

# Administration's Comprehensive Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gun Crime and Ensure Public Safety

Effective as of June 23, 2021

There are five willful violations for which there is zero tolerance and will result in ATF seeking revocation absent extraordinary circumstances.

# First

- Failure to allow ATF to conduct an inspection.

# Second

- Failure to respond to a trace request.

# Third

- Transfer of a firearm to a prohibited person.

# Fourth

- Falsifying required records.

# Fifth

- Failure to conduct a background check prior to transferring a firearm.

# Extraordinary Circumstances

Extraordinary circumstances are very situational and dependent on the totality of the situation surrounding the violations. However a single instance of a willful violation is not extraordinary circumstances. Likewise, a willful violation cited during a first inspection is not, in and of itself, extraordinary circumstances.

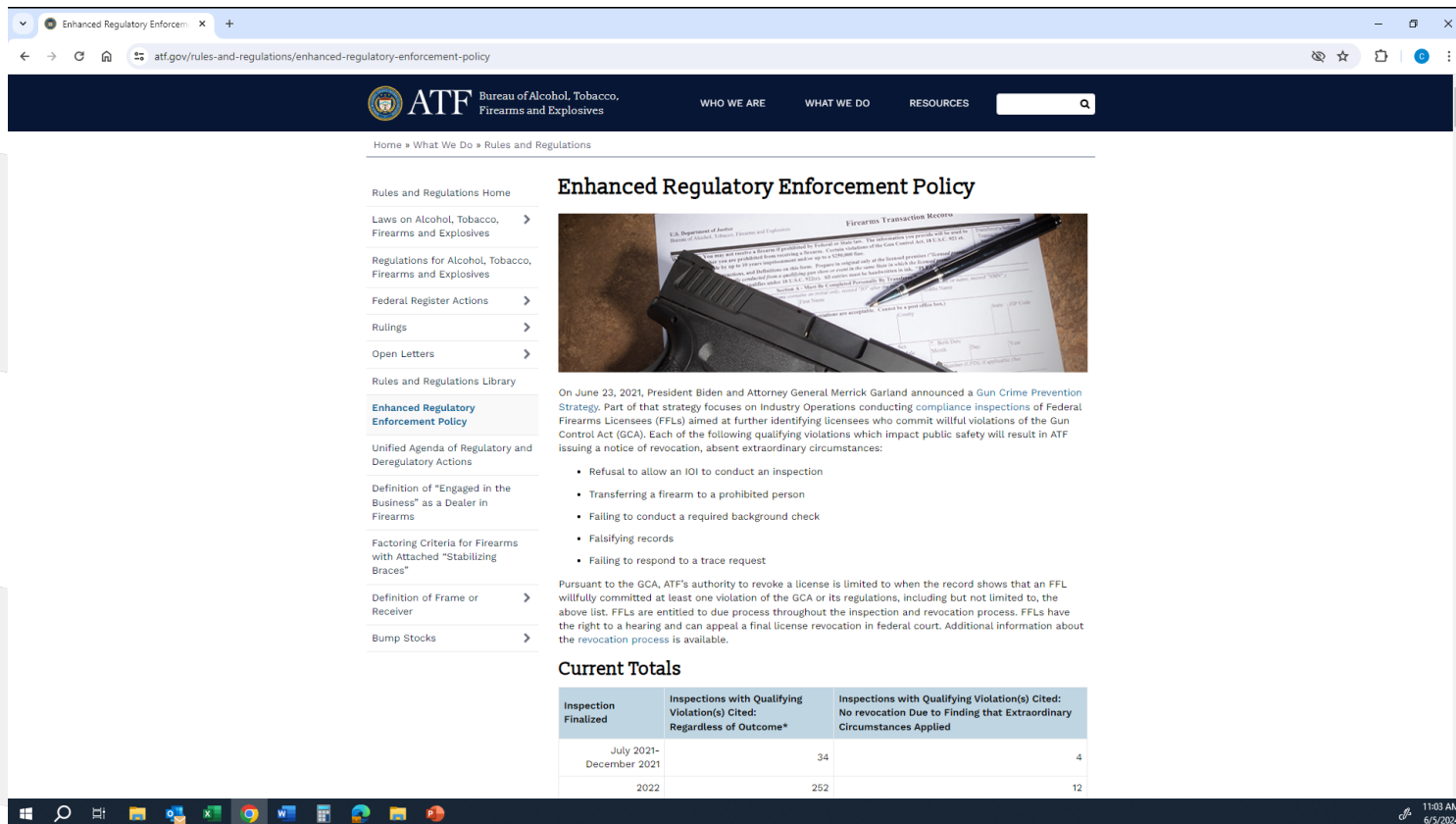


# Briefings

- Any cases where the field and the DAD (IO) agree that Extraordinary Circumstances may exist are briefed monthly to the Director who gives final approval for the alternate action to revocation.
- The recommendations are reported online and to DOJ.

# Results of Inspections with Qualifying Violations

Can be found on the ATF.GOV website and query “Enhanced Regulatory Enforcement Policy.”



Enhanced Regulatory Enforcement Policy

On June 23, 2021, President Biden and Attorney General Merrick Garland announced a Gun Crime Prevention Strategy. Part of that strategy focuses on Industry Operations conducting compliance inspections of Federal Firearms Licensees (FFLs) aimed at further identifying licensees who commit willful violations of the Gun Control Act (GCA). Each of the following qualifying violations which impact public safety will result in ATF issuing a notice of revocation, absent extraordinary circumstances:

- Refusal to allow an IOI to conduct an inspection
- Transferring a firearm to a prohibited person
- Failing to conduct a required background check
- Falsifying records
- Failing to respond to a trace request

