

NEWS:

Delaware Joins National Debate Over 3D Printable Guns

AUGUST 4, 2018 – A federal debate over firearms capable of being manufactured on 3D printers touched Delaware this week.

Delaware Attorney General Matt Denn on Monday sent [a cease-and desist letter](#) to Defense Distributed, ordering it not to allow access within Delaware to downloadable plans for a 3D gun.

The letter to the Austin, Texas-based company stated, in part: *"The State of Delaware Department of Justice will take legal action to prevent any effort by Defense Distributed intended to publish or offer individuals -- including criminals -- programs, codes, drawings, or other sources of data that an individual can use to create untraceable firearms. ... A person who engages in conduct that ... knowingly or recklessly creates or maintains a condition that endangers the health or safety of others, is guilty of criminal nuisance."*

Defense Distributed recently reached a settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of State, concluding a multi-year federal lawsuit that had barred it from making plans for printable firearms available on the internet. In addition to the cease-and desist letter, Attorney General Denn also joined a coalition of 21 attorneys general urging U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions and U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to withdraw from the agreement.

In [the group letter](#), the coalition argues that publicly available information on 3D printed weapons will enable the production of firearms that are untraceable and undetectable by magnetometers in places such as airports, government buildings and schools.

The other jurisdictions represented in the letter included Massachusetts, California, Colorado, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

