

# CA Assault Weapon Registration Guide

## Disclaimer & Warnings (please read first!)

1. I'm not a lawyer, I'm just a regular guy trying to help sort out this mess for everyone.
2. While much of this information has been acquired from writings and [webinars by CRPA's legal team](#), no lawyers (to my knowledge) have reviewed this guide for accuracy.
3. Read ALL the warnings contained within this guide - *it is absolutely possible for someone to commit a jailable offense during registration (or inadvertently admit to having previously committed a jailable offense), and DOJ has intentionally laid some traps in the registration application to catch offenders.*
4. Proceeding with Assault Weapon registration is done at your own risk. Be careful, folks. After you submit your registration, you cannot retract the information you sent to DOJ!
5. At least 1 person has already reported that DOJ has confiscated their firearm, as a result of trying to register it in an improper configuration because they didn't know. This is no joke, please pay attention to what you're doing!

## Summary of the 2017 Assault Weapon Ban

1. On 7/1/2016, Governor Brown signed into law [SB-880](#) and [AB-1135](#), two substantively identical bills which expand the definition of "Assault Weapons", to now include weapons which were legally owned between 2001 and 2016, inclusive, which have assault weapon features but lacked a fixed magazine (defined as requiring disassembly of the firearm action to remove the magazine). In other words, the bullet button (and similar devices) became no longer a means to avoid Assault Weapon classification.
2. This reclassified a huge number of legally owned weapons as "Assault Weapons", and the legislation allowed grandfathering of Assault Weapons owned before 1/1/2017 by means of registering the weapon as an Assault Weapon by June 30, 2018\*, which costs \$15 per person, per application. *\*The original deadline of 12/31/2017 was extended recently.*
3. Assault Weapon Registration is only required for (and available to) California residents aged 18 or older. This applies to both primary and joint registrants.
4. Assault Weapon Registration is different than standard firearm registration - even if your firearm was "registered" when you originally bought it, if this legislation re-defined it as an Assault Weapon, then it still needs to be registered as a Registered Assault Weapon.
5. **Being in possession of an Assault Weapon that is not registered to you can be charged as a felony!**
6. Before registrations could be accepted, the legislation required DOJ to adopt regulations for the purposes of assault weapon registration, and exempted those regulations from the standard APA rules of regulation adoption, including a public comment period.
7. After two failed attempts at getting the regulations approved, on the third try *and with almost zero substantive changes from the first draft* ([Click here for a comparison of all 3 drafts](#)), the Governor's office intervened and the regulations were forcibly approved on 7/31/2017. Registration was brought online two days later - over 7 months later than the legislators intended.
8. There are *at least* 3 active lawsuits against the Assault Weapon ban and related laws so far:
  - [Villianueva v. Becerra](#), by NRA & CRPA lawyers, challenges the DOJ regulatory scheme related to AW registration.
  - [Rupp v. Becerra](#), also by NRA & CRPA lawyers, challenging the Assault Weapon Ban (in all its forms, dating back to 1989).
  - [Duncan V. Becerra](#), also by NRA & CRPA lawyers, challenging the Prop 63 ban on Large Capacity Magazine possession. 2 days before the ban would have taken effect, Duncan was awarded a preliminary injunction blocking the enforcement of it while the case is in process.
9. To help fund these lawsuits, please consider a [donation to CRPA Foundation](#) (fully tax deductible!). If you can be a plaintiff in a future AW lawsuit, send an email to [potentialplaintiffs@michellawyers.com](mailto:potentialplaintiffs@michellawyers.com).

# What May, Must, or Can't be Registered

CRPA has kindly produced [this easy flowchart](#) as a guide. Here's a summary and some additional notes:

1. IT IS ILLEGAL to attempt to register the following items:
  - DO NOT register weapons acquired (*picked up* from the FFL) after 12/31/2016.
  - DO NOT register weapons which were (or should have been) registered as AWs under a previous registration period ("named" AWs, detachable-magazine AWs, .50BMG rifles).
  - DO NOT register machine guns, SBRs, SBSs, rifles under 30" in overall length (with the stock collapsed/folded to its shortest configuration where it can still be fired), or any other weapons that were illegal to possess before 2017.
  - DO NOT register anything that has a standard magazine release, it MUST have a magazine release that "requires the use of a tool."
  - You will almost certainly get a visit from DOJ agents if you ignore these warnings!!!
2. While not illegal, DOJ will reject registrations for the following:
  - If it is not semiautomatic. A disassembled, incomplete, or otherwise non-working firearm is not semiautomatic. (No stripped lowers.)
  - If it does not have any of the Assault Weapon features listed below (unless it's a shotgun)
  - If it has a fixed magazine (requires disassembly of the firearm action to remove the magazine)
  - If it is not fully assembled and fully functional
  - If it does not have a serial number. Self-built (80%) firearms require a DOJ-issued serial number (see "Before you register" below for more information).
3. The following MUST be registered before 7/1/2018 (*or converted into a non-AW configuration, or removed from the state, or sold to a Dangerous Weapons Permit CA FFL or an out-of-state FFL, or disassembled, before 7/1/2018*):
  - Semiautomatic, centerfire rifles with non-detachable (requires the use of a tool) & non-fixed (does not require disassembling the action) magazine releases (aka, "bullet buttons") *and* one or more of the below features:
    - A pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the weapon.
    - A thumbhole stock.
    - A folding or telescoping stock.
    - A grenade launcher or flare launcher. (DO NOT attempt to register a rifle with a grenade launcher)
    - A flash suppressor.
    - A forward pistol grip.
  - Semiautomatic pistols (centerfire or rimfire) with non-detachable/non-fixed magazines (aka, "bullet buttons") and one or more of the below features:
    - A threaded barrel, capable of accepting a flash suppressor, forward handgrip, or silencer.
    - A second handgrip (forward pistol grip)
    - A shroud that is attached to, or partially or completely encircles, the barrel that allows the bearer to fire the weapon without burning the bearer's hand, except a slide that encloses the barrel.
    - The capacity to accept a detachable magazine at some location outside of the pistol grip.
  - Semiautomatic shotguns with non-detachable/non-fixed magazines (aka, "bullet buttons"), with or without "features"
    - The legislation did not change anything regarding shotguns, so nobody knows why DOJ is requiring registration of these.
    - Many of these shotguns were purchased legally after 2016, before the DOJ regulations classified them as Assault Weapons on 8/1/2017.
    - For those AW shotguns purchased in 2017, registration is not an option, so the shotgun must either be removed from the state, or modified into:
      - Disassembled parts, rendering the shotgun non-functional an non-semiautomatic.
      - Manually-operated, by removing the gas piston and plugging the gas block.
      - Fixed magazine, by welding, epoxying, or riveting a 10rd or less magazine into the firearm's magazine well.