Pursuant to the GCA, ATF's authority to revoke a license is limited to when the record shows that an FFL willfully committed at least one violation of the GCA or its regulations, including but not limited to, the above list. FFLs are entitled to due process throughout the inspection and revocation process. FFLs have the right to a hearing and can appeal a final license revocation in federal court. Additional information about the revocation process is available.

### Current Totals

Inspection Finalized	Inspections with Qualifying Violation(s) Cited: Regardless of Outcome*	Inspections with Qualifying Violation(s) Cited: No revocation Due to Finding that Extraordinary Circumstances Applied
July 2021-December 2021	34	4
2022	252	12




FFLs are entitled to due process throughout the inspection and revocation process. In order to revoke a license, ATF must find that the FFL willfully committed at least one violation of the GCA or its regulations. FFLs have the right to appeal a final license revocation in federal court. Additional information about the revocation process is available at [www.atf.gov/firearms/revocation-firearms-licenses](http://www.atf.gov/firearms/revocation-firearms-licenses).

Rules and Regulations Home

Laws on Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives >

Regulations for Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

Federal Register Actions >

Rulings >

Open Letters >

Rules and Regulations Library

**Enhanced Regulatory  
Enforcement Policy**

Unified Agenda of Regulatory and  
Deregulatory Actions

Definition of "Engaged in the  
Business" as a Dealer in  
Firearms

## Results of Inspections with Qualifying Violations

### Outcomes of Inspections with Qualifying Violations Cited and No Extraordinary Circumstances

Month Inspection Finalized	FFL Revoked	FFL Not Revoked After Hearing*	FFL Voluntarily Ceased Operations After Inspection	Totals
<b>2021</b>				
July	0	0	2	2
August	1	1	3	5
September	1	0	4	5
October	0	0	5	5
November	0	0	5	5
December	3	0	5	8
<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>30</b>




FFLs are entitled to due process throughout the inspection and revocation process. In order to revoke a license, ATF must find that the FFL willfully committed at least one violation of the GCA or its regulations. FFLs have the right to appeal a final license revocation in federal court. Additional information about the revocation process is available at [www.atf.gov/firearms/revocation-firearms-licenses](http://www.atf.gov/firearms/revocation-firearms-licenses).

