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Details:

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2009-10

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on ... Criminal Justice (AC-CJ)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- [Committee Reports ...](#) **CR**
- [Executive Sessions ...](#) **ES**
- [Public Hearings ...](#) **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- [Appointments ...](#) **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- [Clearinghouse Rules ...](#) **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- [Hearing Records ...](#) bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
 - (**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
 - (**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- [Miscellaneous ...](#) **Misc**

* Contents organized for archiving by: Mike Barman (LRB) (October/2010)

McAdams, Nancy

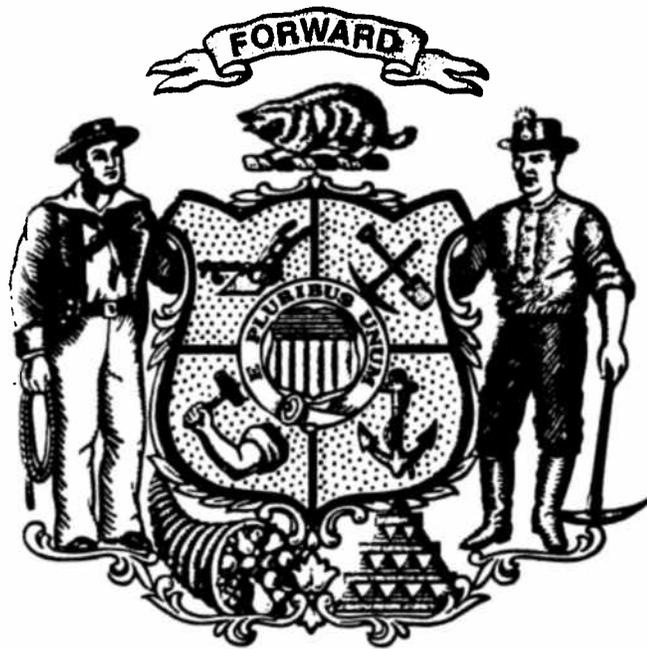
From: George, Lorna
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2009 11:55 AM
To: McAdams, Nancy
Subject: Call on status of AB 221

Nancy,

You had a call today from Bruce LaLiberte (?) to see what the status is on the microstamping bill (AB 221). He would like you to contact him when you are back and let him know when the committee plans to Exec on this.

Phone: 715-251-3590
Email: liberte@borderlandnet.net

Lorna J. George
Office of State Representative Robert L. Turner
Room 223 North, State Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708
Tel: 608-266-0731 Toll Free: 888-529-0061
Fax: 608-282-3661
lorna.george@legis.wi.gov



George, Lorna

From: David Snell [davidsnell350@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 26, 2009 3:56 PM
To: Rep.Turner; Rep.Kessler; Rep.Staskunas; Rep.Hraychuck; Rep.Soletski; Rep.Pasch;
Rep.Kleefisch; Rep.Friske; Rep.Kramer; Rep.Brooks; Rep.Ripp
Subject: [Possible Spam] AB-221
Importance: Low

Dear Representative,

I am writing you to urge you vote against AB-221. This bill would require certain handguns the ability to imprint a micro stamp on spent bullet casings. This would require the firing pin to be etched with a unique code specific to the gun, and then to the gun's owner.

This expensive technology is easily defeated since firing pins are easily replaced, and the micro stamp can also be removed with a file. Since most guns used in crime are stolen, the micro stamping technology would only link the spent casings to the gun of the original owner, and not necessarily to the perpetrator, thereby increasing the investigation time, and therefore giving the perpetrator more time to get away with their crimes.

The only thing this bill would be successful in accomplishing is driving up the cost of handguns thus placing yet another unconstitutional infringement on our right to bear arms, by making it more difficult for Wisconsin residents to own one.

Sincerely,
David Snell
262 939 4906

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6/29/2009



McAdams, Nancy

From: McAdams, Nancy
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2009 10:00 AM
To: 'liberte@borderlandnet.net'
Cc: Rep. Turner
Subject: 2009 Assembly Bill 221

Dear Mr. LaLiberte:

I just wanted to let you know that Representative Turner has no plans to schedule an executive session on Assembly Bill 221. Thank you for your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Nancy McAdams
Committee Clerk, Criminal Justice Committee
Office of State Rep. Robert Turner
223 North Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953
Phone: 608-266-0731
Fax: 608-282-3661



George, Lorna

From: Patrick Lyons [hitech_hick@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, December 07, 2009 9:51 AM
To: Rep.Turner
Subject: No to MicroStamping

AB 221
Folder

While I am all for reducing gun crimes and giving law enforcement all the tools that they need to solve crimes, micro stamping is not the answer. You will be punishing law abiding citizens with this legislation, not the criminals. By enacting this bill, mandating technology that doesn't even exist, you will effectively be banning new hand gun sales to sportsmen, hobbyists, collectors, and other law abiding citizens. The only group who will not be effected will be the criminals who will continue to get firearms elsewhere. While I agree that measures should be taken to reduce gun crimes, microstamping is NOT the answer. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Patrick Lyons



McAdams, Nancy

From: Charles Walders [lakotanwi@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, December 07, 2009 11:57 AM
To: Sen.Taylor
Cc: Rep.Turner
Subject: Gun Microstamp Legislation

AB 221
Folder

Dear Senator,

I am writing to you today to express my disapproval of the bill you are creating that would require micro stamping on guns sold in Wisconsin. Your actions tell me that you are anti gun and anti family. If there was a national / federal policy that would be one thing but no gun manufacture is going to make "special guns" specifically for the state of Wisconsin.

Let us face facts, you represent Milwaukee and there is a bad problem with guns and crime. I know all about it as I was born and raised there for 25 years before moving to the Madison area. While in Milwaukee I was personally held up while working at a midnight store. I know the problem very well as I have a parish in Milwaukee and I frequently visit people in the local hospitals and the Milwaukee County Jail.

This gun bill does nothing to prevent crime. Criminals do not go to gun shows or buy legal guns from registered gun dealers or from Gander Mountain. They have their own network. This bill then goes on to say it is a misdemeanor if you alter the gun to prevent its identity. I need to ask who thought about that? Do you think for one minute that a criminal is worried about a misdemeanor? Say the criminal commits a crime, is caught, altered gun recovered, the DA issues 10 charges against him. When the case goes to court or a plea is made the DA will drop the misdemeanors to get the felony's so what is the bill worth – absolutely nothing.

Do you really want to do something to reduce crime? How about working on bills that create good paying jobs, good safe affordable housing, education, early intervention, equality, eliminate racism, etc.

The criminals are laughing at you and despise you because you don't understand who they are, what they think or how they got where they are. Why do they fight and steal – because our society failed them from the day they were born and that is all they know. Good people come from good stable homes. You are trying to patch up a sucking wound with a band-aid. Fix the problem from the root not from the leaf.

Do you really want to fix the problem? You and the other representatives need to go out in the streets, shelters, hospitals and jails to see, hear and smell what is really happening. I don't believe that you have the stomach for it. The first question you need to ask yourself is who do you represent? All the people or just some of the people. As for me I will continue to serve the people and cherish the 2nd Amendment.

Sincerely

Father Charles Walders

CyberDefender has scanned this email for potential threats.
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12/07/2009



McAdams, Nancy

From: McAdams, Nancy
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2010 11:57 AM
To: 'A J'
Subject: RE: [Possible SPAM] Assembly Bill 221

Dear Mr. Endres:

I wanted to let you know that the Assembly Criminal Justice Committee held a public hearing on 2009 Assembly Bill 221 on May 28, 2009. The bill remains in the Criminal Justice Committee and I have no plans to hold a vote on this legislation. I hope this clarifies your question, and I appreciate your comments.

Sincerely,

State Rep. Robert Turner, Chair
Assembly Criminal Justice Committee
223 North Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953
Phone: 608-266-0731
Fax: 608-282-3661

From: A J [mailto:heritagesoftailclassic@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 7:52 PM
To: Rep.Schneider; Rep.Vruwink; Rep.Kessler; Rep.Staskunas; Rep.Suder; Rep.Gundrum; Rep.WilliamsM; Rep.Turner; Rep.Hraychuck; Rep.Soletski; Rep.Pasch; Rep.Kleefisch; Rep.Friske; Rep.Kramer; Rep.Brooks; Rep.Ripp
Subject: [Possible SPAM] Assembly Bill 221
Importance: Low

Dear committee members,

I'm confused. Is this bill being heard this May (2010) or was it last May(2009)? Well, if it is this May, I urge you to please vote "NO" on Assembly Bill 221.

Micro-stamping is flawed, unreliable, and unproven technology that will burden not only law abiding citizens but law enforcement agencies as well.

Adding this unproven technology will only increase the cost of firearms and make it more difficult for law abiding citizens to purchase and own firearms making them defenseless against criminals.

Remember, people become criminals when they no longer obey the law!! More laws will not prevent more crime, only prevent law abiding citizens from exercising their second amendment rights!

