Chapter 39 Assault Weapons and Large-Capacity Magazines

Article 2. Definitions of Terms Used to Identify Assault Weapons Registration Requirement, What Qualifies for Registration, and Definitions

§ 5469. Definitions. Registration of Assault Weapons Pursuant to Penal Code Section 30900(b)(1); Who Must Register.

The following definitions apply to terms used in the identification of assault weapons pursuant to Penal Code section 30515:

(a) — “Detachable magazine” means any ammunition feeding device that can be removed readily from the firearm with neither disassembly of the firearm action nor use of a tool being required. A bullet or ammunition cartridge is considered a tool. Ammunition feeding device includes any belted or linked ammunition, but does not include clips, en bloc clips, or stripper clips that load cartridges into the magazine.

(b) — “Flash suppressor” means any device designed, intended, or that functions to perceptibly reduce or redirect muzzle flash from the shooter's field of vision.

(c) — “Forward pistol grip” means a grip that allows for a pistol style grasp forward of the trigger.

(d) — “Pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the weapon” means a grip that allows for a pistol style grasp in which the web of the trigger hand (between the thumb and index finger) can be placed below the top of the exposed portion of the trigger while firing.

(e) — “Thumbhole stock” means a stock with a hole that allows the thumb of the trigger hand to penetrate into or through the stock while firing.

Any person who, from January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2016, inclusive, lawfully possessed an assault weapon that does not have a fixed magazine, as defined in Penal Code section 30515, including those weapons with an ammunition feeding device that can be readily removed from the firearm with the use of a tool (commonly referred to as a bullet-button weapon) must register the firearm before January 1, 2018.

Note: Authority cited: Section 30520 30900, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 16170(a), 16350, 16890, 30515, 30600, 30605, 30610, 30615, 30620, 30625, 30630, 30635, 30640, 30645, 30650, 30655, 30660, 30665, 30670, 30675, 30900, 30905, 30910, 30915, 30920, 30925, 30930, 30935, 30940, 30945, 30950, 30955, 30960 and 30965, Penal Code.
Article 3. Assault Weapon Registration

§ 5470. Registration of Assault Weapons Pursuant to Penal Code Section 30900(b)(1); Which Weapons Must be Registered.

(a) Except as provided in section 5472, an assault weapon that does not have a fixed magazine, as defined by Penal Code section 30515, must be registered with the Department before January 1, 2018.

(b) A semiautomatic, centerfire or rimfire pistol with an ammunition feeding device that can be readily removed from the firearm with the use of a tool, commonly referred to as a bullet-button weapon, that has one or more specified features identified in Penal Code section 30515 is included in the category of firearms that must be registered.

(c) A semiautomatic, centerfire rifle with an ammunition feeding device that can be readily removed from the firearm with the use of a tool, commonly referred to as a bullet-button weapon, that has one or more specified features identified in Penal Code section 30515 is included in the category of firearms that must be registered.

(d) A semiautomatic shotgun with an ammunition feeding device that can be readily removed from the firearm with the use of a tool, commonly referred to as a bullet-button weapon, is included in the category of firearms that must be registered.


§ 5471. Registration of Assault Weapons Pursuant to Penal Code Section 30900(b)(1); Explanation of Terms Related to Assault Weapon Designation.

The following definitions apply to terms used in the identification of assault weapons pursuant to Penal Code section 30515, and for purposes of Articles 2 and 3 of this Chapter:

(a) “Ability to accept a detachable magazine” means with respect to a semiautomatic shotgun, it does not have a fixed magazine.

(b) “Action” means the working mechanism of a semiautomatic firearm, which is the combination of the receiver or frame and breech bolt together with the other parts of the mechanism by which a firearm is loaded, fired, and unloaded.

(c) “Barrel” means the tube, usually metal and cylindrical, through which a projectile or shot charge is fired. Barrels may have a rifled or smooth bore.

