



June 4, 2026

Office of the District Attorney  
211 West Temple Street, Suite 1200  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear District Attorney Hochman,

I write to echo Supervisor Hahn's call for an urgent investigation of Turner's Outdoorsman. Being tough on crime requires addressing all of the root causes of crime, including negligent or illegal actions by the gun industry itself. Trying to stop the gun violence epidemic without addressing reckless and law-violating dealers that flood our communities with crime guns is like trying to stop the opioid epidemic without addressing the pharmacies that filled illegal or suspicious prescriptions despite red flags.

Due to California's leading transparency efforts, we know a lot about Turner's Outdoorsman role in the gun violence epidemic in our state. Turner's operates 34 stores across California, including over a dozen in the greater Los Angeles region. In 2024, more than one in five guns recovered from crimes statewide (22.48%) that were traced to a California dealer (829) came from a Turner's<sup>1</sup>. In fact, the top eight California crime gun dealers that year were all Turner's stores<sup>2</sup>. This is not simply a symptom of a high volume dealer. Research consistently shows that high firearms sales do not automatically translate into guns that circulate into the criminal market<sup>3</sup>. But when a single chain accounts for an outsized share of recovered crime guns, it signals something sinister: profit placed above public safety.

While it was recently reported and confirmed that the Turner's location in Torrance was the supplier of the shotgun used at the assassination attempt at the White House Correspondent's Dinner<sup>4</sup>, the reality is that Turner's has been linked to thousands of firearms being recovered in disproportionately Black and Brown communities since the California's Department of Justice began collecting this data.

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<sup>1</sup> California Department of Justice. (2025). Crime guns in California: Mandated reporting statistics (AB 1191 Legislative Report). Office of the Attorney General.

<https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/ab1191-crime-gun-report-2025>

<sup>2</sup> Id.

<sup>3</sup> <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37695444/>

<sup>4</sup>

<https://laist.com/news/criminal-justice/turners-outdoorsman-is-linked-to-the-largest-share-of-guns-traced-to-crimes-in-california>



The oversight response to this pattern has been wholly inadequate. In the past five years, the California Department of Justice inspected fewer than a third of Turner's locations – just 11 of 34 – and still found more than 1,400 violations<sup>5</sup>. Federal oversight has been even weaker. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), which inspects gun dealers at the federal level, often conducts inspections of gun dealers less than once a decade. No other industry in this country operates under such permissive conditions.

We are proud to stand with Supervisor Hahn and implore your office to investigate Turner's Outdoorsman by using the statutory authority to inspect gun dealers<sup>6</sup>.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Verge (President of Los Angeles Chapter of Brady United Against Gun Violence)

Christian Heyne (Chief Programs and Policy Officer at Brady United Against Gun Violence)

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<sup>5</sup> Id.

<sup>6</sup> California Penal Code Sections 26715, 26720, and 26725.