Sincerely,

Tony J. Endres
Hammond, WI

**"Laws that forbid the carrying of arms disarm only those who are neither inclined nor determined to commit crimes. Such laws make things worse for the assaulted and better for the assailants; they serve rather to encourage than to prevent homicides, for an unarmed man may be attacked with greater confidence than an armed man."
*Thomas Jefferson***

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02/23/2010

George, Lorna

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Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 7:52 PM
To: Rep.Schneider; Rep.Vruwink; Rep.Kessler; Rep.Staskunas; Rep.Suder; Rep.Gundrum; Rep.WilliamsM;
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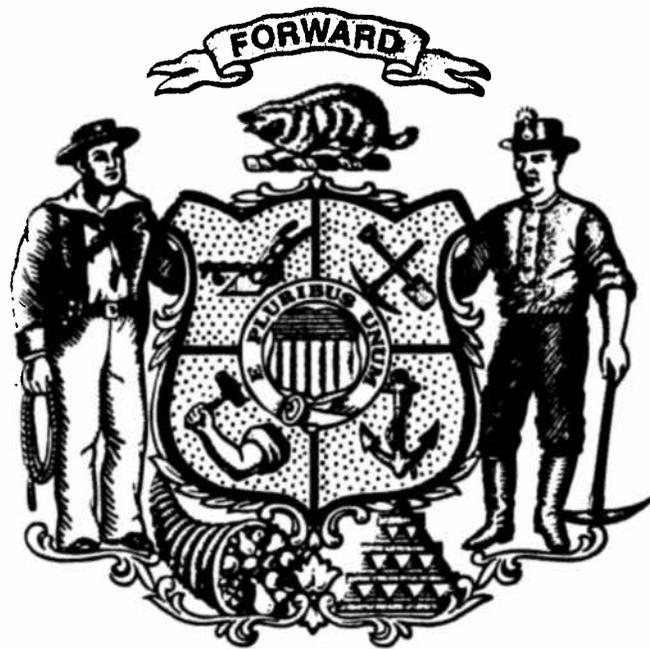
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Hammond, WI

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Thomas Jefferson

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**Testimony to the Members of the Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice –
Assembly Bill 221**

**William T. Morales
MAIG Regional Coordinator
City of Milwaukee
Office of Violence Prevention**

Date?

Good morning, I want to thank you for this opportunity to speak in support of Assembly Bill 221, and how it would benefit Law Enforcement and their duty to protect the public. I also hope to dispel a few myths along the way.

My name is William Morales, I am a 20-year veteran of the Milwaukee Police Department on a leave of absence, currently working for Mayor Tom Barrett in his Office of Violence Prevention. During my Milwaukee Police career, I spent over 13 years with the Tactical Enforcement Unit, which is the S.W.A.T. team for the city of Milwaukee. During that time I was a Ballistic shields man, tactical trainer, weapons armourer and a counter-sniper. Outside the Police department, I am a hunter and a National Rifle Association Life Member. I also served our country in the military on active duty and in the reserves and am a desert storm veteran. My current position with the city of Milwaukee is the Regional Coordinator for Mayors Against Illegal Guns and firearms advisor to Mayor Barrett.

Mayors Against Illegal Guns is a bi-partisan coalition of over 360 Mayors, which Mayor Barrett has been a member since 2006. One of the goals of this bi-partisan coalition is to find and support common sense solution to prevent violent gun incidents that many times result in injury and death to citizens and fellow officers. The Law Enforcement community has already lost 15 officers to gunfire this year, which is 15 too many.

We as citizens have a right to be protected from violent criminals. It is Law Enforcements duty to provide that protection. In order to fulfill that obligation law enforcement needs to have all the resources necessary to solve crimes as quickly as possible. Micro stamping enhances the solvability of gun crimes where the firearm is not recovered but shell casings are left at the scene. Police will be able to quickly know the make, model, serial number and original owner of the firearm and not just the caliber. This will put them on the trail and lead them to the perpetrator. The faster the police find the suspect the safer the community will be.

As a police officer, I have been to numerous “shots fired” calls, where there were only a few shell casings in the street. Many of these incidents initially produced very few viable witness descriptions of possible suspects. The shooter would be at large until more information from outside sources lead to their apprehension. Micro stamping provides a starting point from the shell casing and quickly can lead to the shooter. Luckily some of these incidents did not result in injury or death. We cannot rely on luck. I have been to many shootings where someone’s luck has run out.

The cost of this technology is minimal. The information that was provided to me showed that the cost would be .50 to \$3 per surface on the firearm. That means \$1 to \$6 per firearm. That cost is a small price to pay to support Law Enforcement in solving violent crimes quickly, which makes the community safer. This does not raise the cost of ammunition, since the cartridge gets marked during the firing process. Any ammunition that can be fired in a micro-stamped pistol will be marked as originating from that pistol.

As a responsible firearms owner, this does not affect me. My pistols will not be used in the commission of a crime, so what fears would I have from this legislation? Could my fired casing be collected by a criminal at a gun range and then tossed at a crime scene. We all know the saying, "all things are possible", but in reality the times that this would happen would be rare. Criminals who commit these types of crimes would not take the time to figure out how to foil police investigations. If there was, which is a huge if; it would come out in the investigation on how my casing ended up at the scene.

I also know that the firing pin could be replaced. The times that this would happen would again be rare. Criminals do not take the time to pick up casings or other evidence left at the scene. They also do not take the time to clean their pistol let a lone change the firing pin. Taking a pistol apart and replacing small parts isn't as easy as it sounds. Realistically, I do not see this happening. I believe many who attempt this on their own will render the weapon inoperable. As far as grinding down the firing pin head, I can only hope that this will cause a malfunction in the firearm and prevent it from firing.

We have to remember that the firing pin is not the only marking surface. The breech face is also marked, so attempts to alter one set of marks doesn't defeat this crime solving technology. But if someone was successful in doing that, Law Enforcement will still solve those cases as they do today. It will just take more time, utilizing current crime solving techniques.

All firearms start off as a "legal" firearm. When the firearm is transferred to a prohibited person or is used in a crime it becomes an illegal firearm. We know that criminals/ prohibited persons attempt to obtain a firearm through illegal means, such as from a straw purchaser. Micro stamping will have a positive affect in reducing these incidents. Law enforcement will be quickly led to the original purchaser and quickly identify these people. Straw purchasing incidents will be reduced when these people realize they can be quickly identified and interviewed by police following a shooting. It will come out in the investigation that they are providing firearms to prohibited persons. They will stop this behavior or eventually face criminal charges themselves.

As a responsible owner of over twenty firearms and a NRA life member this legislation does not negatively affect me. I would not have a problem with all of my firearms being capable of producing a micro stamp.

I do not think any of my firearms will ever be used in the commission of a crime, if I sold any of my collection and that firearm is used in a crime I would want law enforcement to find the perpetrator as quickly as possible.

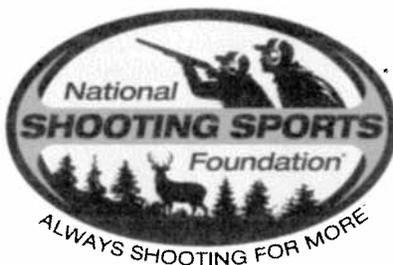
As a member of the law enforcement community this technology is exciting, and is a great step forward in solving shots fired and shooting crimes quickly. This makes our communities safer by apprehending the perpetrator before they can commit another violent crime and possibly injuring or killing someone.

I believe this technology is the next step in the evolution of solving violent gun crimes. This also enhances the safety and well being of our communities.

I thank you for this opportunity to speak on behalf of this important and necessary legislation.



The National Shooting Sports Foundation



Update on Microstamping Since Passage In California

May 2009

I. Todd Lizotte Admits Microstamping Requires Further Study

"Once it's implemented, further research would be warranted."

-- Todd Lizotte, New Haven Register, March 18, 2008

Lizotte has admitted in testimony in CT that there has been no testing conducted on microstamping the breach face and that the second location called for in the legislation will be a bar-gear code on the firing pin.

Quote from UC Davis Study: "At the current time no information has been provided regarding the interpretation of the radial bar codes and gear codes. Without this information the impressions of these encoding structures are nothing more than that: impressions."

This will cost law enforcement and crime labs money to purchase machines and readers to decipher the codes (Mr. Lizotte holds various patents on these readers as well), not to mention no testing has been conducted to even determine if they are able to withstand and hold up to the pressures of the firing pin.

Despite the admission that further study is needed and he is also unsure as to where the second location will be, Lizotte continues to push for passage in states around the country.

II. Technology Remains Patented and Sole-Source - Lizotte Will Not Put Patent Into Public Domain

- a. The California legislation says "..., provided that the Department of Justice certifies that the technology used to create the imprint is available to more than one manufacturer unencumbered by any patent restrictions."

- b. Lizotte has no plans to place the patent in the public domain.
- c. Lizotte testified in CT and has stated publicly including to NSSF that he will only provide a “royalty free license” for the technology. Anyone who tries to use the technology without a license from Lizotte will be infringing on the patent. It is NOT available to more than one manufacturer “unencumbered by any patent restrictions.”
- d. Lizotte Falsely Claims He Will Make No Money on the Patent. He testified in CT on March 17th that he WILL make money for his “time and materials” if manufacturers hire him to implement the technology. Since the technology is patented and under license then manufacturers will have to hire him. He said he has already entered into confidentiality agreements with some manufacturers.
- e. Lizotte testified in CT that he would apply the patented technology for other applications outside of firearms. State Representative pointed out that mandatory implementation within firearms industry would be great advertisement for his technology.
- f. The California law, along with other states, asks for the make, model and serial number to be on the firing pin of the firearm yet at the current time Lizotte is claiming the markings will be an 8 digit alpha-numeric code. This will lead to major problems as to who will keep this database and at the same time assign numbers and letters to specific models.