(d) “Barrel length” means the length of the barrel measured as follows: Without consideration
of any extensions or protrusions rearward of the closed bolt or breech-face the approved procedure for measuring barrel length is to measure from the closed bolt (or breech-face) to the furthest end of the barrel or permanently attached muzzle device. Permanent methods of attachment include full-fusion gas or electric steel-seam welding, high-temperature (1100°F) silver soldering, or blind pinning with the pin head welded over. Barrels are measured by inserting a dowel rod into the barrel until the rod stops against the closed bolt or breech-face. The rod is then marked at the furthest end of the barrel or permanently attached muzzle device, withdrawn from the barrel, and measured.

(e) “Bullet” means the projectile expelled from a gun. It is not synonymous with a cartridge. Bullets can be of many materials, shapes, weights, and constructions such as solid lead, lead with a jacket of harder metal, round-nosed, flat-nosed, hollow-pointed, et cetera.

(f) “Bullet-button” means a product requiring a tool to remove an ammunition feeding device or magazine by depressing a recessed button or lever shielded by a magazine lock. A bullet-button equipped fully functional semiautomatic firearm does not meet the fixed magazine definition under Penal Code section 30515(b).

(g) “Bore” means the interior of a firearm’s barrel excluding the chamber.

(h) “Caliber” means the nominal diameter of a projectile of a rifled firearm or the diameter between lands in a rifled barrel. In the United States, caliber is usually expressed in hundreds of an inch; in Great Britain in thousandths of an inch; in Europe and elsewhere in millimeters.

(i) “Cartridge” means a complete round of ammunition that consists of a primer, a case, propellant powder and one or more projectiles.

(j) “Centerfire” means a cartridge with its primer located in the center of the base of the case.

(k) “Contained in” means that the magazine cannot be released from the firearm while the action is assembled. For AR-15 style firearms this means the magazine cannot be released from the firearm while the upper receiver and lower receiver are joined together.

(l) “Department” means the California Department of Justice.

(m) “Detachable magazine” means any ammunition feeding device that can be removed readily from the firearm without disassembly of the firearm action or use of a tool. A bullet or ammunition cartridge is considered a tool. An ammunition feeding device includes any belted or linked ammunition, but does not include clips, en bloc clips, or stripper clips that load cartridges into the magazine.

An AR-15 style firearm that has a bullet-button style magazine release with a magnet left on the bullet-button constitutes a detachable magazine. An AR-15 style firearm lacking a magazine catch assembly (magazine catch, magazine catch spring and magazine release button) constitutes a detachable magazine. An AK-47 style firearm lacking a magazine catch assembly (magazine catch, spring and rivet/pin) constitutes a detachable magazine.
“Disassembly of the firearm action” means the fire control assembly is detached from the action in such a way that the action has been interrupted and will not function. For example, disassembling the action on a two part receiver, like that on an AR-15 style firearm, would require the rear take down pin to be removed, the upper receiver lifted upwards and away from the lower receiver using the front pivot pin as the fulcrum, before the magazine may be removed.

“Featureless” means a semiautomatic firearm (rifle, pistol, or shotgun) lacking the characteristics associated with that weapon, as listed in Penal Code section 30515.

“Fixed magazine” means an ammunition feeding device contained in, or permanently attached to, a firearm in such a manner that the device cannot be removed without disassembly of the firearm action.

“Flare launcher” means a device used to launch signal flares.

“Flash suppressor” means any device attached to the end of the barrel, that is designed, intended, or functions to perceptibly reduce or redirect muzzle flash from the shooter's field of vision. A hybrid device that has either advertised flash suppressing properties or functionally has flash suppressing properties would be deemed a flash suppressor. A device labeled or identified by its manufacturer as a flash hider would be deemed a flash suppressor.

“FMBUS” means a Firearm Manufactured By Unlicensed Subject.

“Forward pistol grip” means a grip that allows for a pistol style grasp forward of the trigger.

“Frame” means the receiver of a pistol.

“Grenade launcher” means a device capable of launching a grenade.