## Before You Register

1. **Be very careful before deciding to submit a registration - we don't have all the facts yet, and you can't withdraw your registration after you press the submit button!**
2. You may want to consider performing a Firearms Eligibility Check prior to registering. If your background check shows you as prohibited during registration, that won't end well for you.
3. If you have any home-built firearms (Firearms Manufactured by Unlicensed Subjects, ie 80% builds), you will need to apply DOJ-assigned serial numbers before registering, [I]even if you have already applied a non-DOJ-assigned serial number to the firearm, even if you've already vol-reg'd the firearm. Acquiring and applying the serial number is outlined below:
  - Print & complete a [DOJ BOF form 1008](#) ("New Serial Number Application") to request a DOJ-issued serial number.
  - DOJ has made an instruction sheet for filling out the form, here: <https://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/a...-1008-new.pdf>
  - You will need to provide a FSC/HSC number. If you are exempt from needing this (such as if you have a CCW, or a hunting license for long guns), you may leave it blank and include a message that says why you are exempt from the FSC requirement.
  - You can request up to 3 serials per form, and you can include additional forms in the same envelope. There is no cost to apply for serial numbers. You may want to request more serial numbers than you need, so you don't have to complete another application for more serials in the future.
  - Either mail the form to the address provided on the form, or scan it and email it to [dojserialnumber@doj.ca.gov](mailto:dojserialnumber@doj.ca.gov). Make sure to include a note that the serials are for the purposes of AW registration, otherwise they may delay issuance. They will mail or email (depending on how you submitted the form) your new serial numbers in approximately 2 to 6 weeks.
  - **On the Serial Number Application, the answers for who you acquired the firearm from, their address, etc., must all say "NA", because it is illegal for someone else to have completed an unfinished receiver for you!**
  - When you receive the serial number, you or someone with an 07FFL or someone without an 07FFL (if you remain present with the firearm) must engrave on the frame/receiver the serial number, model (optional), caliber ("multi" is ok), your first and last name, and the city and state where you made the firearm (which might be different than the city/state you live in currently), to a depth of .003" or more, with a character height of 1/16" or more.
  - If you already had a self-assigned serial applied to the receiver, and you had to apply an additional DOJ-assigned serial, **DO NOT obliterate or modify the original serial! That is a federal felony!**
4. You should gather these items and information beforehand:
  - The system "times you out" after a certain length of inactivity, in which case you'd have to start the current firearm's form over, so try to have everything ready before you begin. Once the firearm is in your "shopping cart", it will remain there for a length of time (but we don't know how long exactly), and you can continue the next firearm later.
  - Have on hand: your CA driver's license or ID card, Military ID card (if applicable), and Alien Registration Number or I-94 (if applicable)
  - Debit or Credit card for the \$15 fee. If you don't have one, DOJ will accept a Visa/MC gift card from Target, Walmart, etc.
  - Each firearm's identifying information, and acquisition date and place (if available), as described in the section, "The Registration Process, Part 1"
  - 4+ Photos of each firearm, as described in the section, "The Registration Process, Part 2". Remove all non-essential attachments from the firearm for the photos.
  - Proof of residency, only if there will be joint applicants for the firearm. Otherwise, this is not needed.
  - The following information about joint registrant(s), if applicable
    - **Note: Joint registrants must reside at your address, and their 18th birthday must be *before* 7/1/2018. It is recommended to wait until after the joint registrant's 18th birthday before registering, as it is illegal for a minor to have a RAW (this has not been verified though).**