III. U.C. Davis Study Re-published (May 2008)

- a. Now peer-reviewed removing main criticisms of the earlier edition
- b. Same conclusion – Needs more study

At the present time, therefore, because its forensic potential has yet to be fully assessed, a mandate for the implementation of this technology in all new semiautomatic handguns sold in the state of California is counter-indicated. We specifically propose further research on alpha-numeric serial numbers on firearms mostly in gang related shootings, suitability of such alpha-numeric imprint on fired cartridge case areas other than the soft primer area, realistic and accurate production cost estimates for such micro-engraving and a evaluation as to what percent of gang related shooting could realistically be solved by such technology given current gang firearms usage.

The recent release of the National Research Council of the National Academies report on *Ballistics Imaging*, March 5, 2008 supports the concept of our research and they (NRC) recommend further research on “microstamping,” a technique that imprints unique marks on guns or ammunition-“

IV. National Research Council (March 2008)

"Further studies are needed on the durability of microstamping marks under various firing conditions and their susceptibility to tampering, as well as on the cost impact for manufacturers and consumers."

V. Cost to Taxpayers

Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM)

2005: Lizotte testified before the California Assembly Public Safety Comm (AB 352) that one of the benefits of microstamping was the police didn't need any expensive equipment, that they would pick up the shell casing and with a magnifying glass simply read the serial number.

2007: Lizotte criticized original UC Davis study on the grounds they did not use the proper equipment to read the markings on the casing, he testified that a Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) is needed to clearly view the markings.

2007: Around the same time that Lizotte claimed an SEM was needed at all crime labs, he filed a patent for all machines and methods to read firearm microstamping.

Unfortunately for the states, SEMs are not commonplace in crime labs throughout the United States and they are very expensive to purchase greater than \$200,000 each compared to a stereo-zoom microscope (less than \$5,000).

If a state crime lab has one it is used to conduct gun shot residue (GSR) analysis and other trace evidence analysis. Labs would never allow these SEMs to be used for examining the primers of cartridges cases for microlasered markings on the primer due to concerns that a very minute trace amount of gun powder from the casing would contaminate the SEM's chamber and preclude future SEM-GSR analysis. It is also highly unlikely that a laboratory would have the funding to purchase an additional SEM strictly for the analysis of micro-marked firing pin impressions.

Patented Technology to Read Microstamping 2nd Location Requirement (Gear Codes and Bar Codes)

The second location called for in legislation according to testimony in various states by Todd Lizotte will be a bar and gear code on the firing pin.

On April 17, 2007, Todd Lizotte and his company filed a U.S. patent (7,204,419 B2) which protects all methods and machines for reading firearms microstamping. These machines will be used to read the gear codes and bar codes on the firing pin. **The result is that the technology (if it worked correctly) would in fact be worthless to law enforcement and crime labs unless they purchased this costly**

patented sole-sourced equipment from the same inventor. The fiscal impact of this development is difficult to determine since this will be a monopoly pricing scheme that will directly impact a state's budget.

VI. Microstamping Introduced and Defeated in a Total of 7 States

- a. CT (2 years in a row), MA, NJ, NY (2 years in a row), RI, VA.
- b. Defeated in all the above states and in nearly all cases did not even get voted out of committee.
- c. There have also been Federal bills but have not even received a hearing.

VII. Law Enforcement Opposition and Support for Further Study

- a. National Fraternal Order of Police
- b. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF): supports further study of the technology not necessarily opposed.
It is our understanding that Lizotte has refused to cooperate with ATF's laboratory which is trying to conduct a review and study of microstamping.
- c. Cathy Lanier, Washington D.C. Chief of Police
- d. Rhode Island Crime Lab
- e. Connecticut State Police
- f. California Fraternal Order of Police
- g. Connecticut Fraternal Order of Police

VIII. Union Opposition

- a. **Connecticut, Colt Firearms, United Automobile Aerospace Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW)**
UAW expressed opposition to microstamping because of "the risk of forcing an unproven technology on Connecticut gun manufacturers is not worth the potential of losing 500 living wage union jobs."
- b. **New York, Remington, United Mine Workers of America (UMWA)**
UMWA stated that "Increased costs born by Remington, will simply cost union jobs here in New York as the cost to manufacturer firearms is significantly increased."

**IX. Washington D.C. City Council Testimony by Josh Horwitz and
Cathy Lanier**

- a. Josh Horwitz, Executive Director of the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence.
*“Our recommendation for the District is to wait until 2011.
It will be easier to implement once California has started
their process.”*

- b. Cathy Lanier, Chief of Police D.C. Metro Police Department
Opposes Microstamping,
*“It does not seem that microstamping is ready to replace ballistic
imaging yet. I can only come to the same conclusion as U.C. Davis,
as well as the National research Council, more research should be
conducted before we adopt this technology.”*

The National Shooting Sports Foundation



The Firearms Industry Creates Jobs in Wisconsin

Wisconsin companies that manufacture, distribute and sell sporting firearms, ammunition and supplies are an important part of the state's economy. Manufacturers of firearms, ammunition and supplies, along with the companies that sell and distribute these products, provide well paying jobs in Wisconsin and pay significant amounts in tax to the state and Federal governments.

Economic Impact of The Sporting Arms and Ammunition Industry in Wisconsin

	Direct	Supplier	Induced	Total
Jobs (FTE)	2,000	1,000	1,600	4,600
Wages	\$ 65,652,700	\$ 46,414,600	\$ 56,590,500	\$ 168,657,800
Economic Impact	\$ 187,062,200	\$ 142,545,600	\$ 188,311,600	\$ 517,919,400

The Firearms & Ammunition Industry is an Important Part of Wisconsin's Economy

- ❖ Companies in Wisconsin that manufacture, distribute and sell firearms, ammunition and hunting equipment employ as many as 2,040 people in the state and generate an additional 2,600 jobs in supplier and ancillary industries. These include jobs in companies supplying goods and services to manufacturers, distributors and retailers, as well as those that depend on sales to workers in the firearms and ammunition industry. [1]
- ❖ These are good jobs, paying an average of \$36,660 in wages and benefits. And today, every job is important. In fact, in Wisconsin the unemployment rate has reached 6.2 percent. This means that there are already 191,400 people trying to find jobs in the state, and collecting unemployment benefits. [2]

The Economic Benefit of The Industry Spreads Throughout the State

- ❖ Not only does the manufacture and sale of firearms and hunting supplies create good jobs in Wisconsin but the industry also contributes to the economy as a whole. In fact, in 2008 the firearms and ammunition industry was responsible for as much as \$517.9 million in total economic activity in the state.
- ❖ The broader economic impact flows throughout the economy, generating business for firms seemingly unrelated to firearms. Real people, with real jobs, working in industries as varied as banking, retail, accounting, metalworking, even printing all depend on the firearms and ammunition industry for their livelihood.

The State Also Benefits from the Taxes Paid by the Industry

- ❖ Not only does the firearms and ammunition industry create jobs, it also generates sizable tax revenues. In Wisconsin the industry and its employees pay over \$22.4 million in taxes including property, income, and sales based levies. [3]

Taxes Generated in Wisconsin		
Tax Impact	Business Taxes	Excise Taxes
Federal Taxes	\$ 22,412,434	\$ 7,794,335
State Taxes	\$ 22,422,897	\$ -
Total Taxes	\$ 44,835,331	\$ 7,794,335

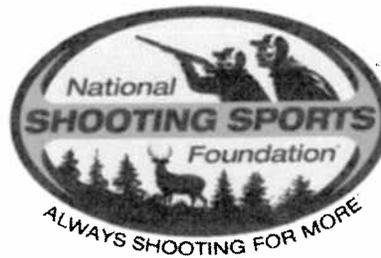
[1] John Dunham and Associates, New York, October 2008. Direct impacts include those jobs in firearms and ammunition manufacturers, as well as companies that manufacture products such as decoys, scopes, clay pigeons and targets. Direct impacts also include those resulting from the wholesale distribution and retailing of firearms and ammunition in sporting goods retailers and variety/mass merchandise stores.

[2] The Bureau of Labor Statistics. Available on-line at: www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm. Data for December 2008.

[3] This is in addition to over \$22.4 million in Federal business taxes and \$7.8 million in Federal excise taxes.



The National Shooting Sports Foundation



Microstamping Technology: Proven Flawed and Imprecise

What is microstamping?

Microstamping is a patented sole-sourced technology that laser engraves the firearm's make, model and serial number on the tip of the gun's firing pin so that, in theory, it imprints the information on discharged cartridge cases.

What are the problems with microstamping?

The supporters of microstamping greatly exaggerate the capabilities, if any, of this technology. Currently, the technology is unproven and has been independently tested to confirm this conclusion. The research from nationally renowned scientists and professionals within the field have confirmed that at the present time this nascent technology a) does not function reliably and b) the very shallow markings can be removed in mere seconds using common household tools. In addition, the marked parts (eg the firing pin) can be removed and replaced with unmarked parts in the matter of mere seconds by a criminal. The NSSF does not oppose microstamping technology because it is "gun control," but rather based on the fact that this technology has so far been shown by independent testing to be unreliable and easily defeated. NSSF has consistently supported and echoed the sentiments of scientists on the need for further independent testing of the technology before mandating its implementation through legislation.

