

From:	(b)(6)@nssf.org>
To:	Benacci, Kevin </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ffef45d17df44fe3aa7e1835852ed91,(b)(6)>
Subject:	FW: NSSF (Keane) Ltr to Dir Krebs Re National Critical Infrastructure Industry (03-20-2020) (FINAL)
Date:	2020/03/20 12:44:33
Due Date:	2020/03/19 20:00:00
Importance:	High
Priority:	Urgent
Type:	Note

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Dear Mr. Benacci

Please see the email below and attached (b)(6) suggested that I reach out to you on the issue of having DHS CISA list the firearm and ammunition industry as a national critical infrastructure industry.

I participated in yesterday's CISA conference call and raised the issue during the Q&A session. I know that Vista Outdoor (Fred Ferguson) also raised the issue from the ammunition manufacturer's perspective.

Please give me a call at your convenience to discuss the issue. I can be reached at 203-526-6773. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Lawrence G. Keane

Senior Vice President for Government & Public Affairs,
Assistant Secretary & General Counsel

National Shooting Sports Foundation

(b)(6)

Wash DC: 400 No. Capitol St., NW, Suite 475, Washington, DC 20001

CT: 11 Mile Hill Road, Newtown, CT 06470

NSSF – The Firearms Industry Trade Association

www.nssf.org

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message or by telephoning (b)(6) and permanently delete the original email message, and any attached file(s), and all electronic or paper copies.

U.S. Treasury Circular 230 Notice: Any tax advice contained in this communication (including any attachments) was not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of (a) avoiding penalties that may be imposed under the Internal Revenue Code or by any other applicable tax authority; or (b) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any tax-related matter addressed herein. We provide this disclosure on all outbound e-mails to assure compliance with new standards of professional practice, pursuant to which certain tax advice must satisfy requirements as to form and substance.

From: Larry Keane
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2020 12:00 PM
To: CISA.CAT@cisa.dhs.gov
Cc: (b)(6)@nssf.org>
Subject: NSSF (Keane) Ltr to Dir Krebs Re National Critical Infrastructure Industry (03-20-2020) (FINAL)
Importance: High

Greetings Director Krebs,

First, thank you for hosting the conference call yesterday on the initial launch of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce and for taking my questions during the Q&A portion of the call.

As you requested, I am submitting the attached letter for your consideration. The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) is the trade association for America's firearm and ammunition industry. NSSF strongly believes that our industry (manufacturers – distributors – retailers) should be identified by DHS CISA as a critical infrastructure industry. As explained in more detail in the attached letter, we believe our industry members qualify as part of the Defense Industrial Base (DIB) and Emergency Services Sector (ESS). In addition, our industry members particularly federally licensed firearm retailers and shooting ranges, must be identified as critical infrastructure because it is how Americans can exercise the Second Amendment rights. As I mentioned in my question, a growing number of jurisdictions are ordering federally licensed firearm retailers to shutter as "non-essential" businesses, while dry cleaners and marijuana dispensaries are deemed "essential." Respectfully, that defies logic and common sense. The Supreme Court has held in its landmark Heller and McDonald rulings that the Second Amendment is a fundamental civil liberty that applies both to the federal and state/ local governments.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions concerning my letter or you need additional information to evaluate our request.

Thank you again for what DHS CISA is doing to protect America at this unprecedented time.

Lawrence G. Keane
Senior Vice President for Government & Public Affairs,
Assistant Secretary & General Counsel
National Shooting Sports Foundation

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Recipient:	Benacci, Kevin </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ffef45d17df44fe3aa7e1835852ed912-(b)(6)>
Sent Date:	2020/03/20 12:44:01
Delivered Date:	2020/03/20 12:44:33



NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS FOUNDATION, INC.

Headquarters: 11 Mile Hill Road, Newtown, CT 06470-2359

400 N. Capitol Street NW, Suite 490, Washington, D.C. 20001

(b)(6)

Lawrence G. Keane

SVP Gov't & Public Affairs

Assistant Secretary & General Counsel

March 20, 2020

The Honorable Christopher Krebs
Director of Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency
Department of Homeland Security
300 7th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Director Krebs:

The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) is America's trade association for the firearm, ammunition, hunting and recreational shooting sports industry. Our over 9,000 member companies include federally licensed manufacturers, distributors and retailers of firearms and ammunition products. On behalf of our members nationwide, I am writing to thank you for your leadership and the ongoing efforts of your agency to combat the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic.