- Note: Joint registrants may *only* be a spouse, parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, domestic partner, or sibling. No other relationships are allowed.
  - Note: It is HIGHLY recommended that your spouse (if applicable) be a joint registrant, because **if your spouse is at home and you aren't, and the AW is accessible to them, they will be committing a felony if they are not a registrant of that AW.** (See the section "After Registration: What You May, Must, or Can't Do")
  - Note: Each joint applicant will need to complete their own registration form AFTER the primary registrant completes theirs.
  - Decide who the primary registrant will be. It is unknown if the primary registrant needs to be the person to which the firearm was purchased by, but it is safest to assume that is the case until we learn more.
  - A proof of residence for each joint applicant. Cannot be CDL or ID, can only be one of the following:
    - Carry Concealed Weapon (CCW) Permit
    - Curio and Relic (C & R) Federal firearm license with name and address
    - Utility Bill: Cable, electricity, garbage, gas, pipeline, propane, alarm/security or water bill with purchaser's name on it within the last 3 months
    - Military permanent duty station orders indicating assignment within California; Active duty military spouse ID is not acceptable
    - Property Deed: Valid deed or deed of trust for the individual's property or a certificate of title
    - Resident Hunting License
    - Signed and dated rental agreement/contract or residential lease (~~A brief \$0 rental agreement between parent/child is fine~~ **apparently it isn't fine, anymore**)
    - Trailer certification of title
    - DMV Vehicle Registration
    - Certificate of Eligibility (COE) Letter (anyone eligible to purchase firearms can get one, the application can be found in the CFARS website)
  - If filling out the joint applicant's registration form, you'll need the primary registrant's CRIS number.
    - The fee is \$15 per person, per application, with no limit to the number of weapons on each application. Additional applications are \$15 each, so it's best to do all your weapons at the same time.
5. You should begin the application process early enough before the 6/30/2018 deadline that there is some "buffer". If DOJ rejects your application, you will have to submit a brand new one, and after June 30th you won't be allowed to. You should allow 6 weeks at a minimum, or more if you can.
  6. You may want to consider sending your firearm applications in 2 (or more) batches; One batch with all your "simple and easy for DOJ to process" plain AR rifles, and another batch with the "confusing and complicated for DOJ to process" firearms (like home-builds, pistols, and rifles that aren't AR's). This technique will help ensure you get the simple rifles approved quickly without the other firearms holding up the process.

## **The Registration Process, Part 1**

### **Find the online registration application:**

1. You should use a web browser on a computer, NOT a mobile device.
2. Registration can only be done online, at <https://cfars.doj.ca.gov/login.do>.
3. If you do not have a DOJ CFARS account, you'll need to create one. Use a unique password, *not* something you use with other accounts.
4. Log into your CFARS account, click California Reporting Information System (CRIS), then click Assault Weapon Registration Form (Assembly Bill 1135/Senate Bill 880)
5. Update your profile with all your current info - this will make filling in the application a little faster when registering multiple firearms.

## Owner Information:

DOJ requires this info for every firearm, but it should auto-fill after the first one. In any case, make sure everything is always EXACTLY the same each time. It saves time (and the possibility of mistakes, and subsequently processing delays) if you enter all your personal information into your account profile before you begin. If even 1 character varies between applications, the system thinks two different people are trying to use the same account, and your application will be delayed.

1. Read the Privacy Notice, then check the box to agree.
2. If you have submitted a 2017 AW registration already, AND you have the approval letter, then enter your Assault Weapon Registration (AWR) Number. Otherwise, leave blank.
3. Your first and last name, and email address should already be filled in, but double-check them for accuracy.
4. Enter your physical address, and a mailing address (if different).
5. Enter one phone number, in one of the three spaces provided.
6. Select your ID type, and enter the ID number.
7. Enter your birthday, gender, height, and weight. It's probably best to simply enter the same data that is shown on your ID.
8. You do not need to enter a Race, just leave it as "Select Race" if you'd like.
9. Select your eye color and hair color, again it's probably best to use whatever your ID says on it.
10. Select your US citizenship (Yes or No), then select your birth country. You could pick a specific birth state from the list, but since "United States of America" is one of the choices, there's really no need to choose a state.

By selecting "I Agree", I acknowledge that I have reviewed and understand the Privacy Notice information listed above. *I Agree <input type="checkbox"/>				1
<b>Owner Information</b>				
? Do you already have an Assault Weapon Registration (AWR) Number? If so, enter it below AWR Number <input type="text"/>				2
*First Name	Middle Name	*Last Name	Suffix	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Select <input type="button" value="v"/>	3a
Alias First Name	Alias Middle Name	Alias Last Name	Suffix	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Select <input type="button" value="v"/>	
*Residence Street Address	*Zip Code			
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>			4
Mailing Address (if different)	Zip Code			
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>			
*Email Address				3b
<input type="text"/>				
! At least one phone number must be entered				
Home Phone	Business Phone	Mobile Phone		5
<input type="text" value="#####"/>	<input type="text" value="#####"/>	<input type="text" value="#####"/>		
*ID Type		*ID Number		
Select ID Type <input type="button" value="v"/>		<input type="text"/>		6
*Date of Birth	*Gender	*Height (feet/inches)	*Weight	
<input type="text" value="mm/dd/yyyy"/>	Select <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value=""/> ft <input type="text" value=""/> in	<input type="text" value=""/> lbs.	7
Race	*Eye Color	*Hair Color		
Select Race <input type="button" value="v"/>	Select Eye Color <input type="button" value="v"/>	Select Color <input type="button" value="v"/>		8 9
*U.S. Citizen	*Place of Birth			
Select <input type="button" value="v"/>	Select Place of Birth <input type="button" value="v"/>			10



## Firearm Information, Part I (Self-Built / Joint Registration):

1. Select whether the firearm is self-built (you made the receiver/frame yourself, for example from an 80% receiver)
2. Select whether the firearm will have a joint registrant. If "yes":
  - Select whether you are the primary (first) registrant.
    - If "no", enter the primary applicant's CRIS number.
  - Enter your relationship to the joint-registrant (if you are the primary registrant), or to the primary-registrant (if you are the joint registrant). For example, if you are a parent and the joint applicant is your child, you would enter "Parent To Child".
  - Enter the name of the joint-registrant (if you are the primary registrant), or of the primary-registrant (if you are the joint registrant). Type the name as "Last, First".
  - If you are the primary registrant, you may list additional joint registrants in the Comments section at the bottom. They want you to use this format: "JR2: Last name, First name, Relationship, JR3: Last name, First name, Relationship," and so on. There appears to be no limit on the number of joint registrants, as long as they reside with you at the time of registration.

