following the ATF 5.56 ammunition issue currently going on . But I wanted to let you know that despite being told on Friday the 13th that the public would have 30 days to comment on a proposed "framework" of the sporting purposes test, as well as the proposed ban on the manufacture, sale, and importation of a specific kind of 5.56 mm ammunition, the ATF had already made up its mind before the proposed framework was even released.

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation. If you have not already done so, NSSF strongly urges your boss to sign Chairman Grassley's letter on this issue. As always if you have any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

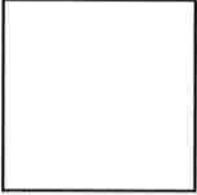
Best,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Director, Government Relations - Federal Affairs
National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc.
400 N. Capitol St., NW
Suite 490
Washington, DC 20001

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

NSSF is the firearms industry's trade association.



From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:40 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Is this true? What do I say?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip "exemption"; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks -- (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 8:23 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: Document1

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 7:34:56 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Document1

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 7:35 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Document1 FINAL

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

Blank as Original

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Sunday, March 8, 2015 10:41 AM
To: PGA - Legislative Affairs
Subject: FINAL: Media Stmt on the ATF Regulations Publishing Error

If you have not seen it, the below is the ONLY approved statement on the recent ATF Regulations Publishing Error with respect to AP ammunition:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Chief - ATF Legislative Affairs

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) - cellular

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 7:34 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Attachments: Document1.docx

Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

1

PAGE(S) WITHHELD IN FULL

Page Number 31

Exemption (b)(1)

Exemption (b)(2)

Exemption (b)(3)

Applicable Statute

Exemption (b)(4)

Exemption (b)(5)

Applicable Privilege

NA

Deliberative Process Privilege

Attorney Work Product Privilege

Attorney Client Privilege

Exemption (b)(6)

Exemption (b)(7)(A)

Exemption (b)(7)(B)

Exemption (b)(7)(C)

Exemption (b)(7)(D)

Exemption (b)(7)(E)

Exemption (b)(7)(F)

Duplicate

Non-Responsive

Outside the Scope of Request

String E-Mail

Located in Document

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 7:48 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: Milanowski, Frederick J.
Subject: FW: Message posting Tonight

FYSA.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:45 PM
To: Richardson, Marvin G. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); Gilbert, Curtis (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Message posting Tonight

All, See message below--we are posting tonight & pulling down the 2014 e-versions; need to have the 2014 PDF version updated **tomorrow**.

DOES ANYTHING ELSE NEED TO BE ADDED OR CORRECTED IN THE PDF version??

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

Blank as Original

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 8:49 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Document1

(b) (6) will need to get the post to Senator Murphy and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Can this occur once posted?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 6, 2015, at 8:23 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 7:34:56 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Document1

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

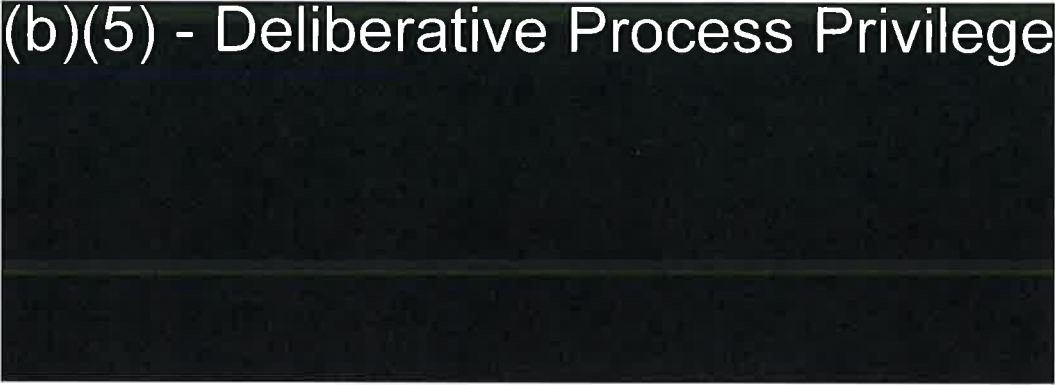
Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 6:46 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Statement for approval

(b)(5) - Deliberative Process Privilege



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Public Affairs Chief
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell
Washington, DC
@ATFHQ

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 6:13 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Statement

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Please see the statement below. I think we keep it short and simple. Fox has already sent an inquiry and once you approve I would like to respond with the approved statement. We can also put it on our social media platforms. Even go so far as to tweet @ (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) so all her followers see it and same something witty like @ (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) thanks for following ATF closely. U r correct there was missing language in the 2014 etc.. No exemption have been granted