I am also respectfully requesting that your agency designate the firearm and ammunition industry as a "National Critical Infrastructure Industry" and the employees who work in our industry should be clearly identified and listed as "Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers."

The firearm and ammunition industry is proud to provide the U.S. military and federal, state and local law enforcement agencies with the tools they need to carry out their vital national security and public safety missions. While we are facing a different kind of war in combatting an unprecedented public health crisis, it is imperative that we maintain a strong national defense and maintain public order.

As you are aware, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) oversees the country's National Infrastructure Protection Plan (the "Plan")¹. This Plan outlines how government and private sector participants in the critical infrastructure community work together to manage risks and achieve security and resilience outcomes. The Plan identifies 16 different critical infrastructure sectors, including Defense Industrial Base (DIB)² and Emergency Services Sector (ESS)³.

Defense Industrial Base

¹ National Infrastructure Protection Plan, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. Retrieved March 19, 2020 from <https://www.cisa.gov/national-infrastructure-protection-plan>

² National Infrastructure Protection Plan, 2010 Defense Industrial Base Sector-Specific Plan, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. Retrieved March 19, 2020 from <https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/nipp-ssp-defense-industrial-base-2010-508.pdf>

³ Emergency Services Sector-Specific Plan, An Annex to the National Infrastructure Protection Plan, 2015. Retrieved March 19, 2020 from <https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/nipp-ssp-emergency-services-2015-508.pdf>

The United States military acquires virtually all its small arms from domestic commercial firearm manufacturers. All handgun ammunition used by the U.S. military is sourced from commercial ammunition manufacturers. The Department of Defense arsenal located in Lake City, Missouri, is operated by a commercial ammunition manufacturer under a DOD contract. Most of the rifle ammunition used by the U.S. military is produced in Lake City. The U.S. military also purchases rifle ammunition directly from domestic commercial ammunition manufacturers. The federal government recognizes the importance of ammunition and firearm manufacturing in times of crisis.

We believe federally licensed firearm and ammunition manufacturers, and their employees, are clearly part of the Defense Industrial Base.

Manufacturers cannot remain operational if they are unable to secure necessary raw material and component parts in order to produce finished products for the military, law enforcement and commercial market. Therefore, it is vital that the supply chain upon which our industry relies, including the ability to transport materials, parts and finished products, must also be designated as critical infrastructure industry.

Emergency Services Sector – Public Safety

According to DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), “The mission of the Emergency Services Sector (ESS) is to save lives, protect property and the environment, assist communities impacted by disasters, and aid recovery during emergencies.” Law enforcement is one of the five distinct disciplines composing the ESS sector that encompasses a wide range of emergency response functions and roles.

Members of our industry provide federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies with the firearms and ammunition products they use to protect our communities and keep the peace. While large law enforcement agencies typically obtain the firearms, ammunition and related products directly from the manufacturer, most law enforcement agencies and their officers obtain firearms and ammunition from their local federally licensed firearms retailer. Our industry primarily functions on a traditional two-step distribution system whereby retailers generally acquire firearms from federally licensed wholesale distributors. In addition, many law enforcement officers supplement their income by working at firearm retailers.

We have seen in the past that law enforcement has turned to firearm retailers in times of civil unrest, such as when during the Los Angeles riots in 1992 local law enforcement went to retailers to obtain more effective firearms in order to restore the peace and protect residents and local businesses.

We cannot expect law enforcement to do its job of serving, protecting, and defending our communities without making sure they have access to the tools they need and which our industry provides. Our industry’s manufacturers, distributors and retailers are a vital part of the Emergency Services Sector.

Second Amendment – The Right to Keep and Bear Arms

Food, water, shelter and adequate medical care are paramount for survival, but so too is the ability for an individual to defend his or herself, their family, as well as their home, business and property.

The firearm and ammunition industry is essential for law-abiding Americans to exercise their Second Amendment right to acquire a firearm and ammunition for personal protection and home defense. Right now, across America, tens of thousands of our fellow citizens are lining up at their local federally licensed firearm retailer to purchase firearms (after an industry-supported background check) and ammunition to protect themselves and family during this uncertain time. Law enforcement resources will be taxed and stressed thin if this pandemic continues to spread. Americans increasingly understand that they cannot always rely on law enforcement to be there in a time of need. They have a duty to be responsible for their own safety. The Second Amendment protects each law-abiding American's God-given right to self-defense. And, the lawful commerce in firearms and ammunition products is constitutionally protected. Without our industry, the right to keep and bear arms would be a mere illusion.