**Firearm Information**

**\*Is the firearm self built?** Select

**\*Is it your intention to joint register this firearm?** NO If No, end of section

**\*Is it your intention to joint register this firearm?** YES If Yes, continue...

**i** Enter the information for one joint-registrant below. If you have more than one joint-registrant, please enter the name and relationship to you for each additional joint-registrant in the Comments field below.

**\*Are you the primary registrant (first to register)?** YES If Yes, complete this section

**i** Please have the joint-registrant(s) submit a registration form for this firearm using the CRIS number provided to you for this transaction. Please Note: Per California Penal Code Section 30955, joint registrants must reside in the same household.

**\*Relationship to Joint-Registrant** Select

**\*Name of Relative Selected** format: Last, First

**\*Are you the primary registrant (first to register)?** NO If No, complete this section

**\*Relationship to Joint-Registrant** Select

**\*Name of Relative Selected** format: Last, First

**\*Joint-Registrant CRIS Number**

## Firearm Information, Part II (Firearm Description):

1. Select the Firearm Type: Rifle, Pistol, or Shotgun.
2. Select a Category. Semiautomatic is the only selection you should make, even if other selections are available in the list. Only semiautomatic firearms can be registered as Assault Weapons.
3. Select a manufacturer from the list:
  - If the manufacturer isn't listed, choose "U S". Write your name as the manufacturer in the Comments section in this format, "MAKE: Company Name".
  - If self-built, choose "U S". Write the manufacturer in the Comments section in this format, "MAKE: Firstname Lastname".
4. Model: Enter the firearm's model. **DO NOT write "AR-15", "AK-47", or any other firearm models that were banned by name (listed in Penal Code 30515) unless DOJ kicks back your application and instructs you to write that for the model.**

5. Caliber: For receivers marked "Multi" (or similar) or marked with more than one caliber (ie, "5.56/.223"), select "Firearm with interchangeable barrels" at the bottom of the list. If the receiver has a specific caliber marking, then select that caliber from the list. If the receiver has no caliber marking at all, then select the caliber that is stamped on the barrel, and include a photo of the caliber marking with your registration. If you enter a specific caliber, note in the comments section that "Barrels are interchangeable with other calibers".
6. Color: select the predominant color of the overall firearm (not just the receiver), or select "Other, Multicolor", if there is more than 1 predominant color.
7. Barrel Length: Enter the barrel length you have installed currently, and select Inches or CM. In the Comments section in the bottom, always note that there are various barrel lengths. For rifles, write *"May use any length barrel 16 inches or longer,"* for pistols, write *"May use any length barrel under 16 inches."* or for shotguns, write *"May use any length barrel 18 inches or longer."*
8. Select a Magazine type. "Non Fixed Magazine (Bullet Button)" is the only choice in the list.
9. Select the Cartridge type.
  - For rifles and shotguns, "Centerfire" is the only choice in the list.
  - For pistols, you can select either "Centerfire" or "Rimfire". *If home-built, add a note in the Comments section that it was originally built as a dimensionally-compliant single-shot, then later converted to semiauto.*
10. For rifles and pistols, select the AW "features" the firearm has. This section does not appear if you selected "Shotgun" as the firearm type. Make sure the boxes you check match what is shown in your photos, otherwise DOJ will most likely delay your application. For pistols, if there is a forward handguard/shroud of any type, DOJ wants you to select "Second handgrip" and/or "Shroud" - in the case of most AR pistols, you would select both. For pistols, remember that "bullet buttons" count as a detachable magazines now. DOJ considers PRS stocks (and similar) to be telescoping stocks.  
Important notes:
  - **DO NOT EVER select the "Grenade Launcher" choice!!!**
  - **DO NOT EVER select the "Overall length less than 30 inches" choice!!!**
11. Enter the serial number, then enter it again. For self-built firearms, this *must* be a DOJ-issued serial number (see "Before You Register" above, item #3)
12. If your firearm has BOTH a DOJ-issued serial, and an older self-made serial, enter the self-made serial number in the "Other Number" box.
13. Select the firearm's country of origin (where it was manufactured)
14. Enter the date acquired:
  - DOJ says this is the date that the DROS was submitted, NOT the date you took possession, nor the date you built a receiver into a functional firearm.
  - If you do not know the precise date, don't worry, just enter your best estimate. For example, if you only know you acquired it "sometime back in the mid-2000's," enter 01/01/2005. If the firearm was purchased after 2013, and you enter the wrong date, DOJ will likely require you to resubmit your form with the correct date. For pre-2014 longguns, they shouldn't know what the date was, and will have to take your word for it.
  - For joint applicants, the date needs to be exactly the same as the date acquired on the primary's application.
15. Select where you acquired it from:
  - If you did a background check when you got it, *even if you bought from a private party*, choose "Firearms Dealer", then enter the store's name and address.
  - If you did NOT do a background check (because you didn't legally require one at the time, for whatever reason), choose "Private Party" or "Family Member", and enter their name as "Last, First", their street address, and their Zip code. If you don't know the answers, then all you can do here is take your best guess. Since it didn't go through an FFL, it would be impossible for you or anyone else to know who it came from.
  - Or if you built it yourself, select "Self-Built".
  - For joint-registrant applications, select "Family member", and enter the primary registrant's name as "Last, First", their street address, and their Zip code, EXACTLY as they entered their info on their application.
16. For the comments section, do not volunteer any information that you don't need to. However, as mentioned already above, your Comments section *should* include:
  - Additional joint registrants (beyond the first one). They want you to use this format: "JR2: Last name, First name, Relationship, JR3: Last name, First name, Relationship," and so on. There appears to be no limit on the number of joint registrants, as long as they reside with you at the time of registration.
  - If any of the dates or places acquired were estimates, state that here.