“Permanently attached to” means the magazine is welded, epoxied, or riveted into the magazine well. A firearm with a magazine housed in a sealed magazine well and then welded, epoxied, or riveted into the sealed magazine well meets the definition of “permanently attached to”.

“Overall length of less than 30 inches” with respect to a centerfire rifle means the rifle has been measured in the shortest possible configuration that the weapon will function/fire and the measurement is less than 30 inches. Folding and telescoping stocks shall be collapsed prior to measurement. The approved method for measuring the length of the rifle is to measure the firearm from the end of the barrel, or permanently attached muzzle device, if so equipped, to that part of the stock that is furthest from the end of the barrel, or
permanently attached muzzle device. (Prior to taking a measurement the owner must also check any muzzle devices for how they are attached to the barrel.)

(y) “Pistol” means any device designed to be used as a weapon, from which a projectile is expelled by the force of any explosion, or other form of combustion, and that has a barrel less than 16 inches in length. This definition includes AR-15 style pistols with pistol buffer tubes attached. Pistol buffer tubes typically have smooth metal with no guide on the bottom for rifle stocks to be attached, and they sometimes have a foam pad on the end of the tube farthest from the receiver.

(z) “Pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the weapon” means a grip that allows for a pistol style grasp in which the web of the trigger hand (between the thumb and index finger) can be placed beneath or below the top of the exposed portion of the trigger while firing. This definition includes pistol grips on bullpup firearm designs.

(aa) “Receiver” means the basic unit of a firearm which houses the firing and breech mechanisms and to which the barrel and stock are assembled.

(bb) “Receiver, lower” means the lower part of a two part receiver.

(cc) “Receiver, unfinished” means a precursor part to a firearm that is not yet legally a firearm. Unfinished receivers may be found in various levels of completion. As more finishing work is completed the precursor part gradually becomes a firearm. Some just have the shape of an AR-15 lower receiver for example, but are solid metal. Some have been worked on and the magazine well has been machined open. Firearms Manufactured by Unlicensed Subjects (FMBUS) began as unfinished receivers.

(dd) “Receiver, upper” means the top portion of a two part receiver.

(ee) “Rifle” means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed cartridge to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger.

(ff) “Rimfire” means a rimmed or flanged cartridge with the priming mixture located in the rim of the case.

(gg) “Second handgrip” means a grip that allows the shooter to grip the pistol with their non-trigger hand. The second hand grip often has a grip texture to assist the shooter in weapon control.

(hh) “Semiautomatic” means a firearm functionally able to fire a single cartridge, eject the empty case, and reload the chamber each time the trigger is pulled and released. Further, certain necessary mechanical parts that will allow a firearm to function in a semiautomatic nature must be present for a weapon to be deemed semiautomatic. A weapon clearly designed to be semiautomatic but lacking a firing pin, bolt carrier, gas tube, or some other
crucial part of the firearm is not semiautomatic for purposes of Penal Code sections 30515, 30600, 30605(a), and 30900.

(1) A mechanically whole semiautomatic firearm merely lacking ammunition and a proper magazine is a semiautomatic firearm.

(2) A mechanically whole semiautomatic firearm disabled by a gun lock or other firearm safety device is a semiautomatic firearm. (All necessary parts are present, once the gun lock or firearm safety device is removed, and weapon can be loaded with a magazine and proper ammunition.)

(3) With regards to an AR-15 style firearm, if a complete upper receiver and a complete lower receiver are completely detached from one another, but still in the possession or under the custody or control of the same person, the firearm is not a semiautomatic firearm.

(4) A stripped AR-15 lower receiver, when sold at a California gun store, is not a semiautomatic firearm. (The action type, among other things, is undetermined.)

(ii) “Shotgun with a revolving cylinder” means a shotgun that holds its ammunition in a cylinder that acts as a chamber much like a revolver. To meet this definition the shotgun’s cylinder must mechanically revolve or rotate each time the weapon is fired. A cylinder that must be manually rotated by the shooter does not qualify as a revolving cylinder.