Unfortunately, as with past major disasters like Hurricane Katrina, a growing number of jurisdictions are ordering federally licensed firearm retailers to close their stores as "non-essential" businesses. For example, the Santa Clara and Contra Costa counties and the City of San Jose in California have all ordered firearm retailers to close. Just last night, Athens-Clarke County in Georgia passed an ordinance that requires firearm retailers to close as "non-essential" businesses.

The line of customers outside of firearm retailers across America is testament to the fact that Americans believe the ability to exercise their constitutional rights protected by the Second Amendment is essential. Law abiding citizens owning firearms for their own protection assists law enforcement and aids in keeping the peace.

Further, the psychological impact of having firearm retailers and manufacturers shuttered should not be underestimated. Americans are concerned that in this time of crisis, they will not be able to protect themselves, their families or their property. Ordering the shuttering of retailers will only serve to fuel this fear unnecessarily. The firearm and ammunition industry is present in every community. We know first-hand the importance of ensuring that families are able to focus on what's important right now: following government guidance to help stop the spread of this deadly virus. The last thing an American should be worrying about is how to make sure they are physically safe. Even for those who are not purchasing firearms or ammunition right now, allowing these essential businesses to remain open, while abiding by the important social-distancing guidelines, demonstrates that Americans are not going to be deprived of their right to bear arms.

In addition, shooting ranges, both public and private, are also essential to public safety and the exercise of the Second Amendment. Shooting ranges are where firearm safety education is taught especially to new and inexperienced gun owners. It is also where law enforcement officers typically train to be proficient with their duty weapon. And, members of the military also frequent shooting ranges to train before they deploy to defend our nation.

Economic Impact

Our industry contributes to our nation's economic well-being. In 2019, the firearm and ammunition industry was responsible for \$60 billion in total economic activity, employing as many as 150,707 people in the U.S. and generating an additional 181,501 jobs in supplier and ancillary industries.

Whether it is providing firearms or ammunition to military, law enforcement, and law-abiding citizens or ensuring that they have access to shooting ranges for training, the firearm industry is a critical component of our nation's security, public safety, and economic well-being. We must remain open for business. By including our industry among our nation's critical infrastructure industries, you can help ensure that we are able to do so.

We appreciate your support for the men and women who proudly wear our nation's uniform, our nation's law enforcement and first responders, as well as protecting our constitutional right to keep and bear arms and supporting the very industry that helps make that right a reality for tens of millions of Americans. Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence G. Keane". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Lawrence G. Keane

From:	Larry Keane (b)(6)
To:	Benacci, Kevin </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ffef45d17df44fe3aa7e1835852ed912 (b)(6)>
Subject:	BREAKING: Cuomo's Order Closes Remington's Ilion, New York Factory - The Truth About Guns
Date:	2020/03/20 15:50:52
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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FYI. Checking w/ Remington if they were contacted or is this is click bait However, the sooner we could be listed the better.

<https://www.thetruthaboutguns.com/breaking-cuomos-order-closes-remingtons-ilion-new-york-factory/>

Lawrence G. Keane

Senior Vice President for Government & Public Affairs,
Assistant Secretary & General Counsel

National Shooting Sports Foundation

(b)(6)

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Sender:	Larry Keane (b)(6)
Recipient:	Benacci, Kevin </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ffef45d17df44fe3aa7e1835852ed91 (b)(6)
Sent Date:	2020/03/20 15:50:40
Delivered Date:	2020/03/20 15:50:52

From:	Larry Keane (b)(6)
To:	Benacci, Kevin </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ffef45d17df44fe3aa7e1835852ed9 (b)(6)>
CC:	(b)(6)
Subject:	FW: [EXTERNAL] BREAKING: Cuomo's Order Closes Remington's Ilion, New York Factory - The Truth About Guns
Date:	2020/03/20 16:14:44
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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This is real. Not click bait.

