



June 29, 2022

The Honorable Rob Bonta  
Office of the Attorney General  
1300 I Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: Release of Data at the California Department of Justice**

Dear Attorney General Bonta:

We are writing with grave concerns over the California Department of Justice's (DOJ) release of the private and personal information of individual firearm owners in California including information regarding California Concealed Carry Weapons (CCW) permit holders as well as data regarding the Assault Weapon Registry, Handguns Certified for Sale, Dealer Record of Sale, Firearm Certificate Safety, and Gun Violence Restraining Order. This egregious release of confidential information is unacceptable and in violation of state law. We ask for a detailed and thorough investigation of the DOJ to determine the cause and reason this information was publicly released and notification as to any criminal, civil or disciplinary actions that will be pursued by your office when the information can be released.

In addition, we ask that the DOJ portals not be operational until it is confirmed that no additional private information is accessible regarding firearms or other confidential data possessed by the department. We also ask that specific guarantees be put in place to prevent this from ever happening again and ask for a copy of your current protocols with regard to the storage and release of confidential data, particularly in relation to the public release and posting of information to the dashboards.

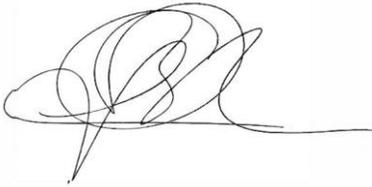
As you are aware, the unlawful release of personal information for hundreds of thousands of Californians was publicized and accessible for a significant period of time and, as a result, has been downloaded by the public and will likely be available in perpetuity. We ask for regular updates regarding the DOJ's attempt to recover this information and stop its distribution.

This information includes many details regarding individuals and their families that may be placed in physical danger due to this release, including but not limited to victims of domestic violence or criminal threats, judges, and law enforcement officers, putting the lives and safety of these law-abiding citizens in jeopardy. We ask that the Attorney General notify every individual that their personal information was released and provide them protections as needed.

There should have been rigorous testing of the Firearms Dashboard Portal before it went live. Cyber security is of the utmost importance for a government agency, especially when handling such sensitive information. Strong data permissions should have been in place from the start to ensure the principle of least privilege was maintained. In addition, the data should have been restricted to a “need-to-know” basis when granting access to the database, especially when adopting a new program. Accountability should be taken immediately regarding this negligence. If the release was intentional, we ask for information regarding the Attorney General’s plans on pursuing charges or other penalties.

It is of utmost importance that these concerns be taken seriously and acted upon immediately. We ask for a response to our letter as soon as possible and any changes you plan to make in order to ensure that the lives of citizens, including victims and public servants in the justice system, will not be endangered by future criminal or negligent data leaks. If you have any questions, please contact Senator Ochoa Bogh’s Capitol Office at (916) 651-4023.

Respectfully,



ROSILICIE OCHOA BOGH  
Senator, 23<sup>rd</sup> District



SHANNON GROVE  
Senator, 16<sup>th</sup> District



SCOTT WILK  
Senator, 21<sup>st</sup> District



BRIAN JONES  
Senator, 38<sup>th</sup> District



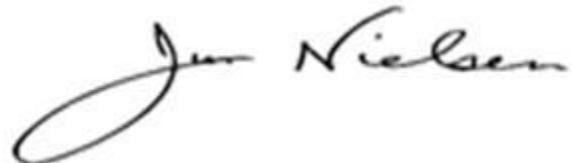
PATRICIA C. BATES  
Senator, 36<sup>th</sup> District



MELISSA MELENDEZ  
Senator, 28<sup>th</sup> District



BRIAN DAHLE  
Senator, 1<sup>st</sup> District



JIM NIELSEN  
Senator, 4<sup>th</sup> District

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Andreas Borgeas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial 'A' and a long, sweeping tail.

ANDREAS BORGEAS  
Senator, 8<sup>th</sup> District