(b)(5) - Deliberative Process Privilege

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Public Affairs Chief
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell
Washington, DC
@ATFHQ

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 8:49 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Document1

(b) (6) will need to get the post to Senator Murphy and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Can this occur once posted?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 6, 2015, at 8:23 PM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >
Date: March 6, 2015 at 7:34:56 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >
Subject: RE: Document1

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

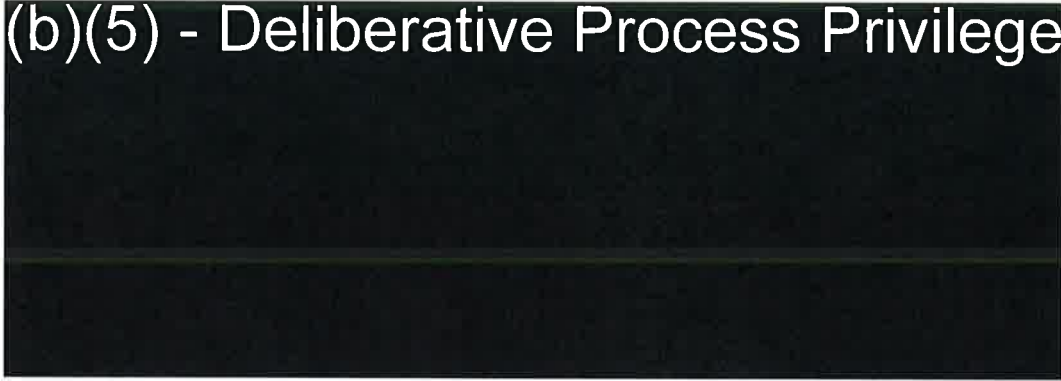
Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 6:46 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Statement for approval

(b)(5) - Deliberative Process Privilege



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Public Affairs Chief
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell
Washington, DC
@ATFHQ

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 6:13 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Statement

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Please see the statement below. I think we keep it short and simple. Fox has already sent an inquiry and once you approve I would like to respond with the approved statement. We can also put it on our social media platforms. Even go so far as to tweet @ (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) so all her followers see it and say something witty like @ (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) thanks for following ATF closely. U r correct there was missing language in the 2014 etc.. No exemption have been granted

(b)(5) - Deliberative Process Privilege

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Public Affairs Chief
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell
Washington, DC
@ATFHQ

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 8:49 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Document1

(b) (6) will need to get the post to Senator Murphy and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Can this occur once posted?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 6, 2015, at 8:23 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 7:34:56 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Document1

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 9:05 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Document1

Good to go now

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

On Mar 6, 2015, at 8:49 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

(b) (6) will need to get the post to Senator Murphy and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Can this occur once posted?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 6, 2015, at 8:23 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 7:34:56 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Document1

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:45 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).
Subject: RE: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Don't understand – looks like it is accurate that it is missing? What does that mean?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:43 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).
Subject: RE: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

I called a little bit ago and have left msgs spoke to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (not in charge of the project) – looks like it is accurate that it is missing – but don't know if it is a mistake or what.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:40 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Is this true? What do I say?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip “exemption”; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:43 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

I called a little bit ago and have left msgs spoke to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (not in charge of the project) – looks like it is accurate that it is missing – but don't know if it is a mistake or what.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:40 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Is this true? What do I say?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip “exemption”; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:59 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

On Mar 6, 2015, at 5:47 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

This is from the NSSF thing that (b) (6) sent, which he got from (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Sen. Murphy)
Thoughts?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 5:38:29 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip “exemption”; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 7:25 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Statement for approval

Waiting for CoS approval.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Any suggestions??

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:24 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Statement for approval

I will place on Facebook and tweet it @nssf and @nra who are creating all the discussion. Do you mind if I take out "purposes of" granting. It sounds redundant for purpose for purposes. It would read. Is ill also use to responded to media.

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Public Affairs Chief
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell

Washington, DC

@ATFHQ

On Mar 6, 2015, at 7:18 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 6:46 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Statement for approval

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Public Affairs Chief

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell

Washington, DC

@ATFHQ

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 7:25 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Statement for approval

Waiting for CoS approval.

(b) (6), (b) (7) Any suggestions??

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:24 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Statement for approval

I will place on Facebook and tweet it @nssf and @nra who are creating all the discussion. Do you mind if I take out "purposes of" granting. It sounds redundant for purpose for purposes. It would read. Is ill also use to responded to media.