- If your firearm manufacturer wasn't listed, write the actual manufacturer name in the Comments section at the bottom. For example, *"Firearm manufacturer was not listed, it was actually made by \_\_\_\_\_"*
- Always note that there are various barrel lengths for this firearm. For rifles, write *"May use any length barrel 16 inches or longer,"* for pistols, write *"May use any length barrel under 16 inches."* or for shotguns, write *"May use any length barrel 18 inches or longer."*
- If you entered a specific caliber in the caliber section, note here that "Barrels are interchangeable with other calibers".
- If the firearm is a home-built pistol, put in the Comments, *"Originally built as a dimensionally-compliant single-shot pistol, later converted to semiautomatic."*
- If any parts of your firearm could be confused as being (or not being) an AW feature, when it actually isn't (or is), make a note of it here. Examples:
  - If your muzzle device isn't a flash hider, note what it actually is (a muzzle brake, etc.)
  - If your stock looks like it folds or collapses, but doesn't, note that here. And vice versa.

<b>*Firearm Type</b> 1		<b>Category</b> 2	
Select Firearm Type		Select Category	
<b>*Make</b> 3		<b>*Model</b> 4	
Select Make Description			
<b>*Caliber</b> 5			
Select Caliber			
<b>*Firearm Color</b> 6	<b>*Barrel Length</b>	<b>*Unit</b>	7
Select Color		Select Unit	
<b>*Magazine</b> 8	<b>*Cartridge</b> 9		
Select Magazine	Select Cartridge		
<b>Additional Firearm Characteristics (select all that apply):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Flash Suppressor <input type="checkbox"/> Folding or Telescoping Stock <input type="checkbox"/> Forward Pistol Grip <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <del>Grenade Launcher or Flare Launcher</del> Do Not Select! <input type="checkbox"/> Pistol Grip that Protrudes Conspicuously Beneath the Action of the Weapon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <del>Semi-Automatic, Centerfire, and Overall Length of Less than 30 inches (measure while rifle is in the shortest possible configuration, in which it will fire)</del> Do Not Select! <input type="checkbox"/> Thumbhole Stock			
<b>Additional Firearm Characteristics (select all that apply):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Second Handgrip <input type="checkbox"/> Shroud that is attached to, or partially or completely encircles, the barrel that allows the bearer to fire the weapon without burning the bearer's hand, except a slide that encloses the barrel. <input type="checkbox"/> The capacity to accept a detachable Magazine Outside the Pistol Grip <input type="checkbox"/> Threaded Barrel (capable of accepting a flash suppressor, forward handgrip, or silencer)			
<b>*Serial Number</b>		<b>*Re-enter Serial Number</b> 11	
<b>Other Number</b> 12	<b>*Firearm Country of Origin/Manufacturer</b> 13		
	Select Country or State		
<b>*Date Acquired</b> 14	<b>*Acquired From</b>		
mm/dd/yyyy	Select		
<b>*Family Member Name / Private Party Name / Dealership Name</b> 15			
<b>*Street Address</b>		<b>*Zip Code</b>	
<b>Comments</b> 16			
JR2: Doe, John, Child JR3: Doe, Jane, Spouse Firearm manufacturer was not listed, it was actually made by "Rhino Arms". This firearm may use barrels from 4" to 15.9" in length. Originally built as a single-shot pistol, later converted to semiautomatic.			
500 character limit. Characters remaining: 248			