(jj) “Shroud” means a heat shield that is attached to, or partially or completely encircles the barrel, allowing the shooter to fire the weapon with one hand and grasp the firearm over the barrel with the other hand without burning the shooter’s hand. A slide that encloses the barrel is not a shroud.

(kk) “Spigot” means a muzzle device on some firearms that are intended to fire grenades. The spigot is what the grenade is attached to prior to the launching of a grenade.

(ll) “Stock” means the part of a rifle, carbine, or shotgun to which the receiver is attached and which provides a means for holding the weapon to the shoulder. A stock may be fixed, folding, or telescoping.

(mm) “Stock, fixed” means a stock that does not move, fold, or telescope.

(nn) “Stock, folding” means a stock which is hinged in some fashion to the receiver to allow the stock to be folded next to the receiver to reduce the overall length of the firearm. This definition includes under folding and over folding stocks.

(oo) “Stock, telescoping” means a stock which is shortened or lengthened by allowing one section to telescope into another portion. On AR-15 style firearms, the buffer tube or receiver extension acts as the fixed part of the stock on which the telescoping butt stock slides or telescopes.
“Those weapons with an ammunition feeding device that can be readily removed from the firearm with the use of a tool” includes functional semiautomatic rifles, pistols, and shotguns with bullet-button style magazine releases. These weapons do not have a fixed magazine.

“Thumbhole stock” means a stock with a hole that allows the thumb of the trigger hand to penetrate into or through the stock while firing.

“Threaded barrel, capable of accepting a flash suppressor, forward handgrip, or silencer” means a threaded barrel able to accept a flash suppressor, forward handgrip or silencer, and includes a threaded barrel with any one of those features already mounted on it. Some firearms have “lugs” in lieu of threads on the end of the barrel. These lugs are used to attach some versions of silencers. For purposes of this definition a lugged barrel is the same as a threaded barrel.


Article 3. Assault Weapon Registration

§ 5472. Registration of Assault Weapons Pursuant to Penal Code Section 30900(b)(1); Weapons That Will Not Be Registered as Assault Weapons.

(a) The Department will not register as an assault weapon a firearm unless it was lawfully possessed on or before December 31, 2016.

(b) The Department will not register a firearm that was required to be registered under prior assault weapon registration laws in effect before January 1, 2017. These weapons include, but are not limited to, firearms known as “named assault weapons” and are listed in Penal Code section 30510 and sections 5495 and 5499 of Chapter 40.

(c) The Department will not register a firearm as an assault weapon if the firearm is featureless.

(d) The Department will not register a firearm as an assault weapon if the firearm has a fixed magazine that holds ten rounds or less.

(e) The Department will not register a firearm as an assault weapon unless the firearm is fully assembled and fully functional.
The Department will not register as an assault weapon a firearm manufactured by a federally-licensed manufacturer if the firearm does not have a serial number applied pursuant to federal law.

The Department will not register as an assault weapon a FMBUS if the firearm does not have a serial number assigned by the Department and applied by the owner or agent pursuant to section 5474.2.


§ 5473. Voluntary Cancellations

(a) The DOJ will accept voluntary cancellations for assault weapons that are no longer possessed by the registrant. Cancellations will also be accepted for assault weapons, defined and registered pursuant to Penal Code section 30515, that have been modified or reconfigured to no longer meet the assault weapon definition. Cancellation requests must be signed, dated, and provide the following information:

(1) Registrant's full name, telephone number, and current address; make, model, and serial number of the assault weapon; and the DOJ assault weapon registration number (as indicated on the registration confirmation letter provided to the registrant at the time of registration). If the DOJ assault weapon registration number is unknown, the request must be notarized.

(b) After confirmation of the information provided on the cancellation request, the DOJ will permanently delete the registration for the specified assault weapon(s). If there are no remaining assault weapons registered to the individual, all personal information regarding the registrant will also be deleted from the assault weapon database. The DOJ will mail confirmation of the cancellation to the address provided on the request.