From: (b)(6)@remington.com>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2020 4:02 PM
To: Larry Keane (b)(6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] BREAKING: Cuomo's Order Closes Remington's Ilion, New York Factory - The Truth About Guns

“These provisions will be enforced. These are not helpful hints. This is not if you really want to be a great citizen. These are legal provisions,” Cuomo said, adding that businesses will be fined for noncompliance but individuals won’t be sanctioned.
<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/20/new-york-gov-cuomo-orders-100percent-of-non-essential-businesses-to-work-from-home.html>

From: Larry Keane (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2020 2:46 PM
To: (b)(6)@remington.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] BREAKING: Cuomo's Order Closes Remington's Ilion, New York Factory - The Truth About Guns

****EXTERNAL EMAIL: Use caution with links and attachments.****

See below. Can you call - is this true or click bait

<https://www.thetruthaboutguns.com/breaking-cuomos-order-closes-remingtons-ilion-new-york-factory/>

Lawrence G. Keane
Senior Vice President for Government & Public Affairs,
Assistant Secretary & General Counsel
National Shooting Sports Foundation

(b)(6)

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Sender:	Larry Keane (b)(6)
Recipient:	Benacci, Kevin </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (b)(6)
Sent Date:	2020/03/20 16:14:27
Delivered Date:	2020/03/20 16:14:44

From:	Larry Keane (b)(6)
To:	Hayden, Matt </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (b)(6)>
CC:	(b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Critical Industry Designation
Date:	2020/03/22 19:31:31
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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7:45 pm works for me

Lawrence Keane
SVP Government & Public Affairs,
Assistant Secretary & General Counsel
National Shooting Sports Foundation

(b)(6)

www.nssf.org
Washington DC Office
400 No. Capitol St., NW
Suite 490
Washington, DC 20001
Headquarters
11 Mile Hill Road
Newtown, CT 06470

NSSF is the firearms industry's trade association.

From: Hayden, Matt (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020, 7:45 PM
To: Larry Keane (b)(6); ausend, Stephen (Cornyn)
(b)(6)
Subject: Re: Critical Industry Designation

Briefing just wrapped up, does 7:45 work for you or want to bump to tomorrow morning?
I am good with either.

Matt Hayden
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Private Sector Office
Office of Partnership & Engagement

Department of Homeland Security

(b)(6)

From: Larry Keane (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 1:27:22 PM
To: Hayden, Matt (b)(6); Tausend, Stephen (Cornyn)
(b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Critical Industry Designation

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Give me a call (b)(6) after today's briefing. I can loop in Patrick

NJ has shut down all dealers (even if they sell to law enforcement) and shut down the state police office that does the background checks in NJ [a "Point of Contract" state]. See <https://www.njportal.com/NJSP/NicsVerification> So even if an FFL dared to stay open they can't conduct the required background check. In short, the State of New Jersey is denying the right of its citizens from exercising a constitutional right.

From: Hayden, Matt (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 1:23 PM
To: (b)(6) <(b)(6)@dnsssf.org>; Tausend, Stephen (Cornyn)
(b)(6)
Subject: Re: Critical Industry Designation

I can do 8 am if that works. I can also talk after today's task force briefing that starts at 4:30.

Matt Hayden

Department of Homeland Security

(b)(6)

From: Larry Keane (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 1:19:18 PM
To: Tausend, Stephen (Cornyn) (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) Hayden, Matt (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Critical Industry Designation

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Thanks Stephen. Matt let's get on a call tomorrow AM.

Lawrence G. Keane

Senior Vice President for Government & Public Affairs,

Assistant Secretary & General Counsel

National Shooting Sports Foundation

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On Mar 22, 2020, at 1:17 PM, Tausend, Stephen (Cornyn)

(b)(6) wrote:

Larry and Patrick—

Linking you up with Matt Hayden, who is working this issue over at CISA, and can touch base with y'all on process.