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Public Affairs Chief

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell

Washington, DC

@ATFHQ

On Mar 6, 2015, at 7:18 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 6:46 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Statement for approval

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Public Affairs Chief

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell

Washington, DC

@ATFHQ

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 7:24 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Statement for approval

I will place on Facebook and tweet it @nssf and @nra who are creating all the discussion. Do you mind if I take out "purposes of" granting. It sounds redundant for purpose for purposes. It would read. Is ill also use to responded to media.

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Public Affairs Chief
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell
Washington, DC
@ATFHQ

On Mar 6, 2015, at 7:18 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



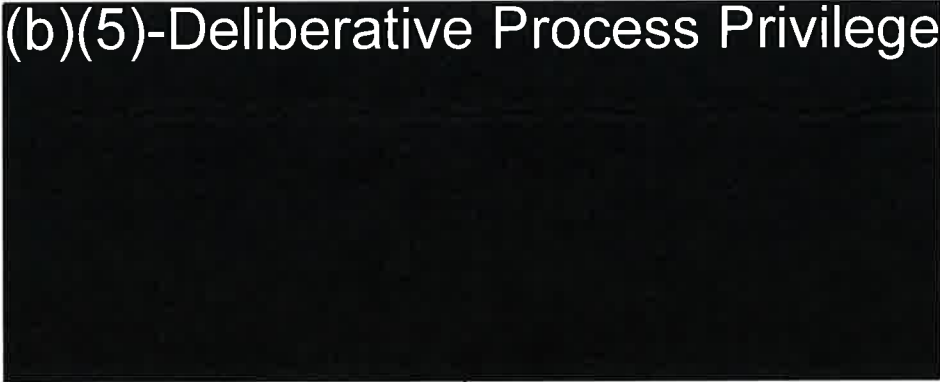
From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 6:46 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Statement for approval

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Public Affairs Chief

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell

Washington, DC

@ATFHQ

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 7:18 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Statement for approval

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 6:46 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Statement for approval

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Public Affairs Chief

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell

Washington, DC

@ATFHQ

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 8:18 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Statement for approval

Really nice job.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

On Mar 6, 2015, at 7:25 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Waiting for CoS approval.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Any suggestions??

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:24 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Statement for approval

I will place on Facebook and tweet it @nssf and @nra who are creating all the discussion. Do you mind if I take out "purposes of" granting. It sounds redundant for purpose for purposes. It would read. Is ill also use to responded to media.

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Public Affairs Chief

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell

Washington, DC

@ATFHQ

On Mar 6, 2015, at 7:18 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege




(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 6:46 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Statement for approval

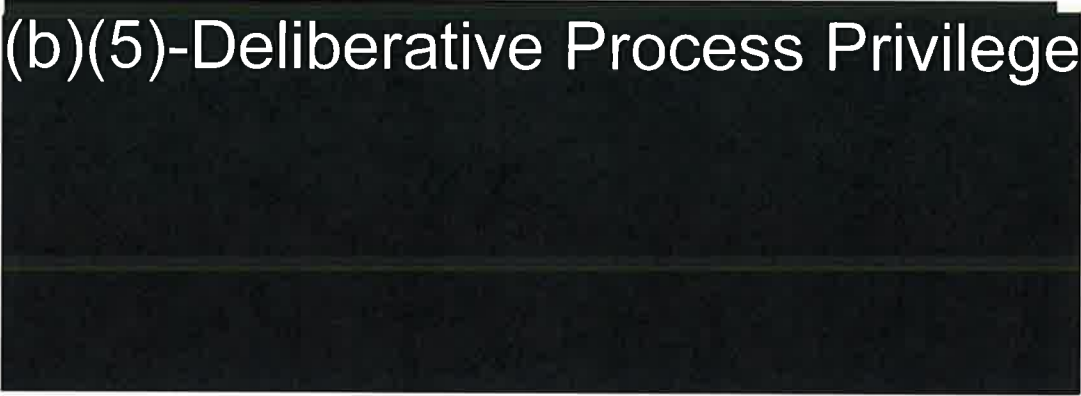
(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Public Affairs Chief
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell
Washington, DC
@ATFHQ

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 6:46 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Statement for approval

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Public Affairs Chief
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell
Washington, DC
@ATFHQ

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 6:13 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Statement

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Please see the statement below. I think we keep it short and simple. Fox has already sent an inquiry and once you approve I would like to respond with the approved statement. We can also put it on our social media platforms. Even go so far as to tweet @ (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) so all her followers see it and same something witty like @ (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) thanks for following ATF closely. U r correct there was missing language in the 2014 etc.. No exemption have been granted

(b)(5)-Deliberative Process Privilege

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Public Affairs Chief
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Direct
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Cell
Washington, DC
@ATFHQ