# The Registration Process, Part 2

## Attach the Required Files:

1. Four "clear" digital photos of the firearm:
  - Remove all non-essential attachments from the firearm for the photos. DOJ doesn't need photos of your optics, rail accessories, magazines, etc, so don't include them in your photos unless it's too much trouble to take them off.
  - The more junk you have in on your weapon, the more DOJ will be confused, which delays your application. Keep your firearm as basic and simple as possible.
  - For pistols, you *should* remove any arm braces before taking the photo to avoid any DOJ confusion - however, people *have* successfully registered with their braces still attached.
  - **DO NOT include a vertical forward grip on a pistol, unless it is a properly registered NFA "Any Other Weapon".**
  - We don't know what "clear" means, but it should at least be clear enough that any numbers/letters on the firearm are legible.
  - Image file type must be JPG, GIF, PDF, or PNG.
  - There is no minimum file size, the maximum file size is 10MB each.
  - There are no listed requirements for minimum/maximum dimensions. 600x450 is a very standard photo size, it seems like that should be plenty big, but we don't know yet. Make sure any numbers/letters are legible, and that the magazine release is easy to see, and you should be ok.
  - **Strip the EXIF (metadata) prior to uploading, especially if you used your phone camera! Otherwise very personal information (such as your Geo Location) may be included with the file.** You can download a free EXIF stripper here: <http://www.steelbytes.com/?mid=30>.
  - Don't include a measuring device in your photos, unless you have a folding (not just a collapsing) stock, when you may want to show that it is > 30" when the stock is folded to avoid delays.
  - You can apparently take the pictures from any angle or distance you wish, as long as the photo contains all the required contents.
  - Exclude magazines from your photos - DOJ does not need to know what your magazines look like, and if they are 10/20's or 10/30's, it might unnecessarily raise some red flags.
  - **Double-check, then triple-check, that your firearms are in a legal configuration before you upload a photo of it to the Department of Justice! DOJ has reportedly come and confiscated at least one firearm for being in an illegal configuration in the photos!!!**
2. The four photos shall be of:
  - a photo of the bullet-button style magazine release installed on the firearm (take picture at an angle, not straight-on).
  - a photo of the firearm from the end of the barrel to the end of the stock if it is a long gun or the point furthest from the end of the barrel if it is a pistol.
  - a photo of the left side of the receiver/frame
  - a photo of the right side of the receiver/frame
  - *If none of those photos show the serial number and/or caliber marking, include a 5th photo of the serial number and/or barrel's caliber stamp using the file type "Optional Extra Images". If you don't, DOJ will ask you for one later and it will delay your application.*
3. One image that contains all the Proofs of Residency for *both* the primary applicant *and* every joint registrant. However, proof of residency is not required for registrations that have no joint registrants.
4. To upload a file, click the Add Document button, then select the document type from the list: "Joint Registration (your or their proof of residency)", "Military Orders", "Firearm from end of barrel to stock/other end", "Right side of receiver/frame", "Right side of receiver/frame", or "Bullet Button Style Magazine Release".
5. Browse for the file, click Upload, and wait for it to finish. Repeat for each additional file.
6. When you're finished, click Done.

## STOCK TO BARREL

Photo should depict firearm from the end of the barrel to the end of the stock (if it is a long gun) or the point furthest from the end of the barrel (if it is a pistol). This should be a clear, top-view photo of the firearm lying horizontally on a flat surface.



## BULLET BUTTON

Photo should depict the bullet button style magazine release installed on the firearm.



## LEFT SIDE OF THE RECEIVER/FRAME

Photo should depict the left side of the receiver/frame where the manufacturer's and/or owner's markings are easy to read. Markings include: make, model, caliber, serial number, and the manufacturer's name, city and state.



## RIGHT SIDE OF THE RECEIVER/FRAME

Photo should depict the right side of the receiver/frame where the manufacturer's and/or owner's markings are easy to read. Markings include: make, model, caliber, serial number, and the manufacturer's name, city and state.



## OPTIONAL IMAGE: BARREL STAMP

Photo should depict additional identification markings on the firearm (if applicable). The sample image depicts the barrel stamp on an AR Rifle.



## Upload File

**FORM INSTRUCTIONS AND FEE INFORMATION - REVIEW BEFORE CONTINUING (touch or click this banner to view)**

Select a file from your computer to upload

\*File Type

Select

Browse...

No file selected.

Select

Joint-Registration

Bullet Button Style Magazine Release

Firearm from end of barrel to stock/other end

Hunting License

Military Orders

Optional Extra Images

Right Side of Receiver/Frame

Left Side of Receiver/Frame

only once. Multiple clicks will delay processing.

Back

Upload

### Submit the Firearm's Application:

1. Scroll back to the top, and check "I Agree" for the Privacy Policy again, because for some reason it sometimes unchecks itself whenever you leave the page and return.
2. Scroll to the bottom, and click Preview.
3. Review the information you've entered, then check "Agree" that:
  - *I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct*
  - *and that I am the lawful owner of all assault weapons that I seek to have registered.*
  - *I expressly authorize the Department of Justice to perform firearms eligibility checks...*
  - ***I also understand that if I currently possess or own firearms and the results of this check reveal that I am ineligible either to lawfully possess or purchase firearms, I must relinquish any and all firearms in my possession.***
4. Click "Submit Final".
5. It will give you a "receipt", which you can (and should) print, and your Shopping Cart should have 1 new item in it.
6. If you have more weapons to register, click [Assault Weapon Registration Form \(Assembly Bill 1135/Senate Bill 880\)](#) in the left panel, and start a new application (See ["The Registration Process, Part I"](#) above)
7. Important: If any firearms are in the "Pending Cart", move them back to the regular shopping cart before you continue - do this before you add more firearms, otherwise their system gets confused and you'll end up needing to delete and re-enter guns to fix it. This happens every time you log out and back in, before the final checkout.
8. At this stage, you can still edit or delete the firearms in your cart.
9. When you're finished, go to the Shopping Cart and check out and submit the \$15 fee. **This is the point of no return, you cannot cancel or retract anything after you submit payment!**
10. A payment receipt will be emailed to you.
11. If you will have joint registrants, make a note of your CRIS number, which your joint applicants will need when they submit their registrations.

### Joint Registrant(s) need to *also* submit registration application(s):

1. Each joint registrant will *also* need to complete an Assault Weapon Registration application, following exactly the same process outlined above.
2. Each joint registrant will need to pay another \$15, per application.
3. Each joint registrant will need to create their own CFARS account, not the same account as the primary registrant.
4. This can be done at ANY time after the primary applicant submits their application. You do not need to wait for the registration confirmation to arrive.

