


<div>California Department of Justice DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT Stephen Woolery, Chief</div> 		<b>INFORMATION BULLETIN</b>	
<i>Subject:</i>  <b>Important Notice Regarding Prohibition of Forced Reset Triggers as Multiburst Trigger Activators Under California Law</b>	<i>No.</i> 2025-DLE-11	<i>Contact for information:</i>  Bureau of Firearms (916) 210-2300 Firearms.Bureau@doj.ca.gov	
	<i>Date:</i> 06/02/2025		

**TO: ALL CALIFORNIA CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES; DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, COUNTY COUNSELS, AND CITY ATTORNEYS; CENTRALIZED LIST OF FIREARMS DEALERS, MANUFACTURERS, EXEMPT FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSEES, AND GUN SHOW PROMOTERS**

On May 13, 2025, the United States Department of Justice (U.S. DOJ) entered into a settlement agreement with various plaintiffs to resolve pending federal litigation challenging the regulation of “forced reset triggers” (FRTs) by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) as machine guns under the National Firearms Act of 1934 (28 U.S.C. § 5845(b)). The settlement agreement requires the U.S. DOJ to cease regulating FRTs as machine guns under federal law and provides that individual owners may request the return of FRTs seized by or voluntarily surrendered to ATF.

**The U.S. DOJ’s settlement does not change the fact that FRTs remain illegal under California law. California Penal Code section 32900 prohibits the possession, sale, offering for sale, manufacture, importation, giving, or lending of any “multiburst trigger activator,” such as an FRT. A violation of this prohibition can be a felony or misdemeanor offense.**

An FRT is a firearm assembly used in semiautomatic firearms that forcibly resets the trigger by operation of the firing cycle, allowing the trigger to reset more quickly than a standard spring-based trigger. A firearm equipped with an FRT “enables the user to fire at a faster rate than with a traditional trigger.”<sup>1</sup> Unlike a standard semiautomatic trigger, which requires a shooter to release the trigger after each shot to fire repeatedly, an FRT uses the firing cycle to force the trigger back into a reset position after the initial pull, repeatedly pushing the lever against the shooter’s trigger finger and firing continuously so long as the shooter maintains pressure on the trigger. California Penal Code section 16930, subdivision (a)(2) defines a “multiburst trigger activator” as any “manual or power-driven trigger activating device constructed and designed so that when attached to, built into, or used in conjunction with, a semiautomatic firearm it increases the rate of fire of that firearm.” In addition, California Penal Code section 16930, subdivision (b) provides a non-exhaustive list of “devices” that meet the definition of a “multiburst trigger activator,” including “[a]ny aftermarket trigger or trigger system that, if installed, allows more than one round to be fired with a single depression of the trigger.” (Pen. Code, § 16930, subd. (b)(4).) The California Department of Justice has determined that an FRT, at a minimum, falls within the definition of a multiburst trigger activator in Penal Code section 16930.

**Accordingly, an FRT cannot be possessed, sold, offered for sale, manufactured, imported, given, or lent in**

<sup>1</sup>(*Nat. Assn. for Gun Rights, Inc. v. Garland* (N.D. Tex. 2024) 697 F. Supp. 3d 601, 608.)

**California under Penal Code section 32900.** (See also Pen. Code, § 16590, subd. (q) [listing a multiburst trigger activator as a “generally prohibited weapon”].) Notwithstanding the U.S. DOJ’s settlement, individuals in California who owned FRTs that have been voluntarily surrendered to or seized by ATF should not request their return under the terms of the settlement, and California dealers should not offer FRTs for sale.

California Firearms Dealers must ensure that all staff members who process Dealer Record of Sale (DROS) transactions are informed of this bulletin. California Civil Code section 3273.51 requires any firearm industry member, including federally licensed firearm dealers, to implement reasonable controls to ensure that they comply with all provisions of California law and not promote the unlawful manufacture, sale, possession, marketing, or use of a firearm-related product, including an FRT. (*See also* Civ. Code § 3273.50 [defining the relevant terms].)

Should you have any questions, please contact the Bureau of Firearms, Customer Support Center at (916) 210-2300 or via email at [Firearms.Bureau@doj.ca.gov](mailto:Firearms.Bureau@doj.ca.gov).