



INFORMATION BULLETIN:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE RE-OPENS “ASSAULT WEAPON” REGISTRATION EFFECTIVE JANUARY 13, 2022

JANUARY 20, 2022

In 2016, California’s anti-gun legislators successfully made configuring a semi-automatic centerfire firearm with a so called “bullet-button” illegal and mandated that people who possess such weapons and who want to continue to possess them register them with the California Department of Justice. Such registrations were to be submitted through the CFARS website that the CA DOJ operates, and due by midnight on June 30, 2018.

However, the CFARS website was a mess and could not adequately handle the deluge of traffic that the site experienced in the days running up to the June 30, 2018, deadline. The DOJ’s failure to accommodate all those who sought to use the CFARS system, but couldn’t due to technical difficulties, precipitated a lawsuit: *Sharp v. Becerra*.

Due to the *Sharp* litigation, the DOJ entered into a consent decree pursuant to which the DOJ agreed to re-open the registration system to allow people who tried to register back in 2018 but couldn’t due to technical difficulties another bite at the apple.

That registration period **opened** on January 13, 2022, at 9:00 AM, and is **currently set to close** on April 12, 2022, at 9:00 AM PDT. It is possible that the closing date could change, but don’t count on it.

In order to register a firearm with a “bullet-button” or other equivalent device that brings it within the ambit of the registration requirement, the most critical qualification is that the registrant tried to register in 2018 but failed to complete the registration due to technical difficulties. The registration process will ask for certification that such is the case. How the DOJ plans to verify that certification, or if it will even try to verify, is unknown at the moment.

As such, anyone planning to register during this now currently open registration period should be aware of that requirement and try to marshal whatever evidence that may be available to them to show that they did indeed try to register back in 2018, if any such evidence is available.

Also, in addition to processing the registration through this link (<https://awr.doj.ca.gov>), there is also an option to submit a paper registration application through the mail. That paper application is attached here and is also printable at (<https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/bof-8017.pdf>).

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For More Information

For more information, be sure to visit CRPA's website at www.CRPA.org. And be sure to subscribe to CRPA email alerts to stay informed on the latest developments.

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