Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

October 20, 2020

The Honorable William Barr Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Barr,

We write to share our concerns regarding the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives' (ATF) recent actions to limit third-party processors' ability to assist law-abiding Americans as they complete the National Firearms Act (NFA) eForms submission process. As members of Congress, we recognize that third-party processors provide taxpayers with a valuable service that benefits both the American people and the ATF's mission. As such, we respectfully request that you issue guidance ensuring ATF is working in collaboration with third-party processors to best serve the American people.

As you know, before ATF launched its NFA eForms system in 2014, third-party processors were able to assist taxpayers in completing and submitting all NFA applications in paper form. Given this long history of working in collaboration with ATF, third-party processors possess an intricate understanding of the ATF's forms and procedures. Allowing these companies to continue serving the public only simplifies the eForms submission process, provides an important level of quality control, and helps taxpayers overcome technical instability and scaling issues with ATF's current e-filing system.

ATF has previously acknowledged the important contributions third-party processors provide to the NFA eForms submission process and has assured third-party processors that they will work collaboratively on the next iteration of the eForms system. Additionally, in a letter dated October 22, 2019, 56 Members of Congress wrote to the ATF highlighting these benefits and urging Acting Director Lombardo to work with third-party processors to implement an e-filing system that allows these companies to assist the American people in exercising their Second Amendment rights.

Despite these requests, ATF recently cited the Bureau's inability to authenticate applicants' electronic signatures and certifications as the basis behind limiting third-party processors' ability to assist taxpayers. The ATF's actions run contrary to Congressional intent and the Bureau's previous promises to work with third-party processors to address these concerns in order to best serve American taxpayers and reduce burdens on the ATF.

As such, we urge the DOJ to issue guidance clarifying how third-party processors can continue assisting taxpayers in completing the NFA eForms submission process. We also hope that DOJ will ensure ATF works directly with third-party processors as the Bureau redesigns its secure eForms system. Thank you in advance for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

Ken Buck

Ken Buck Member of Congress

Steve Scalin

Steve Scalise House Republican Whip

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Steve Chabot Member of Congress

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Doug Collins
Member of Congress

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Mike Johnson
Member of Congress

Kevin McCarthy

House Republican Leader

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Jim Jordan Member of Congress

Louie Gohmert Member of Congress

Matt Gaetz Member of Congress

And Briggs

Andy Biggs Member of Congress



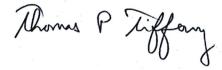
Tom McClintock Member of Congress



Guy Reschenthaler Member of Congress



Kelly Armstrong Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany Member of Congress



Jim Banks Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko Member of Congress



Ben Cline Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn Member of Congress



Scott Perry Member of Congress

of Duncar

Jeff Duncan Member of Congress



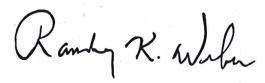
Thomas Massie Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson Member of Congress



Randy Weber
Member of Congress



Jody Hice Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S. Member of Congress



Steve King Member of Congress



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Greg Gianforte Member of Congress

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Michael C. Burgess, M.D. Member of Congress



Scott DesJarlais, M.D. Member of Congress



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Ralph Abraham, M.D. Member of Congress

Chuck Fleischmann Member of Congress

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Tim Walberg
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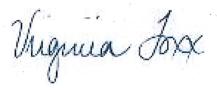
Elise M. Stefanik Member of Congress



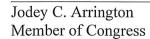
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Rob Woodall Member of Congress