In March 2008, scientists at the National Research Council (NRC), an arm of the National Academy of Sciences, released a report that among its findings expresses concerns about sole-sourced technologies (microstamping and bullet serialization) and recommends ***"that for such a technology to be implemented successfully, in-depth investigations on several topics are needed."*** These investigations need to focus on ***"the cost implications and feasibility of adding these technologies to established manufacturing processes."*** The NRC expressed concerns with these alternative technologies and stressed the necessity for further study to determine the susceptibility to tampering and countermeasures. The Council does not want to see any implementation of technology that is maintained by a single vendor since the ***"potential for advancement and innovation is limited."*** The NRC believes that an extensive study needs to be conducted before mandating any of these technologies as an answer to solving crime.

A recent independent, peer-reviewed, study published in the professional scholarly journal for forensic firearms examiners proved that the technology of microstamping is unreliable and does not function as the patent holder claims. It can be easily defeated in mere seconds using

common household tools or criminals could simply switch the engraved firing pin for readily available unmarked spare parts, thereby circumventing the technology.

Experts at the University of California, Davis, recently finished their own study of the technology. The conclusions about the technology are straightforward and direct. The researchers found this patented technology "flawed" and concluded that ***"At the current time it is not recommended that a mandate for implementation of this technology in all semiautomatic handguns in the state of California be made. Further testing, analysis and evaluation is required."***

How would microstamping affect the manufacturing process?

The supporters of microstamping are not familiar with many of the intricacies present in the manufacturing process and how what they perceive as a simple change will in fact fundamentally impact the business. The processes currently employed by firearms manufacturers have taken many years to develop and yet microstamping would destroy all of the efficiencies that have been attained. These manufacturers would no longer be able to mass produce firearms with standardized parts in the current manner. Instead, each firearm would need to be custom fitted with special microscopic etched characters on various parts. Firearm manufacturing still remains a very manual process yet the ability to determine if the appropriate serialized parts are in the correct firearm will fall to humans and be next to impossible to complete.

Firing pins are typically purchased in bulk from suppliers and not manufactured by firearm makers. Under microstamping legislation, the cost of firing pins would go from pennies to several dollars adding significantly to the price of firearms. Under federal law, the frame or receiver of the firearm is the part that must be serialized. If proponents of microstamping have their way, it would be necessary to serialize multiple parts (each manufactured at different times and locations) and coordinate the assembly to ensure that the parts all had the same serial number. How would an assembler know whether a component part had the correct serial number for the firearm they were then assembling since the number would be microscopic in size? The assembly of firearms is still a human process, and as such, it is subject to the occasional error. Despite the best efforts of humans and machines, it would be impossible for a manufacturer to guarantee that only correctly corresponding, serialized parts were assembled into a firearm. Once this inevitable consequence of manufacturing reality is admitted as fact in the courts, the whole serialization mandate becomes suspect.

The entire manufacturing process would need to be changed to accommodate microstamping multiple firearm parts, no doubt using expensive equipment, assuming it is even available for the industry to purchase. At the current time the availability of microstamping equipment for this purpose and a description of the manufacturing processes involved is not available. Mr. Todd Lizotte himself, the microstamping patent holder, has admitted that he is unsure of the economic impact and supports further study of the technology's effect on the manufacturing process.

What are the cost impacts of microstamping?

The cost of compliance is not a dollar a gun, as claimed by the patent holder and gun control groups supporting this technology -- all of whom are ignorant of the manufacturing complexities involved and the associated cost. A number of manufacturers have estimated the cost could approach \$200 per firearm especially based upon the fact that they would be purchasing (at monopolistic prices) very expensive equipment and patented technology and completely redesigning their manufacturing processes, plant and equipment.

The cost to implement this questionable technology will substantially increase the price for firearms for law-abiding consumers and will be forced to pay perhaps as much as \$200 more per firearm. It will also dramatically reduce the product selection available to law-abiding consumers as some manufacturers will stop selling firearms in states that implement microstamping rather than make radical changes to their manufacturing and assembly processes. There is precedent for firearms manufacturers stopping the sale of firearms into a state. Several years ago Massachusetts adopted vague regulations that made it impossible for manufacturers to know whether their products complied. Rather than risk selling non-compliant products, they stopped selling into Massachusetts.

Microstamping has not been scientifically proven.

The same research that the Brady Campaign and the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence (CSGV) claim to be "high-profile studies" supporting microstamping in their fact sheets are now the ones that they have refuted and described as flawed in live testimony in both California and Connecticut. These peer-reviewed studies reach dramatically the same conclusions that the technology is "flawed and easily defeated." These anti-gun organizations instead only select the parts of each that might help to further their agenda. Not only are they deciding what is important in the study, but they argue the conclusions of the research and try to explain that the forensic examiners and professionals were not conducting their job properly.

Here are a few of the high-profile studies that have examined microstamping:

University of California at Davis Study(Michael Beddows): The study's results were recently released (*What Laser Machining Technology Adds to Firearm Forensics: How Viable are Micro-Marked Firing Pins as Evidence?* Howitt, Tulleners, Beddow, 2007) and much to the dismay of the patent holder and the anti-gun groups the conclusions do not bode well for microstamping. The goal of the study was to evaluate the micro-serialization of firing pins so that legislators and the general public could make informed decisions regarding the efficacy of this new technology for facilitating the identification of forensic evidence in firearm-related crimes. Tests were performed to determine:

- The durability and longevity of an array of micro-characters laser-machined onto firing pins;
- The legibility (reproducibility and readily decipherable) of the imprint of the micro-characters on ammunition (cartridge casing); and,
- The ease with which micro-characters can be intentionally defaced or obliterated.

The study found that micro-characters laser engraved on the ID Dynamics-supplied firing pins tested suffered varying degrees of degradation; in some cases severe degradation. The markings micro-characters laser engraved onto the tip firing pins did not reliably and consistently “copy” or imprint (impress) the information onto the primer of the expended cartridge case. The test results were also impacted by the type and brand of ammunition used in the test. The design and normal operation/functioning of the firearm tested influenced the results, i.e. depth of firing pin indentation (impression) on the primer, whether the firearm produced “firing pin drag,” whether it produced multiple firing pin strikes on the primer that obliterated or deformed some or all of the impressions of the micro-characters on the cartridge casing. The technology did not work at all on rimfire firearms and ammunition, which are very common. The results were also impacted depending on the nature of the micro-characters laser engraved on the firing pin, i.e. alphanumeric code, a “gear code” or radial bar code. Notably, due to size/space limitations and the geometry of firing pins, ID Dynamics is incapable of producing alphanumeric coded firing pins with enough micro-characters to display the name of the manufacturer, the model and serial number of the firearm on the tip of the firing pin, as called for by H. 6343. The radial bar code and dot code firing pins degraded more rapidly than the alphanumeric coded firing pins and were less reliable.

The study’s author conducted a blind test of 48 expended casings he had collected during test firings and determined the micro-characters were legible. He had other researchers who, unlike the author at the time of his examination, did not know in advance what micro-characters were present on the firing pin of the firearm used, to see if they could read the micro-characters. The results of this blind test showed that in only 20% of the time did they reach the same conclusion, establishing that subjective interpretation of the examiner is a variable impacting results.

Importantly, the study established ***“that the micro-characters could easily be intentionally destroyed”*** in less than 30 seconds using common household tools and objects readily available to the general public without effecting the ability of the firearm to function (the material removed from the firing pin did not shorten it to the point that the firearm would not fire).

The U.C. Davis study concludes: The researchers at U.C. Davis found this patented technology “flawed” and concluded that ***“At the current time it is not recommended that a mandate for implementation of this technology in all semiautomatic handguns in the state of California be made. Further testing, analysis and evaluation is required.”***

AFTE Journal (George Krivosta): An independent peer-reviewed study of this patented technology published in the Journal of the Association of Firearms and Toolmarks Examiners (AFTE) – the relevant professional society of firearm examiners – demonstrated the technology does not function reliably (Krivosta, *NanoTag Markings from Another Perspective*, Vol. 38, No.1, Winter 2006). The study investigated three questions:

- Would the NanoTag markings be reproducible and readily decipherable?
- How resistant to wear would the NanoTag engraved firing pin be under normal use?
- How susceptible would the NanoTag engraved firing pin be to intentional defacement?

Unreliable and Easily Defeated: In reviewing cartridge cases previously expended in firearms with NanoTag micro-laser engraved firing pins, the author found that the NanoTag markings were illegible and non-reproducible due to the fact that the firing pin usually strikes the cartridge multiple times and that the additional impacts overlap. Further testing by the author confirmed this finding. He used two (2) NanoTag marked micro-laser engraved firing pins in two Colt 45s (still one of the most popular model firearms ever made). With one of the firing pins, the vast majority of the micro-laser engraved serial numbers never showed up on any of the cartridge cases fired by that pin, and those that did were very difficult to decipher. In the case of the other marked firing pin, ten separate cartridge casings fired from the firearm were needed to piece together the serial number micro-laser engraved on that one firing pin. Results of another series of tests found that the technology failed almost 50% of the time.

The author determined that normal operation of the firearm and the resulting marks left on a cartridge case from coming in contact with parts of the firearm removed part of the serial number information on the cartridge case placed there by the firing pin to be lost (removed/destroyed). The author examined the pins after test firing only 1,000 rounds and found the micro-laser engraved markings were softening in their sharpness as a result of the metal peening.