Stephen

Sender:	Larry Keane <(b)(6)>
Recipient:	Hayden, Matt </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=42abfb2720e40d088b4ed740e85b22 (b)(6)>; Tausend, Stephen (Cornyn) (b)(6); (b)(6)
Sent Date:	2020/03/22 19:31:18
Delivered Date:	2020/03/22 19:31:31

From:	Larry Keane (b)(6)
To:	Hayden, Matt </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4a3bfab2720e40d098b4ad240e85b24(b)(6)>; Tausend, Stephen (Cornyn) <(b)(6)>
CC:	(b)(6)
Subject:	RE: Critical Industry Designation
Date:	2020/03/22 19:39:13
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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Let's use Conference call: 8 (b)(6)

From: Hayden, Matt <(b)(6)>
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 7:32 PM
To: Larry Keane (b)(6); Tausend, Stephen (Cornyn) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Critical Industry Designation

Call you then. Thanks

Matt Hayden
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Private Sector Office
Office of Partnership & Engagement
Department of Homeland Security
(b)(6)

From: Larry Keane (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 7:32:19 PM
To: Hayden, Matt (b)(6); Tausend, Stephen (Cornyn) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Critical Industry Designation

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Lawrence Keane
SVP Government & Public Affairs,

Assistant Secretary & General Counsel
National Shooting Sports Foundation

NY (202) 426-1330 x240

(b)(6)

Washington DC Office
400 No. Capitol St., NW
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Washington, DC 20001
Headquarters
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NSSF is the firearms industry's trade association.

From: Hayden, Matt <(b)(6)>
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 7:29:23 PM
To: Larry Keane <(b)(6)>; Tausend, Stephen (Cornyn)
(b)(6)
Subject: Re: Critical Industry Designation

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To: Larry Keane <(b)(6)> Tausend, Stephen (Cornyn)
(b)(6)
Subject: Re: Critical Industry Designation

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Department of Homeland Security

1 (b)(6)
2

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Stephen

Sender:	Larry Keane (b)(6)
Recipient:	Hayden, Matt </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Rece... (b)(6) e85b2 (b)(6) Tausend, Stephen (Cornyn) (b)(6) (b)(6)

From:	Benacci, Kevin </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FFEF45D17DF44FE3AA7E1835852ED912-(b)(6)>
To:	Larry Keane (b)(6)
CC:	CISA_COVID-19_CAT </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a01de625cbec43d8b30a8ff56177b51c-CISA_COVID->
Subject:	RE: Gun dealers are not considered an essential business, and they're not happy about it - nj.com
Date:	2020/03/22 21:01:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Larry,

Received. Thanks for sending this over.

Kevin Benacci
 Director of External Affairs
 CISA

(b)(6)

From: Larry Keane (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 7:25 PM
To: Benacci, Kevin (b)(6)
Subject: Gun dealers are not considered an essential business, and they're not happy about it - nj.com

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Kevin

FYSA. See article (link below). Lawsuits have been/are getting filed in NY, NJ and PA.

As I'm sure you know all the EOs thus far reference the CISA Plan/list.

OH's Exec order tracks IL's and allows retailers to remain open. LA's references DHS CISA list, but is not clear on the issue like OH and IL.

<https://www.nj.com/coronavirus/2020/03/gun-dealers-are-not-considered-an-essential-business-and-theyre-not-happy-about-it.html>

Lawrence G. Keane
 Senior Vice President for Government & Public Affairs,
 Assistant Secretary & General Counsel
 National Shooting Sports Foundation

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Wash DC: 400 No. Capitol St., NW, Suite 475, Washington, DC 20001
CT: 11 Mile Hill Road, Newtown, CT 06470

NSSF – The Firearms Industry Trade Association
www.nssf.org

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Sender:	Benacci, Kevin </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FFE45D17DF44FE3AA7E1835852ED9 (b)(6)>
Recipient:	Larry Keane (b)(6) CISA_COVID-19_CAT </O=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=a01de625cbec43d8b30a8ff56177b51c-CISA_COVID->
Sent Date:	2020/03/22 21:01:35
Delivered Date:	2020/03/22 21:01:00

From:	Larry Keane <(b)(6)>
To:	Hayden, Matt </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4aabfab3739e49d98fb4ad240e85b22(b)(6)> Benacci, Kevin </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ffef45d17df44fe3aa7e1835852ed91(b)(6)>
Subject:	NSSF Recommendation to DHS CISA Re Revisions to the List
Date:	2020/03/23 18:07:48
Importance:	High
Priority:	Urgent
Type:	Note

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Matt

Thank you for taking the time to speak w/ me last evening. I have attached NSSF's recommendation for including the firearm and ammunition industry to the CISA list when it is next revised and republished. I proposed language is on page 1. The rationale is on page 2.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, etc...

Stay healthy!

