

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

TRACEY MANN
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

August 27, 2026

Robert Cekada
Director
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
99 New York Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Director Cekada,

Thank you for your steadfast commitment to protecting the constitutional rights of the American people and for the meaningful victories this Administration has delivered for American gun owners. However, recent judicial actions have created uncertainty for firearm owners and industry. I write today to request information from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) regarding the federal court's August 5, 2026 ruling in *Silencer Shop Foundation v. ATF*, which affects the National Firearms Act (NFA) and federal suppressor registration requirements. The ruling has created uncertainty for law-abiding firearm owners, manufacturers, and federally licensed firearms dealers. The ATF has a responsibility to provide clear and timely guidance explaining how the ruling will be implemented and what requirements remain in effect, and I urge the ATF to act swiftly in accordance.

The ruling in *Silencer Shop Foundation v. ATF* has raised serious questions on the requirements to purchase, manufacture, and own gun suppressors going forward in NFA regulated states. Our nation's legal firearm owners, manufacturers, and dealers need clear direction on how to navigate their existing and pending applications, in order to ensure that law-abiding individuals and businesses can better understand and comply with federal law. The uncertainty surrounding the ruling directly affects the individuals involved in NFA regulated transactions, and without clear guidance from the ATF, they will be left to determine for themselves how the ruling affects their livelihoods. If the court's ruling prevents the ATF from enforcing certain NFA registration requirements, the ATF should promptly communicate what requirements remain in effect and what procedures are no longer required.

I urge the ATF to engage directly with Congress, firearms dealers, manufacturers, and law-abiding gun owners to ensure that the guidance issued is clear and transparent. I specifically request clarification regarding the following:

1. What steps the ATF has taken so far to implement the ruling;
2. How the ruling will affect the Form 4 Approval Application processes and approval;
3. What federal NFA registration requirements will remain in effect following the ruling;
4. How the ATF intends to handle existing and pending applications within the agency;
5. What procedures firearm owners, manufacturers, and dealers should follow going forward; and
6. A date on which the ATF intends to publish official, finalized guidance.

I strongly support the Second Amendment and the rights of law-abiding American gun owners, manufacturers, and federally licensed firearms dealers. I respectfully urge the ATF to provide clear and timely guidance in order to ensure transparency and accountability, and request a response addressing these questions and concerns no later than September 17, 2026. I look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



Tracey Mann
Member of Congress