NanoTag Micro-Laser Engraved Markings Are Easily and Quickly Removed and Defaced: The microscopic laser engraved marks are only to a depth of 25 microns – a fraction of the diameter of the average human hair. The study's author showed that the markings could be removed in seconds using common household tools. Subsequent test firing established that removing the markings did not render the firearm inoperable. The test result directly contradicts and disproves legislative testimony given by Mr. Lizotte in California last year that removing the markings would shorten the firing so much as to render the firearm inoperable (not fire).

Firing Pins Are Interchangeable Parts Easily and Quickly Replaced: The study further established that NanoTag marked firing pins could be easily removed from the firearms in seconds and replaced with interchangeable firing pins that had not been micro-laser engraved.

The AFTE Journal study concludes: ***“implementing this technology will be much more complicated than burning a serial number on a few parts and dropping them into firearms being manufactured.”***

Lucien Haag: Mr. Haag is a widely respected forensic scientist and currently is a private consultant and forensic firearms examiner with 40+ years of experience. Over the last two years Mr. Haag carried out a study on the feasibility of microstamping of firing pins on a selected group of firearms and presented his findings on this subject at a 2004 meeting of the Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE). He has explained that the technology appears feasible but numerous questions should be addressed *before* instituting such a program *if* the mission is the apprehension and prosecution of criminals who use firearms.

While characterized as a “high profile study” by CSGV and used to support subsequent claims in their published material that this technology is “proven” and “Its time has come,” Mr. Haag has made it clear that these statements and claims are patently untrue. In a letter dated March 8, 2008, to Josh Horwitz the Executive Director of CSGV, Mr. Haag states “I am asking that you and your organization cease and desist in the misuse of my name and the misrepresentation of my study of the four (4) nano-engraved (“microstamped”) firing pins presented at the 2004 AFTE Training Seminar.”

National Academy of Sciences: The very recent findings and publication (March 2008) of the National Research Council of the National Academies also calls for more research and evaluation of microstamping (nano-engraving) of firearms components before it is mandated or legislated.

Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM)
Rebuttal to CSGV Precise/Proven and Todd Lizotte Claims

Microstamping has been described as having minimal costs for state and local governments, but that is not entirely true. In today’s current fiscal environment any cost whatsoever is going to be detrimental to operating budgets and purchasing scanning electron microscopes is not a cheap proposition. The microstamping patent-holder, Todd Lizotte, has now shifted his original stance concerning the fact that the technology will work with a simple microscope or even a magnifying glass at a crime scene. Instead, crime labs are supposed to be equipped with very expensive Scanning Electron Microscopes.

Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) can cost anywhere from **\$120,000 to \$200,000 each** depending on the capabilities it possesses. Very few labs actually have this type of equipment and if they have one (for example only 3 of 10 California Department of Justice Labs have an SEM) they are used to conduct SEM-GSR analysis of gunshot residue on the hands of shooters. This process searches for very minute trace levels of particle from the primer of a fired cartridge case. These labs would not dare think of letting a fired cartridge case into their SEM because it would contaminate the chamber and preclude future SEM-GSR analysis. It is also highly unlikely that a crime lab would have the funding to purchase an additional SEM strictly for the analysis of micro-marked firing pin impressions.

Mr. Lizotte has led many to believe that every crime lab comes equipped with this technology and it is easily accessible. Given the current political nature of this subject matter, it is a concern that Mr. Lizotte continues to present misrepresentations during testimony concerning the state and functionality of microstamping technology. It has always been the belief of the industry and forensic professionals that in order for legislation to be considered concerning an emerging technology such as this, the technology should be investigated to its fullest and the complete facts of these investigations be provided. This would help to solve many of the lies perpetrated by the patent-holder and the Brady Campaign in testimony across the country.

Answering the Lies of the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence and the Brady Campaign

Lie: Microstamping technology has been successfully tested and studied.

Truth: Microstamping has been tested and studied but the results are strikingly different from what is presented in the CSGV marketing piece. The same scientists that the CSGV cite as reliable and widely respected in their fields have quickly changed over time. Now these scientists as recently as in testimony in front of the judiciary Committee by Josh Horwitz, executive director of CGSV, are accused of conducting flawed studies and reaching the wrong conclusions. This change in sentiment is only after receiving letters from Lucien Haag and Michael Beddows asking CSGV to cease misrepresenting their studies.

Lie: Microstamping cannot be easily defeated by criminals.

Truth: As noted earlier in this piece there are two studies that prove it is easily defeated either by filing down the firing pin or simply replacing the firing pin with a new non-marked pin. Todd Lizotte, microstamping patent holder, in committee testimony said the markings could be removed and the technology defeated in a matter of seconds by swapping the firing pin.

Lie: Criminals do not typically alter guns that are used in crimes.

Truth: It has been known that criminals will intentionally remove or obliterate serial numbers which is a more complicated process than removing microstamping. The ATF has stated that the number of firearms they recover with obliterated or destroyed serial numbers has been steadily increasing. Also resourceful criminals have been known to file the inside of a barrel to change its markings and affect the ballistics of the gun. In an attempt to circumvent any tracing whatsoever, criminals have switched to using revolvers in a higher number of crimes according to law enforcement agencies.

Lie: Microstamping would cost between \$0.50 and \$1.00 per handgun to incorporate the technology.

Truth: This belief ignores the fact that the firearms manufacturing process is very hands-on and manual. With only one company providing the technology, coupled with a complete change to current manufacturing, the price tag is estimated to be more like \$200 per handgun. This also ignores the fact that the California legislation mandates that microstamped characters have to be on the breech face of the firearm in addition to the firing pin. Mr. Lizotte and others have admitted in testimony that they are unaware of how to implement this requirement and do not have the technology to do this. It also has not been evaluated by any firearms professionals as to its feasibility.

Todd Lizotte Sells the Dream, Industry Lives the Nightmare.

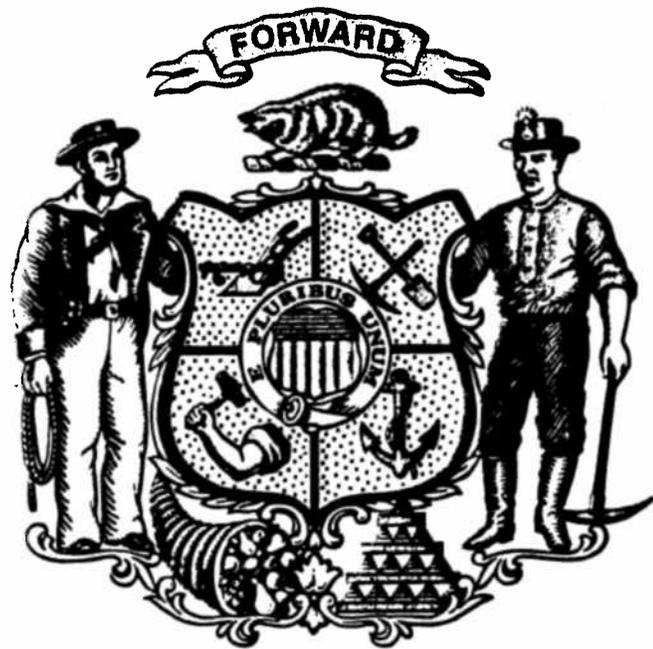
Mr. Lizotte, despite claims that he would release the technology patent to the public domain, has yet to do so even after claiming for three years that he would. Mr. Lizotte has also stated that he will not make any money from this technology which is an outright lie. He will be able to charge exorbitant license fees, as well as, consulting and implementation costs. With no competition this will provide Mr. Lizotte with a government sponsored monopoly to sell and license his equipment as he sees fit.

Lie: Almost all crime guns are originally purchased through a retail outlet.

Truth: An estimated 500,000 guns a year are stolen, not to mention those that are illegally purchased. In theory, if microstamping functioned reliably, the only thing law enforcement will be able to conclude from the technology would be the original owner who had his firearm stolen 7 years ago. That would not be providing law enforcement with a very solid lead in a case.

Lie: "Crime guns are frequently recovered with little wear and tear on them. A 2000 ATF study found that semi-automatic handguns have the shortest "time-to-crime" of any firearm type."

Truth: According to more recent ATF statistics the national average for firearms commissioned in a crime is over 10 years (10.17) from 1/1/2006 to 12/31/2006. The studies show that not only will deliberate tampering defeat the technology, but also the normal operation and wear and tear on the firearm will render the technology totally inept. Mr. Lizotte claims he has tested microstamping with thousands of rounds fired with success but this is far from an independent test.



AB 221
Folder

Putting Microstamping Data To Work!

**Developing Better Trace Data When
Firearms Are Not Recovered!**



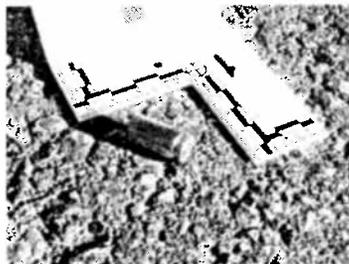
A cartridge case at the scene of offence could prove as incriminating as if the murderer had left his visiting card!

-Sir Sydney Smith (1883 – 1969)

Putting Microstamping Data To Work!