### Now, you wait:

1. The "status" indicator on the order history page usually perpetually says "In Progress", regardless of what the actual status is. It will even still say that after you get your letter, so don't pay much attention to this.
2. If you realize after you submitted it that you made an error on your application, use the "report an issue," function to inform DOJ that you need to make a change, and they will change your application status to "incomplete" so you can make changes and resubmit.
3. Wait times vary. Applications are processed as first-come, first-served. It could take anywhere from 2 weeks (the shortest reported wait time) to over 4 months (the longest reported wait time), and it's very unpredictable. Registrations of simple AR rifles tend to be processed much faster than complicated registrations involving more rare types of firearms, and also applications that have errors result in delays.
4. Pay attention to your email - if DOJ requests a change, or more information, you only have 30 days to respond before they cancel the application.
5. After 90 days, if you have not received your determination, contact DOJ using the "Report an Issue" link on the CFARS website. If you inquire before 90 days, DOJ will usually only reply that you need to keep waiting until 90 days have passed.
6. DOJ will notify you by email when they receive (accept) your application, or if they want additional information (see next section), or if the application is outright rejected.
7. DOJ may call you if they have any questions, but this is fairly uncommon. Make a note of the date/time, the person you spoke to, and the nature of the call.
8. DOJ will notify you by US Postal mail if the application was approved and processed.
  - You might get an email that says they "will notify you of your registration determination via mail" - this means you were approved, so look for your AW registration letter in the mail within the next few days.
  - It is recommended that you make MANY copies of your RAW determination letter when you receive it, and keep the original somewhere safe.
  - If you lose it, you can order a copy from DOJ for \$5 (but we don't know what the process for this is yet).
  - It is *recommended* (though not required) that you keep a copy with your RAWs at all times.



## Incomplete or Rejected Applications

1. If your application was *rejected*, you will need to review why and determine the next course of action. You can either resolve the issues and submit a new application (and \$15 fee), or convert, sell, or remove from CA your Assault Weapons before 7/1/2018.
2. Likely reasons for rejection may include:
  - Your background check failed
  - Your payment failed
  - Your weapon(s) don't qualify to be registered
  - DOJ asked for more information, and you failed to provide it within 30 days
3. DOJ may simply request *additional or corrected information* before they will process your registration. You must update your application(s) with the required info within 30 days, or the application will be cancelled and you'll need to start over (and pay another \$15).
4. If you get a response from DOJ requesting additional or corrected info, when you go to your application it might say **"This application is currently being viewed"** at the top. This means a DOJ staffer has your application open currently, and you cannot modify it yet. Try again a few hours later.
5. Here are the recommended actions if DOJ requests additional information:
  - **Asking for more/different/clearer photos:** You might consider simply complying with this request, unless the request seems unusual.
  - **Asking for make/model of firearm components:** If the component in question is the only "assault weapon feature" on your firearm, you may consider complying with their question. Otherwise, you should NOT answer, and instead ask DOJ why they think it's relevant, or simply state that you do not know the answer.
  - **Clarification about how or from whom you obtained a weapon:** **Do not answer this question!** If they persist, tell them that everything you know/remember is already on the registration application.
  - **Clarification about build dates or build-process for a home-built pistol:** **Do not answer this question!** If they persist, simply state that you do not remember exactly, or flat-out refuse to answer on the grounds that it isn't relevant. The only things they need to know are the date you finished machining the receiver, and that it was built as a single-shot and converted to semiautomatic later. Both those pieces of information should have already been included in the original application (in the comments section), so tell DOJ there is no need for further clarification on this matter.
  - **Asking that you revise which "features" you said your firearm has,** because they say it doesn't match the photos. If the features you listed really don't match the photos, no big deal, just make the correction to your list of features on the form and re-submit it. The best course of action here is usually just change whatever DOJ is telling you to change on your application.
  - **Any other requests:** Please ask in this thread if you receive any requests from DOJ that seem unusual to you, before you oblige.

## After Registration: What You May, Must, or Can't Do

Main thread: [What you can/cannot or must do with Registered Assault Weapons \(RAW\)](#)

1. Weapon modifications
  - DOJ regulations (but not the penal code or legislation) say you cannot ever change the magazine release device. We don't know if/how this can be enforced yet, so for now it is recommended that you abide by this regulation until further notice. **People have suggested that you might have more options available in the future if you register with a Raddlock rather than a traditional Bullet Button.** It's unknown if this is true, but it's worth considering.
  - Other weapon modifications are unrestricted, as long as the weapon remains in a legal configuration (ie, not an [NFA weapon](#), rifle overall length stays over 26", etc.)