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Sunday, March 8, 2015 10:41 AM
To: PGA - Legislative Affairs
Subject: FINAL: Media Stmt on the ATF Regulations Publishing Error

If you have not seen it, the below is the ONLY approved statement on the recent ATF Regulations Publishing Error with respect to AP ammunition:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piecing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Chief - ATF Legislative Affairs
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) - cellular
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 4:49 PM
To: PGA - Legislative Affairs
Subject: FW: New Updates from NSSP on 5.56 Ammo ban

NSSF letter (today) and article saying ATF made up it's mind on the framework before publishing it

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 4:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 4:01 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I'm sure you've been following the ATF 5.556 ammunition issue currently going on . But I wanted to let you know that despite being told on Friday the 13th that the public would have 30 days to comment on a proposed "framework" of the sporting purposes test, as well as the proposed ban on the manufacture, sale, and importation of a specific kind of 5.56 mm ammunition, the ATF had already made up its mind before the proposed framework was even released.

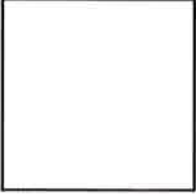
According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation. If you have not already done so, NSSF strongly urges your boss to sign Chairman Grassley's letter on this issue. As always if you have any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Best,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Director, Government Relations - Federal Affairs
National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc.
400 N. Capitol St., NW
Suite 490
Washington, DC 20001

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

NSSF is the firearms industry's trade association.



From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip "exemption"; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 8:23 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: Document1

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 7:34:56 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Document1

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:47 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This is from the NSSF thing that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) sent, which he got from (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Sen. Murphy)
Thoughts?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >
Date: March 6, 2015 at 5:38:29 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip "exemption"; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks - (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Sunday, March 8, 2015 8:58 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: PLEASE POST - Revised Federal Firearms Regulations Reference Guide - 2014 Edition

The previously issued press stmt is still a go for distribution. The below info addresses the online Reg book specifically.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 7, 2015 at 11:05:57 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: "Richardson, Marvin G." (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "Gilbert, Curtis W."
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "Thiemann, Robyn (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: PLEASE POST - Revised Federal Firearms Regulations Reference Guide - 2014 Edition

All, the updated 2014 Guide is posted on ATF's website and the links are live. An additional notice of the posting will be posted on ATF's Facebook page and Twitter account tomorrow morning.

Thanks to all for getting this done. The hard work and commitment is very much appreciated. Particularly given the response with zero notice on a Friday night & need to work throughout the day today.

Please thank all those who contributed.

(b) (6),
From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2015 9:43 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: Richardson, Marvin G.; Gilbert, Curtis W.; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Thiemann, Robyn L.; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: PLEASE POST - Revised Federal Firearms Regulations Reference Guide - 2014 Edition

AD/DAD EPS have approved this posting.

Good evening,

Please post to the ATF Internet Website, with a link to the attached PDF document, at the following locations:

- (1) The top of the "News" tab on the Firearms Industry page at <http://www.atf.gov/content/Firearms/firearms-industry>, add the following text:

ATF Revises the Federal Firearms Regulations Reference Guide - 2014 Edition (Revised 3-7-15)

The Federal Firearms Regulations Reference Guide - 2014 Edition (ATF P 5300.4) has been updated and the revised edition is now available. Updates to the 2014 edition include corrections of omissions and editing errors. (Insert link to PDF with title "Firearms Regulations Reference Guide – 2014 Edition (Revised 3-7-15)").

- (2) On the "Firearms Publications" page under the Publication tab in the Library at <http://www.atf.gov/content/library/firearms-publications-library> please post to the top of the page with the title of the link being "ATF P 5300.4" followed by the description – Federal Firearms Regulations Reference Guide – 2014 Edition (Revised 3-7-15). Delete previous entry on this page (12th entry down from top).
- (3) On the "Pressroom" page under "Regulations" (at the bottom of the page) at <http://www.atf.gov/content/contact-us/pressroom> please remove the old link and replace it with a link to this new PDF that is attached. With the title of the link being "Firearms Regulations Reference Guide – 2014 (Revised 3-7-15)".

Please post to govdelivery.com.

Please post on the next Daily Broadcast.

Thanks.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Division Chief, Office of Regulatory Affairs
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
99 New York Avenue, NE, Room 6N-531
Washington, DC 20226

Direct: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

E-mail: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

NOTICE: This e-mail message and any attached files are intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) named above in connection with official business. This communication may contain Sensitive But Unclassified information that may be statutorily or otherwise prohibited from being released without appropriate approval. Any review, use, or dissemination of this e-mail message and any attached file(s) in any form outside of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives or the Department of Justice without express authorization is strictly prohibited.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 8:49 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Document1

(b) (6) will need to get the post to Senator Murphy and (b) (6), (b) (7) to (b) (6), (b) (7)
Can this occur once posted?