**Most Firearms Used in Violent Crime are not
Recovered!**

- Criminals don't regularly abandon their guns at a crime scene
- Much more common to recover expended cartridges
- Microstamping provides the missing link between the cartridge case and the tracing system



Putting Microstamping Data To Work!

Combating Firearm Trafficking

• Firearm Trafficking is a Pattern Crime

- Patterns Emerge Faster – With More Data
- Find Pattern too Late – Disrupt only a Trafficker
- ***Find Pattern Early – Disrupt a Trafficking Network***

• Criminals are Creatures of Habit

- Use Same Dealer (Develop Trust with Dealer)
- Sell to Known Associates (Safety / Trust – Gang / Family)
- Use Existing Commerce Channels (Criminal / Drug Network)

Putting Microstamping Data To Work!

Increasing “real time” Intel

Increased Data

More Information

Increased Knowledge

Actionable Intelligence

Goals:

1. Increase trace data by improving the odds that the firearm will be identified, even if it is not recovered at the scene.
2. Create a technology that targets straw purchasers and traffickers that does not require national registration and protects 2nd amendment rights for U.S. citizen gun owners.
3. Create a technology that can provide an intelligence capability at the state and local level, instead of a “federal” top down approach.
4. Create a technology that forms a purposeful and synergetic effort amongst local/state law enforcement and the firearm industry.

Putting Microstamping Data To Work!

Importance of Current Trace Data



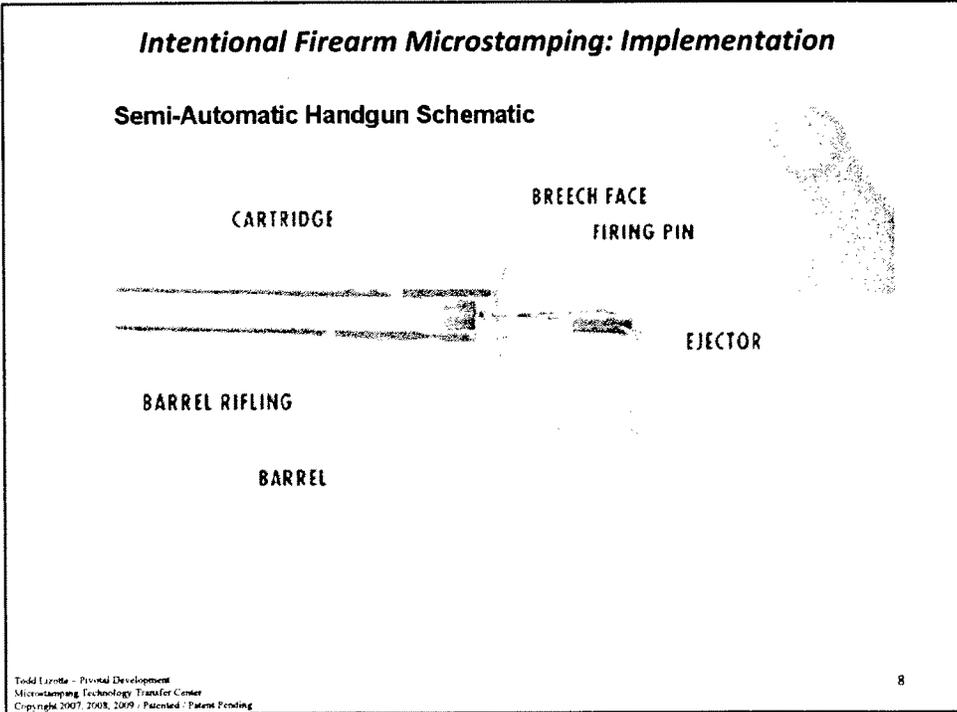
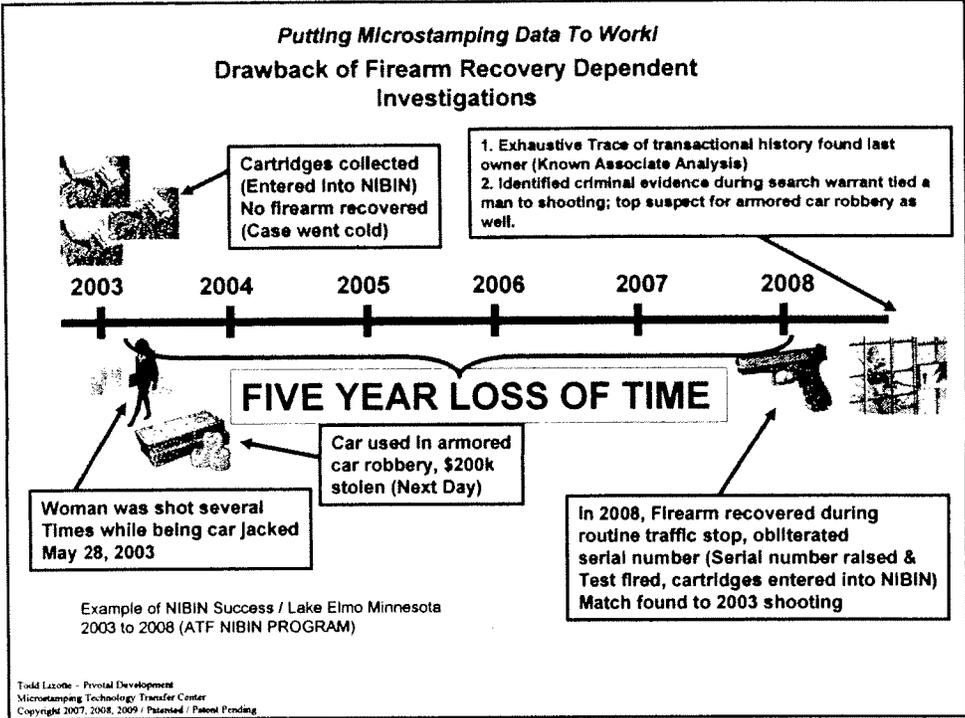
“The accurate identification and tracing of recovered firearms is one of the most important steps in a criminal gun investigation.”
International Association of Chiefs of Police

Putting Microstamping Data To Work!

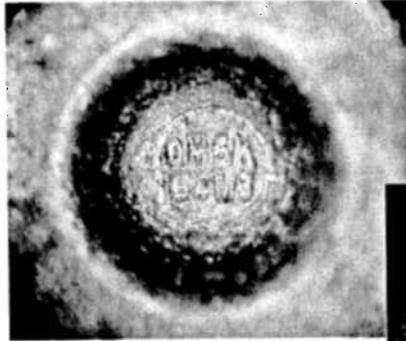
How to find a serial number from a “Recovered Cartridge”

<i>Recovered Evidence</i>	Firearm ID Technology (Capability) Benchmark		
	Traditional Comparison By Hand	Imaging (NIBIN)	<i>Microstamping</i>
 Recovered Firearm & Cartridge			
 Recovered Cartridge / No Firearm		≤ 1.5%*	≥ 80%

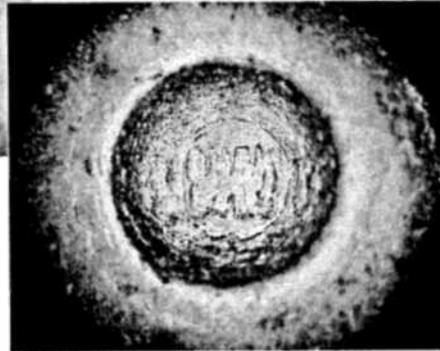
* Estimate based on ATF published Data 1.2 Million images in NIBIN versus ~20,000 Hits



Intentional Firearm Microstamping: Examples



**Fired Cartridge Cases
from the
Browning 1917A1 MG
after ~2500 rds.**



From a Study by Lucien Haag Presented to
the National Academy of Sciences

Intentional Firearm Microstamping: Examples



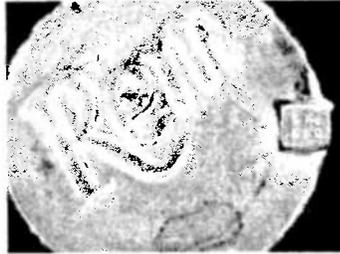
**9mm Glock
Firing Pin Impression
after
1400 rounds**

**Glock Firing Pin
after
1400 rounds
(image reversed)**

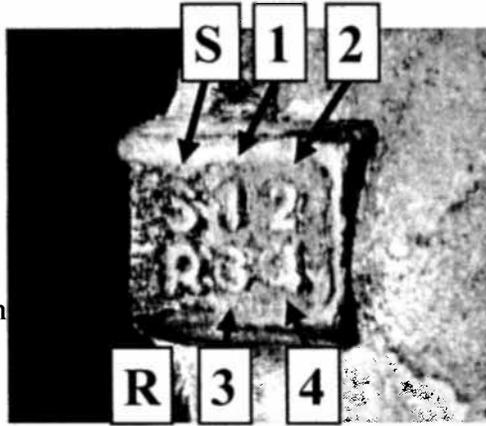


From a Study by Lucien Haag Presented to
the National Academy of Sciences

Intentional Firearm Microstamping: Examples



Optimized Ruger Mark III – 22 LR
Rim Fire Cartridge (#128)
“Single Hit”

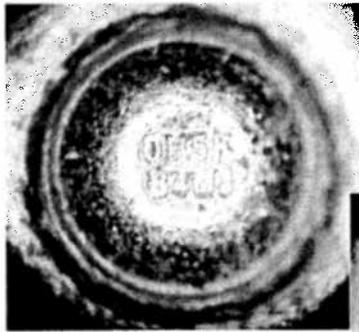


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- * Cross Polarized Ring Illumination
- * Flipped Image For Clarity

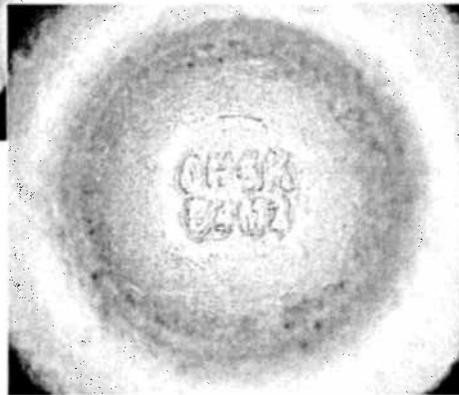
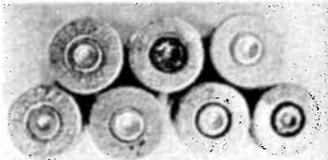
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Intentional Firearm Microstamping: Examples



Fired Cartridge Cases
from the
Thompson SMG
“Sub Machine Gun”
after 2500 rds.