§ 5473. Registration of Assault Weapons Pursuant to Penal Code Section 30900(b)(1); California Firearms Application Reporting System (“CFARS”); Account Requirements.

(a) Assault weapon registrations must be filed electronically using the Department’s California Firearms Application Reporting System (CFARS), at the following website: https://cfars.doj.ca.gov/login.do.

(b) A CFARS account must be created to use the electronic registration system. To create a CFARS account, assault weapon registrants will be required to agree to the following
conditions of use:

(1) Non-Liability: The Department is not responsible for and will have no liability for any hardware, software, information, or other items or any services provided by any persons other than the Department. Except as may be required by law, in no event shall either party be liable to the other or any third party, under any theory of liability, including, but not limited to, any contract or tort claim for any cause whatsoever, for any indirect, incidental, special, or consequential damages, including loss of revenue or profits, even if aware of the possibility thereof.

(2) Authorization: I am authorized to use CFARS for the purpose of reporting firearm information to the Department in order to comply with California firearm laws and regulations. If I become aware of an unauthorized user obtaining access to my CFARS account, I will notify the Customer Support Center immediately at (916) 227-7527, or via email at: firearms.bureau@doj.ca.gov.

(3) Fees: Notwithstanding such notification, the Department shall not be liable for transaction charges fraudulently incurred. It will be the cardholder’s responsibility to pay any charges. The Department will not provide refunds after the submission of a transaction.

(4) True and Accurate Information: All of the information I submit to the Department through CFARS shall be true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge.

(c) The following information must be provided by registrants in order to create a CFARS account:

(1) Full Name

(2) Email Address

(3) Three Security Questions and Answers

(4) Password


§ 5474. Registration of Assault Weapons Pursuant to Penal Code Section 30900(b)(1): Applicant and Firearms Information.
Once a CFARS account has been created, registrants must provide the following information:

(a) The registrant’s full name, address, telephone number, date of birth, sex, height, weight, eye color, hair color, military identification number (if applicable), California Driver License number or California Identification Card number, U.S. citizenship status, place of birth, country of citizenship, and alien registration number or I-94, if applicable.

(b) A description of the firearm that identifies it uniquely, including but not limited to: firearm type, make, model, caliber, firearm color, barrel length, serial number, all identification marks, firearm country of origin/manufacturer, the date the firearm was acquired, the name and address of the individual from whom, or business from which, the firearm was acquired.

(c) Clear digital photos of firearms listed on the application. One photo shall depict the bullet-button style magazine release installed on the firearm. One photo shall depict 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. The other two photos shall show the left side of the receiver/frame and right side of the receiver/frame. These locations are typically where firearms are marked when manufacturing is complete. At the discretion of the Department the last two photos shall be substituted for photos of identification markings at some other locations on the firearm.


§ 5474.1. Registration of Assault Weapons Pursuant to Penal Code Section 30900(b)(1); Joint Registration of Assault Weapons.

(a) If a firearm will be jointly registered, one family member must be identified as the primary registrant. The name and relationship of each joint registrant must be provided. Joint registrants must reside in the same household and share the same address.

(b) All joint registrants must be 18 years of age by December 31, 2017. Joint registrations are only authorized for the following family relationships:

(1) Spouses
(2) Parent to Child
(3) Child to Parent
(4) Grandparent to Grandchild
(5) Grandchild to Grandparent

(6) Domestic Partners

(7) Siblings

(c) Proof of address for each joint registrant shall be provided at the time of electronic submission. Acceptable forms of proof of address are as follows:

1. Carry Concealed Weapon (CCW) Permit

2. Curio and Relic (C & R) Federal firearm license with name and address

3. Utility Bill: Cable, electricity, garbage, gas, pipeline, propane, alarm/security or water bill with purchaser’s name on it and dated within three months of application for registration.

4. Military permanent duty station orders indicating assignment within California; (active duty military spouse ID is not acceptable).