Lawrence G. Keane

Senior Vice President for Government & Public Affairs,
Assistant Secretary & General Counsel

National Shooting Sports Foundation

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Sender:	Larry Keane <(b)(6)>
Recipient:	Hayden, Matt </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4aabfab3739e49d98fb4ad240e85b22e-l (b)(6)> Benacci, Kevin </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ffef45d17df44fe3aa7e1835852ed91 (b)(6)>
Sent Date:	2020/03/23 18:07:02
Delivered Date:	2020/03/23 18:07:48



NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS FOUNDATION, INC.

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Lawrence G. Keane

SVP Gov't & Public Affairs

Assistant Secretary & General Counsel

Language for Request to DHS, Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency

Insert into Law Enforcement, Public Safety and First Responders:

- Businesses and workers who support the operation of public or private sector firearm or ammunition product manufacturers, retailers, importers, distributors, shooting ranges

Expand Critical Manufacturing to include, "law enforcement or public safety."

Federal Firearms Licensees: Essential Businesses in Times of National Crisis

The U.S. Constitution protects the right to bear arms under the Second Amendment. There is no time when this right is more important than in times of national crisis.

With the current COVID-19 pandemic straining law enforcement resources and personnel, citizens are concerned about their ability to protect themselves, their families, and their property. This becomes impossible under state and local rules ordering Federal Firearms Licensees (FFLs) to close as they are irrationally deemed non-essential. This is occurring in places such as:

- California, where the state government has ordered residents to stay in their homes, and where local governments including the Santa Clara and Contra Costa counties and the City of San Jose in California, have all ordered firearms retailers to close.
- Nevada, where the [governor](#) has not included firearms companies in the list of essential businesses.
- Pennsylvania, where the governor has [ordered](#) the closing of all “non-life-sustaining businesses.” Apparently “beer, wine, and distilled alcoholic beverage wholesalers” as well as retail liquor stores are included as [life-sustaining](#).
- Additional localities have measures in place that could lead to the shut-down of firearms businesses, including [New Orleans, LA](#).
- In Athens-Clarke County, Georgia the local government passed an [ordinance](#) that appeared to require firearms retailers to close as “non-essential” businesses. However, NSSF has worked with state and local officials on determining the extent of their authority. We have learned that FFLs will be considered essential.
- In another victory for the industry and the Second Amendment, the [Albuquerque City Council](#) enacted an ordinance that would not allow the mayor to order the closure of FFLs, counter to an earlier version.

The line of customers outside of firearms retailers across America is testament to the fact that Americans believe the ability to exercise their constitutional rights protected by the Second Amendment is essential. Law abiding citizens owning firearms for their own protection assists law enforcement and aids in keeping the peace.

The firearms and ammunition industry is present in every community. We are feeling the current threat along with our neighbors and we want to do our part to ensure that families are able to focus on what’s important right now: following government guidance to help stop the spread of this deadly virus. The last thing an American should be worrying about is how to make sure they are physically safe. That is why it is crucial to demonstrate that FFLs remain open, with careful operational policies in place.

The firearm and ammunition industry is proud to provide the U.S. military and federal, state and local law enforcement agencies with the tools they need to carry out their vital national security and public safety missions. While we are facing a different kind of war in combatting an unprecedented public health crisis, it is imperative that we maintain a strong national defense and maintain public order.

The Role of Retailers

FFLs that sell firearms and ammunition are experiencing unprecedented levels of demand. The FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), which processes a background check for each firearm transaction, has reported a tripling of the volume of checks in recent days.

Driving this demand is fear. Americans are concerned that in this time of crisis, they will not be able to protect themselves, their families or their property. Ordering the shuttering of retailers will only serve to fuel this fear unnecessarily. Even for those who are not purchasing firearms or ammunition right now, allowing these retailers to remain open, while abiding by the important social-distancing guidelines, demonstrates that Americans are not going to be deprived of their right to bear arms. Additionally, the local retailers serve as community firearm safety experts, a resource to towns and neighborhoods for information on the safe storage and handling of firearms.

Members of our industry provide federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies with the firearms and ammunition products they use to protect our communities and keep the peace. While large law enforcement agencies typically obtain the firearms, ammunition and related products directly from the manufacturer, most law enforcement agencies and their officers obtain firearms and ammunition from their local federally licensed firearms retailer. Our industry primarily functions on a traditional two-step distribution system whereby retailers generally acquire firearms from federally licensed wholesale distributors. In addition, many law enforcement officers supplement their income by working at firearms retailers.