.45 Cal Cartridges Used

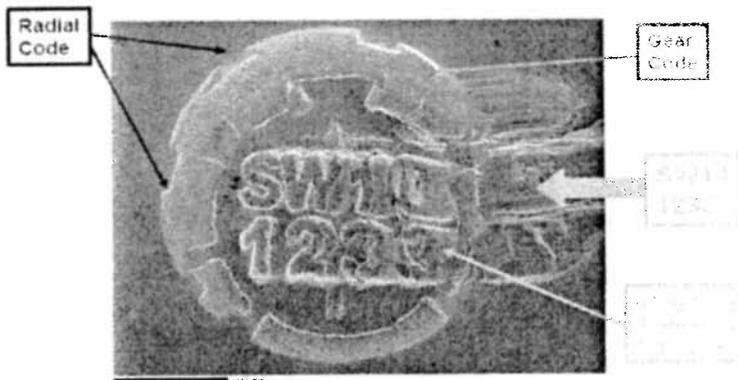


From a Study by Lucien Haag Presented to the National
Academy of Sciences

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Intentional Firearm Microstamping: Examples

S&W 4006 – 2500+ Cartridge Test

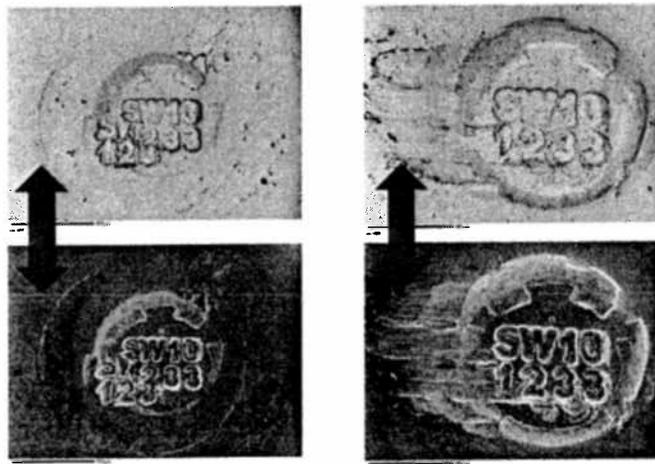


Cartridge #2501 – Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) Image
.40 Cal – 60X Magnification / Embossed Primer
(Double Hit – With Pin Drag) Higher Clarity w/ SEM Image

Copyright 2008, 2007

Intentional Firearm Microstamping: Examples

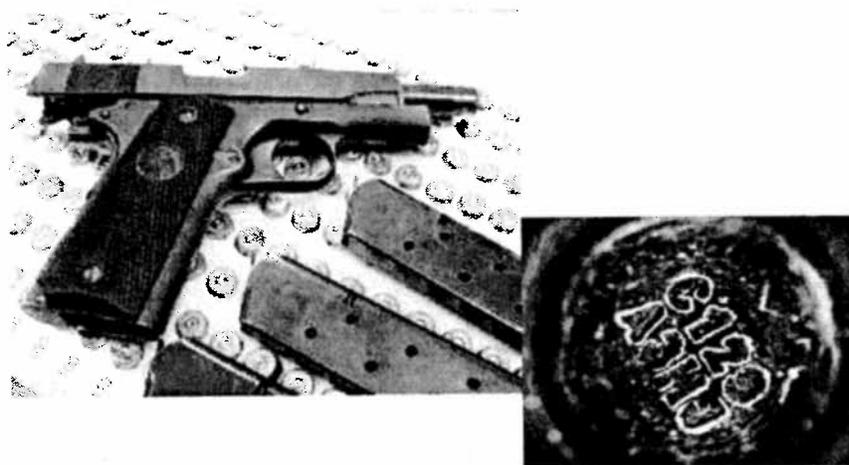
S&W 4006 - ~5400 Rounds



~3800 Rounds

~5400 Rounds

Intentional Firearm Microstamping: Examples



.45 Cal, Colt 1991 A1 (1911), Semiautomatic Handgun

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Optical Imaging Only / Manual De-Code / No Automation

Archive TEST DATA 1991 A1 .45 ACP Colt (1911) 1500 Rounds

*** (Lizotte-Ohar Technique) ~96% Code Extraction (Pos #1 / Magazine)**

**** (Lizotte-Ohar Technique) ~99.2% Code Extraction (Pos #1 & Pos #2 / Magazine)**

***** (Absolute Certainty Technique) ~98% Code Extraction (Pos #1 & Pos #2 / Magazine)**

* Scenario #1, only one cartridge casing found at crime scene (Lizotte-Ohar Method) Simulating a single shot fired scenario

** Scenario #2, two cartridge casings found at crime scene (Lizotte-Ohar Method) Simulating two shots fired scenario

*** Scenario #3, two cartridge casings found at crime scene (Absolute Certainty Method) which means each number of the code or encoded code element, has to be visually identifiable, beyond a reasonable doubt. Even a higher level of scrutiny only reduced the extraction by 1%.

The more cartridges found at the crime scene the higher the code extraction!!!

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Extracting Data

Trained Firearm Examiner Extracts Marks Through The Use of Standard Forensic Microscopy and Analysis

Examiner



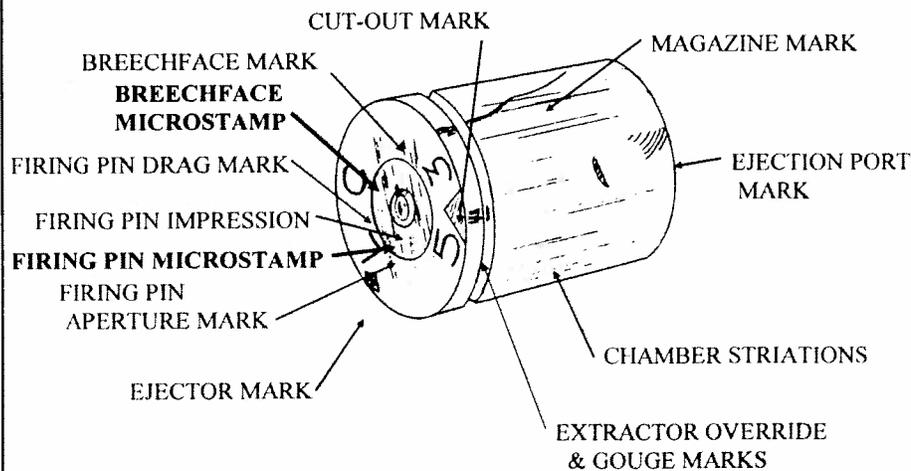
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Extraction Methods

- **Tool Mark Analysis**
 - Unique geometric line attributes
 - Curves, linear marks, etc
- **Cycle of Fire Analysis**
 - Identify unique tool markings representative of a specific firearm mechanism type
- **Observation Code Extraction**
 - Read the letters and number directly
 - Redundant geometric codes
 - Angle Date of Issuance
- **Heuristic Analysis**
 - Match Characters and Numbers to known geometric attributes of the code design
- **Multi-Cartridge Code Integration**
 - Two or more cartridge code integration
- **Code Index Analysis**
 - Code History based on visible characters (Code Characteristics)

Intentional Firearm Microstamping

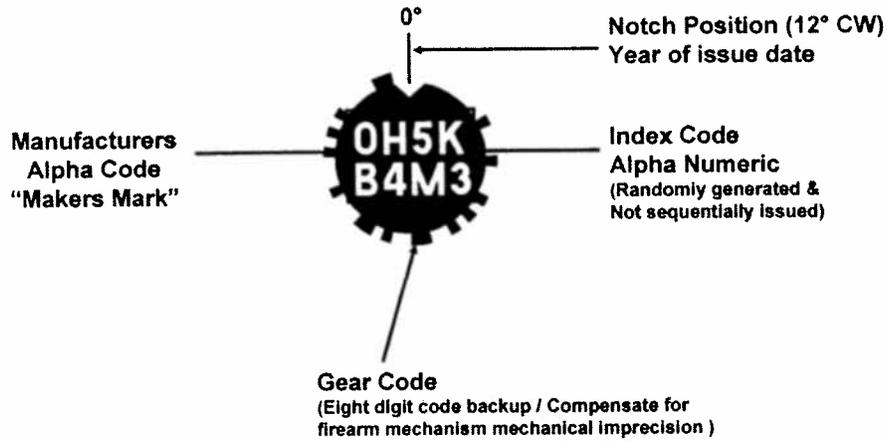
MARKS LEFT ON EXPENDED CARTRIDGE CASINGS (cycle of fire marks & microstamping marks)