5. Property Deed: Valid deed or trust for the individual’s property or a certificate of title

6. Resident Hunting License

7. Signed and dated rental agreement/contract or residential lease

8. Trailer certification of title

9. DMV Vehicle Registration

10. Certificate of Eligibility, as defined in section 4031, subdivision (g) of Chapter 3.

Note: Authority cited: Section 30900, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 30515, 30900 and 30955, Penal Code.

5474.2. Registration of Assault Weapons Pursuant to Penal Code Section 30900(b)(1); Firearm Manufactured By Unlicensed Subject (FMBUS).

A person seeking assault weapon registration for this type of firearm shall seek a Department issued serial number at: dojserialnumber@doj.ca.gov, prior to initiating the assault weapon registration process.
(a) A Department-provided serial number shall be issued and applied as follows:

(1) The Department shall issue a unique serial number to the applicant. The serial number issuance is a separate process and must be done before the assault weapon application will be accepted by the Department. Applicants seeking a FMBUS related serial number shall complete a New Serial Number Application, Form BOF 1008, (Rev 6/2017) hereby incorporated by reference, and submit it to the Department prior to the initiation of the registration of this type of firearm.

(2) Once the applicant has received a Department issued serial number, the applicant may contact a Federal Firearms Licensed Manufacturer (type 07) to have the serial number applied in a manner consistent with this section and federal law. However, a Federal Firearms Licensee is under no obligation to perform this work. Persons who have manufactured their own firearm may also use non-licensed parties to apply the serial number and other required markings; however, the owner of the weapon must not leave the firearm unattended with an unlicensed party in violation of firearms transfer and/or lending laws. Proof of the serial number being applied to the firearm shall be given to the Department in the form of one or more digital photographs of the newly serialized firearm being submitted in accordance with the photo requirement noted in section 5474 (c).

(3) An unlicensed manufacturer of firearms must legibly and uniquely identify each firearm manufactured as follows:

(A) By engraving, casting, stamping (impressing), or otherwise conspicuously placing or causing to be engraved, cast, stamped (impressed) or placed on the frame or receiver thereof an individual serial number. The serial number must be placed in a manner not susceptible of being readily obliterated, altered, or removed, and must not duplicate any serial number placed by the unlicensed manufacturer on any other firearm. The engraving, casting, or stamping (impressing) of the serial number must be to a minimum depth of .003 inch and in a print size no smaller than 1/16 inch; and

(B) By engraving, casting, stamping (impressing), or otherwise conspicuously placing or causing to be engraved, cast, stamped (impressed) or placed on the frame, receiver, or barrel thereof certain additional information. This information must be placed in a manner not susceptible of being readily obliterated, altered, or removed. The additional information must include:

(i) The model of the firearm, if such designation has been made;
(ii) The caliber or gauge of the firearm;

(iii) The manufacturer’s first and last name as provided to the Department for registration purposes, when applicable; and

(iv) The city and state (or recognized abbreviation thereof) where the manufacturer made the firearm.

(4) Measurement of height and depth of markings. The depth of all markings required by this section will be measured from the flat surface of the metal and not the peaks or ridges. The height of serial numbers required by paragraph (a)(3)(A) of this section will be measured as the distance between the latitudinal ends of the character impression bottoms (bases).

(5) The Department shall deny assault weapon registration applications if it determines the above described marking requirements have not been met.


§ 5475. Registration of Assault Weapons Pursuant to Penal Code Section 30900(b)(1); Fees.

(a) The fee to register an assault weapon is $15.00 per person, per transaction. There is no limit to the number of assault weapons a person can register in a single transaction.

(b) The fee must be paid by debit or credit card at the time the registration is submitted to the Department for processing. If the fee is not paid, the registration will not be processed.

(c) A $5 fee is required to obtain a copy of the original registration disposition letter.