The Role of Manufacturers

FFLs that manufacture firearms are also essential businesses. These companies are crucial to providing inventory to the retailers, but they are also core members of our national defense infrastructure. The last thing that we need right now is to handicap our national security by closing the factories that supply our citizens, our law enforcement agencies, and our military with the tools they need to protect Americans.

The United States military acquires virtually all its small arms from domestic commercial firearm manufacturers. All handgun ammunition used by the U.S. military is sourced from commercial ammunition manufacturers. The Department of Defense arsenal located in Lake City, Missouri, is operated by a commercial ammunition manufacturer under a DOD contract. Most of the rifle ammunition used by the U.S. military is produced in Lake City. The U.S. military also purchases rifle ammunition directly from domestic commercial ammunition manufacturers.



March 24, 2020

Coronavirus Outbreak: Help Us Continue to Deliver Our Lifesaving Mission Nationwide Due to This Public Health Emergency

Unprecedented public health concerns caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic present significant challenges as the American Red Cross continues to deliver its lifesaving mission. To meet these challenges, we are investing an estimated \$150+ million to make sure we can support people across the U.S. who count on Red Cross blood and disaster relief services.

When help can't wait, people in need turn to the Red Cross. To continue carrying out this vital work nationwide in the weeks and months ahead, we are focusing on two pillars:

- Ensure that we have a sufficient supply of blood to help patients in need and help address shortages through our blood services.
- Ensure that we can continue to provide critical relief services to people affected by disasters big and small.

Providing Lifesaving Blood for Patients in Need

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. requires blood—like a child with sickle cell disease or a neighbor receiving treatment for cancer—and we collect about 40% of the nation's blood supply to meet this constant demand.

We continue to have a blood shortage due to an unprecedented number of blood drive cancellations during this coronavirus outbreak.

Thousands of Red Cross blood drives have been canceled across the U.S. due to coronavirus concerns, resulting in more than 200,000 fewer blood donations. We are working around the clock to identify new hosts and are adding new blood drives each day.



Thousands of blood drives have been canceled due to coronavirus concerns.

To help ensure a sufficient supply of blood for patients with critical needs, we are:

- Ensuring that we have sufficient workers and resources to collect vital blood products.
- Investing in a public awareness and targeted outreach campaign to raise awareness and inspire the public to donate blood.

To mitigate the devastating impact of shortages for patients in need, we must ensure the ongoing availability of frontline workers and resources to safely collect, test and manufacture blood in the coming months. To help, we will recruit, hire and train hundreds of phlebotomists.

The Red Cross has also implemented additional precautions to ensure blood drive safety, such as temperature checks for workers and donors; providing hand sanitizer for use before and during the donation process; spacing beds, where possible, to follow social distancing practices between blood donors; and enhanced disinfection of surfaces and equipment.

In addition, we are investing in an immediate public awareness and targeted outreach campaign to highlight this critical need and inspire the public to donate blood. Campaign strategies include paid search, special offers for donors and added donor recruitment workers.

Delivering Help and Hope after Disasters

Our disaster teams are incorporating several new steps to adapt to the changing public health situation. We have implemented enhanced cleaning protocols for shelters, and we will begin health screenings for disaster workers and the people coming into our shelters. We will create isolation areas within these shelters to ensure that if people become ill, they have a safe and comfortable place to rest.

We are also augmenting our capabilities to provide virtual assistance for people affected by disasters. This will require added investments in workers and IT equipment, such as laptops, wireless hotspots and mobile devices. And, when requested, we will work with community partners to provide meals and relief supplies like cots, blankets and comfort kits.

How You Can Help

Help the American Red Cross continue to deliver its lifesaving mission nationwide due to this public health emergency. To donate online, visit [redcross.org/donate](https://www.redcross.org/donate) and select "Coronavirus Outbreak." To donate by check, write "Coronavirus Outbreak" in the memo line, and mail it to your local Red Cross chapter or to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37839, Boone, IA 50037-0839.

To ensure that we can continue to provide critical relief services to people affected by disasters big and small, we will:

- Equip and train disaster workers to provide a safe environment for those affected, as well as our volunteers and employees.
- Increase our ability to provide some key services virtually through additional investments in workers and technology.
- When requested, work with community partners to provide supplies and meals.



**American
Red Cross**