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Optimized Code Geometry

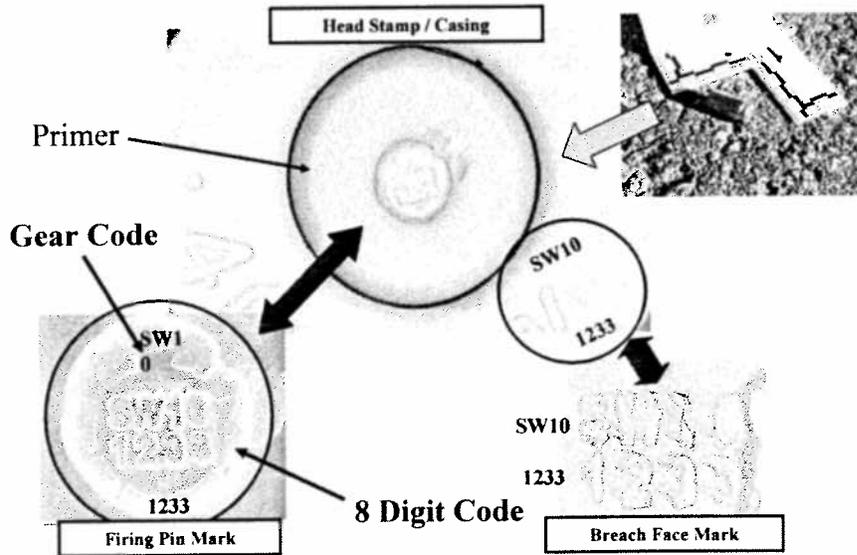
What can be extracted from the code alone?



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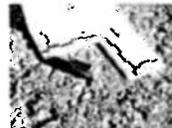
Extracting Data

"Observational / Absolute Certainty"



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Extracting Data "Observational & Added Geometric Codes"



Encoded 8 Digit Gear Code

1. It is mechanically out of phase with the primary central 8 digit code
2. Provides confirmation for any obscure or missing characters.

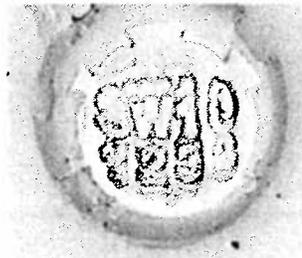
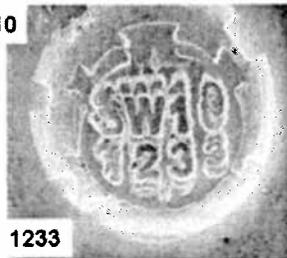
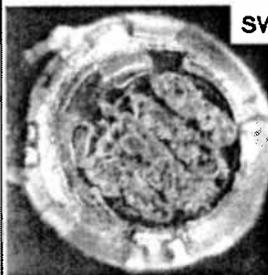
Extraction Identifiability Score (Certainty Value)

45 APC test fired: June 28, 2008		Alphanumeric Code										Gear Code								Combi Score
		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	AC o/a	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6	G7	G8	GC o/a	
Certif	ID Score	1	1	1	1	75	75	50	50	21	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	100	10
	Extra of Code	C	1	2	9	A	3	H	J		C	1	2	9	A	3	H	J		C129A3HJ

Table 4: Test fire # 371 shows how redundant codes combine to deliver 100% extraction certainty

Extracting Data "Selecting Appropriate Microscopy"

Multiple Hit Cartridges Easily Readable with SEM Microscopy
Also Easily Extractable When Using Heuristic Approach



Optical microscopy
stereo with polarization

SEM microscopy

SEM backscatter
microscopy

**Extracting Data
"Heuristics"**

Microstamping: Heuristic Algorithm Code Extraction Method

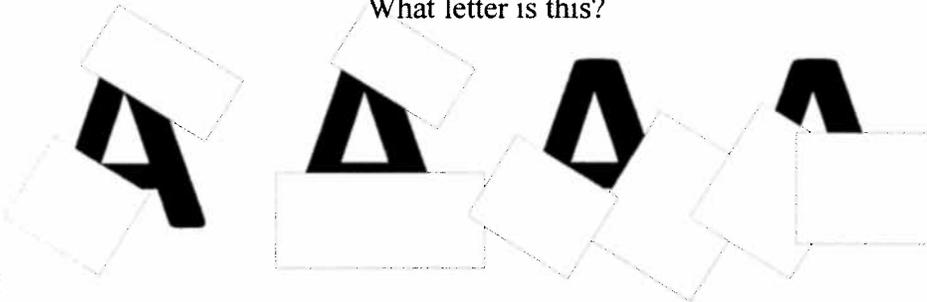


What is this?

Extracting Data

Microstamping: Heuristic Algorithm Code Extraction Method

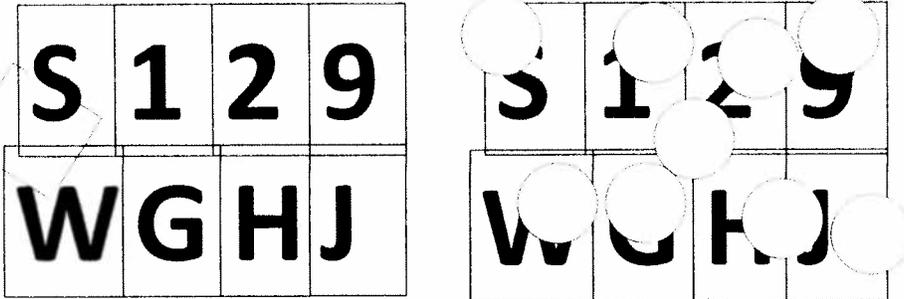
What letter is this?



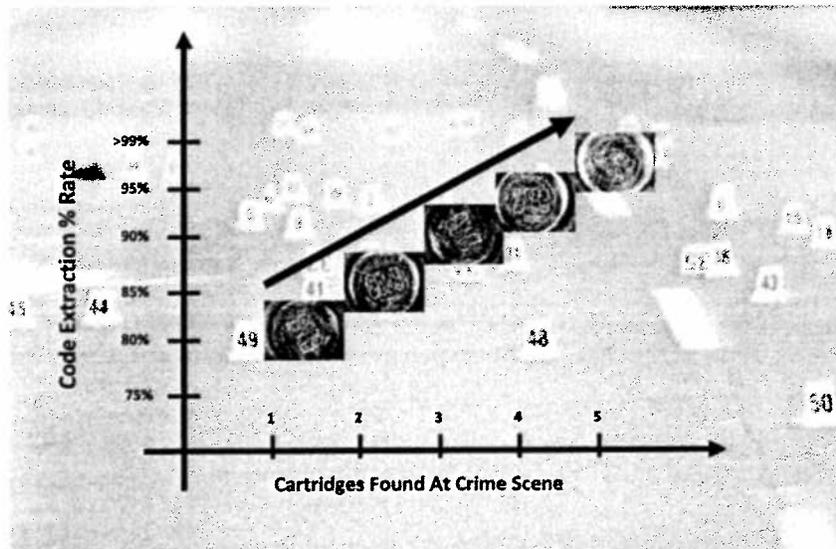
Extracting Data

Microstamping: Heuristic Algorithm Code Extraction Method

Optimized to Firearm, Fixed Font, and Standardized Placement
"Yields High Degree of Extraction Capability"



Extracting Data: Using Absolute Certainty Method "Multi-Cartridge Integration"





LASERLIGHT

September 10, 2007

THE HONORABLE MIKE FEUER
California State Assembly
State Capital
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Assemblyman Feuer:

Thank you for this opportunity to explain how Laser Light Technologies, Incorporated (LLTI) anticipates processing firearm components on a job-shop basis in compliance to the pending bill AB1471.

Our staff at LLTI has extensive knowledge in producing these types of micro-marks and microstructures used to form the basis of microstamping. Even in the worst case scenario LLTI has determined that the service price would range between \$0.50 and \$3.00 per surface processed, based on volume. It should be noted that LLTI has provided such micro-marking serialization on ultra hard materials with marking volumes reaching millions per year. LLTI was awarded the Small Business company of the year in 1996 for the entire US. This award was founded on a major contract from 3M for micro marking.

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NANOMARK
A Division of ID Dynamics, LLC

ID Dynamics Royalty Free License In Support of AB1471

(Seattle, WA.) June 15th 2007 – *NanoMark* a wholly owned division of ID Dynamics, LLC is issuing this press release to clarify that a royalty free license will be provided and cover its patented microstamping technology as applied to semi-automatic handguns sold for civilian use within the United States and its territories, as stipulated and in support of AB1471.

Highlights:

- Royalty free license for semi-automatic firearms (as stipulated in AB1471) for civilian use over the entire United States and its territories

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More Information

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 - 603-493-2579
- Joshua Horwitz, Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence
 - Jhorwitz@csgv.org
 - 202-408-7560 x1001