


State of California  Department of Justice

OFFICE of the ATTORNEY GENERAL
KAMALA D. HARRIS

History of Armed & Prohibited Persons System (APPS)

- Created in 2001 (SB 950) as response to high-profile murder cases involving people prohibited from owning firearms.
- APPS cross-references five databases to find people who legally purchased handguns and registered assault weapons since 1996 with those prohibited from owning or possessing firearms.
- Prohibited Persons: felons, individuals with history of violence (domestic violence/restraining order) or severe mental illness, wanted persons.
- The first and only other major statewide sweep was in 2007 with 422 firearms seized.

2011 Sweep Stats

- Sweep conducted over six weeks in 43 counties
- 1,011 APPS cases – 1,209 firearms seized
- Ammunition seized – 155,731 rounds
- Grenades seized – 2
- Number of individuals from whom firearms seized – 723
- Department of Justice agents involved – 99

Statewide APPS numbers:

- 17,921 uncontacted individuals are prohibited from having firearms.
- 34,204 handguns are believed to be owned by prohibited persons.
- 1,590 assault weapons are believed to be owned by prohibited persons.

SB 819

- The bill would add the word “possession” to CA penal code to allow the Department of Justice to use money from existing fees collected by gun dealers across the state for APPS program.
- SB 819 would allow the DOJ to request to reduce the amount added to the Dealer’s Record of Sales (DROS) surplus to strengthen the APPS via five DOJ agent hires and increased support and training to local law enforcement agencies.
- Passed Senate –22 to 9 and will be heard in Assembly Public Safety Committee on June 21st.

Dealer’s Record of Sales fee (DROS):

- Approximately 1,100 firearms are sold in California each day.
- Gun purchasers pay a DROS fee to cover the background checks conducted by the DOJ’s Bureau of Firearms.
- DROS account has a surplus – due in part to a 30 percent increase in gun sales over the last three years and improved technology, equipment and training, which has reduced the amount of time needed to process each gun application.
- Every year, more than \$3 million is added to the DROS surplus.