§ 5476. Registration of Assault Weapons Pursuant to Penal Code Section 30900(b)(1); Processing of Applications

(a) Applications for assault weapon registration must be received between January 1, 2017, and December 31, 2017, and will be processed in the order in which they are received.

(b) Once the registration has been submitted electronically and fees have been paid, the Department will inform the applicant, via email, that the application: has been received
and accepted for processing; is being returned as incomplete and specify what information is required; or has been rejected.

(c) If the Department deems an application incomplete and notifies the applicant via email of the incomplete determination, the applicant shall provide the requested information or documentation within 30 days. If the Department does not receive the additional information or documentation within 30 days, the application will be rejected and the application fee will not be refunded. The applicant may complete a new application before December 31, 2017, subject to a new application fee.

(d) Once the Department determines that all necessary information has been received and the firearm qualifies for registration, the firearms eligibility check shall commence. The Department will inform the applicant of the results of the check.

(e) If the firearms eligibility check is successful, the registrant shall receive an assault weapon registration disposition letter via U.S. mail.

Note: Authority cited: Section 30900, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 30515, 30900 and 30950, Penal Code.

§ 5477. Registration of Assault Weapons Pursuant to Penal Code Section 30900(b)(1); Post-Registration Modification of Registered Assault Weapons, Prohibition.

(a) The release mechanism for an ammunition feeding device on an assault weapon registered pursuant to Penal Code section 30900, subdivision (b)(1) shall not be changed after the assault weapon is registered. A weapon’s eligibility for registration pursuant to Penal Code section 30900, subdivision (b)(1) depends, in part, on its release mechanism. Any alteration to the release mechanism converts the assault weapon into a different weapon from the one that was registered.

(b) The prohibition in subdivision (a) does not extend to the repair or like-kind replacement of the mechanism.

(c) This prohibition in subdivision (a) does not extend to a firearm that is undergoing the deregistration process pursuant to section 5478. Written confirmation from the Department that acknowledges the owner’s intent to deregister his or her assault weapon pursuant to section 5478 shall be proof the deregistration process has been initiated.

§ 5478. Registration of Assault Weapons Pursuant to Penal Code Section 30900(b)(1); Voluntary Deregistration.

(a) The Department will accept voluntary deregistration requests for assault weapons that are no longer possessed by the registrant, in the form of a completed Form BOF 4546, “Notice of No Longer in Possession,” (Rev 6/2017) hereby incorporated by reference. Deregistration requests will also be accepted for assault weapons, as defined in Penal Code section 30515, that have been modified or reconfigured to no longer meet that definition. Deregistration requests must be in writing, signed, dated, and provide the following information:

(1) Registrant's full name, telephone number, and current address; make, model, and serial number of the assault weapon; and the Department assault weapon registration number (as indicated on the registration confirmation letter provided to the registrant at the time of registration). If the Department assault weapon registration number is unknown, the request must be notarized.

(2) If the firearm has been modified or reconfigured to no longer meet the definition of assault weapon, one or more photographs clearly depicting the firearm in its current configuration shall be attached to the written deregistration request. Additional information, photographs, or inspection may be requested by the Department before determining eligibility for deregistration.

(3) If the registrant is no longer in possession of the firearm, proof of sale or transfer of the firearm shall be attached to the written deregistration request. Acceptable proof includes receipts from out-of-state gun stores, or law enforcement reports depicting the seizure and/or destruction of the firearm(s).

(b) Upon determining eligibility for deregistration, the Department will delete the assault weapon registration for the specified firearm(s), and, if the weapon is still in the possession of the registrant, will convert the information to a BOF 4542A, “Firearm Ownership Report, (Rev. 6/2017), hereby incorporated by reference.

(c) If the registrant has sold the weapon to a party outside of the State of California or otherwise lawfully disposed of the weapon, or if the weapon was seized by law enforcement, the Department will create a “No Longer In Possession” entry in the Automated Firearms System.

(d) Upon completion of the assault weapon deregistration, the Department will mail confirmation of deregistration and updated firearm ownership information to the registrant at the address provided on the request.