- Assault weapon "features" can be added, removed, or changed, at any time, for as long as the weapon remains a registered assault weapon and otherwise legal (see above).
  - After your AW is registered, you will not be able to use large capacity magazines with it if the LCM possession ban goes into effect - currently, the possession ban is stayed by a court injunction.
2. You may lend or borrow a RAW, if:
- The person being lent the RAW is 18 years of age or over and is not prohibited by state or federal law from possessing, receiving, owning, or purchasing a firearm, and
  - the person being lent the RAW remains in the presence of the registered possessor of the RAW, and
  - the person being lent the RAW is at any of the following locations:
    - while on a target range that holds a regulatory or business license for the purpose of practicing shooting at that target range.
    - while on the premises of a target range of a public or private club or organization organized for the purpose of practicing shooting at targets.
    - while attending any exhibition, display, or educational project that is about firearms and that is sponsored by, conducted under the auspices of, or approved by a law enforcement agency or a nationally or state recognized entity that fosters proficiency in, or promotes education about, firearms.
3. You may use your RAW while:
- At that your residence, place of business, or other property owned by that person, or on property owned by another with the owner's express permission.
  - While on the premises of a target range of a public or private club or organization organized for the purpose of practicing shooting at targets.
  - While on a target range that holds a regulatory or business license for the purpose of practicing shooting at that target range.
  - While on the premises of a shooting club that is licensed pursuant to the Fish and Game Code.
  - While attending any exhibition, display, or educational project that is about firearms and that is sponsored by, conducted under the auspices of, or approved by a law enforcement agency or a nationally or state recognized entity that fosters proficiency in, or promotes education about, firearms.
  - While on publicly owned land, if the possession and use of a firearm described in Section 30510, 30515, 30520, or 30530, is specifically permitted by the managing agency of the land. ([BLM has given permission](#))
  - While transporting the assault weapon or .50 BMG rifle between any of the places mentioned in this section, or to any licensed gun dealer, for servicing or repair pursuant to Section 31050, *if the assault weapon is transported as required* (see transportation requirements in next section)
4. You may NOT:
- Transport a RAW, unless either:
    - The firearm is within a motor vehicle and it is locked in the vehicle's trunk or in a locked container in the vehicle for any lawful purpose (see section 3 above), or
    - The firearm is carried by the person directly to or from any motor vehicle for any lawful purpose (see section 3 above) and, while carrying the firearm, the firearm is contained within a locked container. "Locked container" means a secure container that is fully enclosed and locked by a padlock, keylock, combination lock, or similar locking device. The term "locked container" does not include the utility or glove compartment of a motor vehicle.
    - We don't know, yet, if the RAW transportation restrictions can be avoided by temporarily rendering the firearm "not an AW" (separating the upper and lower, etc.). It is still technically a "RAW", even if it isn't an "AW", so be aware that it might still have RAW transportation restrictions even if it's not currently in an AW configuration.
  - Transfer a Registered Assault Weapon in CA, or to a CA resident.
  - Give a RAW to someone in California as an inheritance.
  - Allow someone who is not a registrant of the RAW to have access to the RAW, even in your own house. If non-registrants are at your house, the RAW needs to be locked up, with only registrant(s) having the ability to unlock it. This is why it is *highly* recommended to add your spouse as a joint registrant.

If these restrictions ever pose a problem for you, you may de-register (see next section).

# Voluntary De-Registration

Before you consider formal de-registration, consider that you can instead choose to modify or reconfigure the firearm to no longer meet the definition of an Assault Weapon, and then replace the serialized RAW receiver with a different (not RAW) receiver, effectively making the weapon no longer a RAW. Then you may retain the RAW receiver in case you ever decide to build it into a functional RAW again in the future.

If you still decide to formally de-register a RAW, the procedure is outlined below. Note that there is no such thing as *mandatory* de-registration. Under no circumstances are you *required* to contact DOJ about your RAW once it's registered. Even if you sell it, move, etc. However, in certain scenarios (like if you sold it), you may *want* to de-register it to disassociate your name from that weapon.

1. Registered Assault Weapons may be de-registered under the following circumstances:
  - Weapons that are no longer possessed, after completing a BOF Form 4546 ("Notice of No Longer in Possession")
  - Weapons that have been modified or reconfigured to no longer meet the definition of an Assault Weapon
2. Send a letter to DOJ that includes the following:
  - Full name, phone number, and current address; make, model, and serial number; and the DOJ Assault Weapon Registration Number (if known - if not known, then the letter must also be notarized).
  - If no longer in possession, must include a proof of sale or transfer.
  - If still in possession, must include 1 or more photos showing the weapon in a non-AW configuration.
  - Signature and date
3. Mail the letter to: **Bureau of Firearms, P.O. Box 820200, Sacramento, CA 94203-0200**
4. If still in possession, DOJ may request additional photos, information, or even an *inspection* (where or by whom, we don't know)
5. After determining eligibility for de-registration, DOJ will delete the Assault Weapon Registration, and if you are still in possession they will convert the record to a standard "Firearm Ownership Report", or if you are no longer in possession they will convert it to a "No Longer in Possession" entry in AFS.
6. Confirmation of de-registration and updated firearm ownership information will be mailed to your address.
7. You may never re-register the weapon as an Assault Weapon, even if the registration period is still open! **Attempting to do so would be admitting that you took a non-AW and made it back into an AW after it became illegal to do so on 1/1/2017.**

## Weapon information you will need for registration

Make, Model, Type	
Caliber, Color, Barrel Length	
AW features	
Serial Number	
Country of Manufacture	
Date acquired/DROS'd	
Acquired from (Business or person name)	
Address where acquired from	
Comments	

Make, Model, Type	
Caliber, Color, Barrel Length	
AW features	
Serial Number	
Country of Manufacture	
Date acquired/DROS'd	
Acquired from (Business or person name)	
Address where acquired from	
Comments	

Make, Model, Type	
Caliber, Color, Barrel Length	
AW features	
Serial Number	
Country of Manufacture	
Date acquired/DROS'd	
Acquired from (Business or person name)	
Address where acquired from	
Comments	