

OFFICE OF THE  
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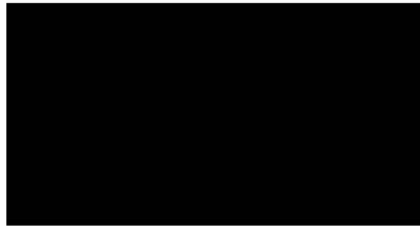
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**CRAIG W. STEDMAN**  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

August 28, 2017



RE: Law Regarding Firearm Regulation by Municipal Ordinance

Dear Chief [REDACTED],

I am contacting you to provide a current update on the status of state law regarding the ability of a township or municipality to enact local ordinances which regulate firearms. A fairly recent case, *Firearm Owners Against Crime (FOAC) v. Lower Merion Township*, is clearly dispositive and I wanted to make sure each of you had the information should an issue arise in your area.

In the case, the township passed an ordinance which prohibited possession of a firearm in a township park without a special permit which imposed a maximum fine of \$600 per incident and allowed the police to remove violators. The Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court held, appropriately, that any such county, municipal, or township ordinance designed to regulate firearms is specifically preempted by the Pennsylvania Constitution and 18 § 6120 of the Uniform Firearms Act.

They specifically noted that the Pennsylvania Supreme Court has clearly denied all municipalities the power to regulate firearms and the Uniform Firearms Act prohibits a township from regulation concerning the ownership, possession, transfer or transportation of firearms or ammunition "in any manner", to include ordinances on parks.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. I can certainly provide further information and details as needed.

Sincerely,

Craig W. Stedman  
District Attorney