Rules and Regulations Home

Laws on Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives >

Regulations for Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

Federal Register Actions >

Rulings >

Open Letters >

Rules and Regulations Library

**Enhanced Regulatory Enforcement Policy**

Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions

Definition of “Engaged in the Business” as a Dealer in Firearms

## Results of Inspections with Qualifying Violations

### Outcomes of Inspections with Qualifying Violations Cited and No Extraordinary Circumstances

Month Inspection Finalized	FFL Revoked	FFL Not Revoked After Hearing*	FFL Voluntarily Ceased Operations After Inspection	Totals
<b>2022</b>				
January	1	0	7	8
February	2	0	3	5
March	5	0	3	8
April	9	0	12	21
May	8	1	6	15
June	6	4	8	18
July	10	12	6	28
August	8	12	7	27
September	12	24	4	40
October	6	13	5	24
November	14	6	6	26
December	7	11	2	20
<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>240</b>




FFLs are entitled to due process throughout the inspection and revocation process. In order to revoke a license, ATF must find that the FFL willfully committed at least one violation of the GCA or its regulations. FFLs have the right to appeal a final license revocation in federal court. Additional information about the revocation process is available at [www.atf.gov/firearms/revocation-firearms-licenses](http://www.atf.gov/firearms/revocation-firearms-licenses).

Rules and Regulations Home

Laws on Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives >

Regulations for Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

Federal Register Actions >

Rulings >

Open Letters >

Rules and Regulations Library

**Enhanced Regulatory Enforcement Policy**

Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions

Definition of "Engaged in the Business" as a Dealer in Firearms

## Results of Inspections with Qualifying Violations

### Outcomes of Inspections with Qualifying Violations Cited and No Extraordinary Circumstances

Month Inspection Finalized	FFL Revoked	FFL Not Revoked After Hearing*	FFL Voluntarily Ceased Operations After Inspection	Totals
<b>2023</b>				
January	14	19	7	40
February	15	14	9	38
March	6	11	5	22
April	9	9	3	21
May	15	14	4	33
June	13	13	6	32
July	16	18	12	46
August	19	14	10	43
September	11	17	6	34
October	17	9	5	31
November	12	15	6	33
December	10	12	7	29
<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>402</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>672</b>

# CONTACT US

**ATF Web Site:**

<http://www.atf.gov>

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

<https://www.atf.gov/questions-and-answers/firearms-qas>

**ATF Field Offices:**

<https://www.atf.gov/contact/local-atf-offices>

**Firearms & Explosives Industry Division:**

Firearms Industry Programs Branch: [fipb@atf.gov](mailto:fipb@atf.gov) or (202) 648-7190

Explosives Industry Programs Branch: [eipb@atf.gov](mailto:eipb@atf.gov) or (202) 648-7120

**Firearms & Explosives Services Division:**

(304) 616-4590

**Federal Firearms Licensing Center:**

(866) 662-2750

[FFLC@atf.gov](mailto:FFLC@atf.gov)

**Firearms and Explosives Imports Branch:**

(304) 616-4550

[imports@atf.gov](mailto:imports@atf.gov)

**Firearms and Ammunition Technology Division:**

(304) 616-4300

[fire\\_tech@atf.gov](mailto:fire_tech@atf.gov)

**National Firearms Act (NFA) Division:**

(304) 616-4500

Government Support Branch (GSB): [nfa@atf.gov](mailto:nfa@atf.gov)

Industry Processing Branch (IPB): [IPB@atf.gov](mailto:IPB@atf.gov)

**To Receive ATF Forms and Publications:**

ATF Distribution Center

(202) 648-6420

<http://www.atf.gov/forms/firearms/>

**Report Stolen Firearms:**

(888) 930-9275 (Monday-Friday 8am – 4:30pm EST)

(800) 800-3855 (Evenings, Weekends and Holidays)

[StolenFirearms@atf.gov](mailto:StolenFirearms@atf.gov)

**National Tracing Center Division:**

(800) 788-7133