(b) (6), (b) (7)

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 6, 2015, at 8:23 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 7:34:56 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Document1

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6), (b) (7) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 9:05 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Document1

Good to go now

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

On Mar 6, 2015, at 8:49 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

(b) (6) will need to get the post to Senator Murphy and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Can this occur once posted?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 6, 2015, at 8:23 PM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 7:34:56 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Document1

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:33 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Document1
Importance: High

Approved to post. (b) (6) is on standby to pull current versions. I think this should be posted at those links (so users can get to the 2005 guide).

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please call to discuss once posted.

From: Thiemann, Robyn L.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 7:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Document1

Track changes version attached; clean copy below:

On Feb. 13, 2015, ATF released for public comment a proposed framework to guide its determination on what ammunition is "primarily intended for sporting purposes" for purposes of granting exemptions to the Gun Control Act's prohibition on armor piercing ammunition. The posted framework is only a proposal, posted for the purpose of receiving public comment, and no final determinations have been made.

Media reports have noted that the 2014 ATF Regulation Guide published online does not contain a listing of the exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, and conclude that the absence of this listing indicates these exemptions have been rescinded. This is not the case.

Please be advised that ATF has not rescinded any armor piercing ammunition exemption, and the fact they are not listed in the 2014 online edition of the regulations was an error which has no legal impact on the validity of the exemptions. The existing exemptions for armor piercing ammunition, which apply to 5.56 mm (.223) SS 109 and M855 projectiles (identified by a green coating on the projectile tip), and the U.S. .30-06 M2AP projectile (identified by a black coating on the projectile tip), remain in effect.

The listing of Armor Piercing Ammunition exemptions can be found in the 2005 ATF Regulation Guide on page 166, which is posted [here](#).

The 2014 Regulation Guide will be corrected in PDF format to include the listing of armor piercing ammunition exemptions and posted shortly. The e-book/iBook version of the Regulation Guide will be corrected in the near future. ATF apologizes for any confusion caused by this publishing error.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:43 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

I called a little bit ago and have left msgs spoke to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (not in charge of the project) – looks like it is accurate that it is missing – but don't know if it is a mistake or what.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:40 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Is this true? What do I say?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip “exemption”; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:59 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

(b)(5) - Deliberative Process Privilege

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

On Mar 6, 2015, at 5:47 PM, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

This is from the NSSF thing that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) sent, which he got from (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Sen. Murphy)
Thoughts?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: March 6, 2015 at 5:38:29 PM EST
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip "exemption"; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks - (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:40 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Is this true? What do I say?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip "exemption"; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:47 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

I'm checking.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip "exemption"; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:45 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Don't understand – looks like it is accurate that it is missing? What does that mean?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:43 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

I called a little bit ago and have left msgs (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) spoke to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (not in charge of the project) – looks like it is accurate that it is missing – but don't know if it is a mistake or what.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:40 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Is this true? What do I say?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip “exemption”; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 9:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Here's a link to our website that explains what happened:

http://www.atf.gov/sites/default/files/assets/Library/Publications/notice_of_publishing_error.pdf

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip "exemption"; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:40 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Is this true? What do I say?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip "exemption"; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks -- (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:47 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

I'm checking.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip "exemption"; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 9:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Here's a link to our website that explains what happened:

http://www.atf.gov/sites/default/files/assets/Library/Publications/notice_of_publishing_error.pdf

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip "exemption"; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2015 5:45 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Don't understand – looks like it is accurate that it is missing? What does that mean?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:43 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

I called a little bit ago and have left msgs [REDACTED] spoke to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (not in charge of the project) – looks like it is accurate that it is missing – but don't know if it is a mistake or what.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:40 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

Is this true? What do I say?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 5:38 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: New Updates on 5.56 Ammo ban

This article was sent to Mr. Culberson today and raises questions about whether ATF had *de facto* eliminated the existing 5.56mm green tip “exemption”; i.e., whether this version of the regulations (see link in the last para) was complete and controlling.

Could you circle back and clarify for me? Seems like this would have come up during the meeting you had this week.

Thanks – (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

According to the 2014 ATF Regulation guide which was released in January 2015, the 5.56 mm SS109 and M855 green tip ammunition has already been stripped of its exemption and is currently illegal to manufacture, sell, or import. For more information please [see this article](#) from today outlining this situation.