

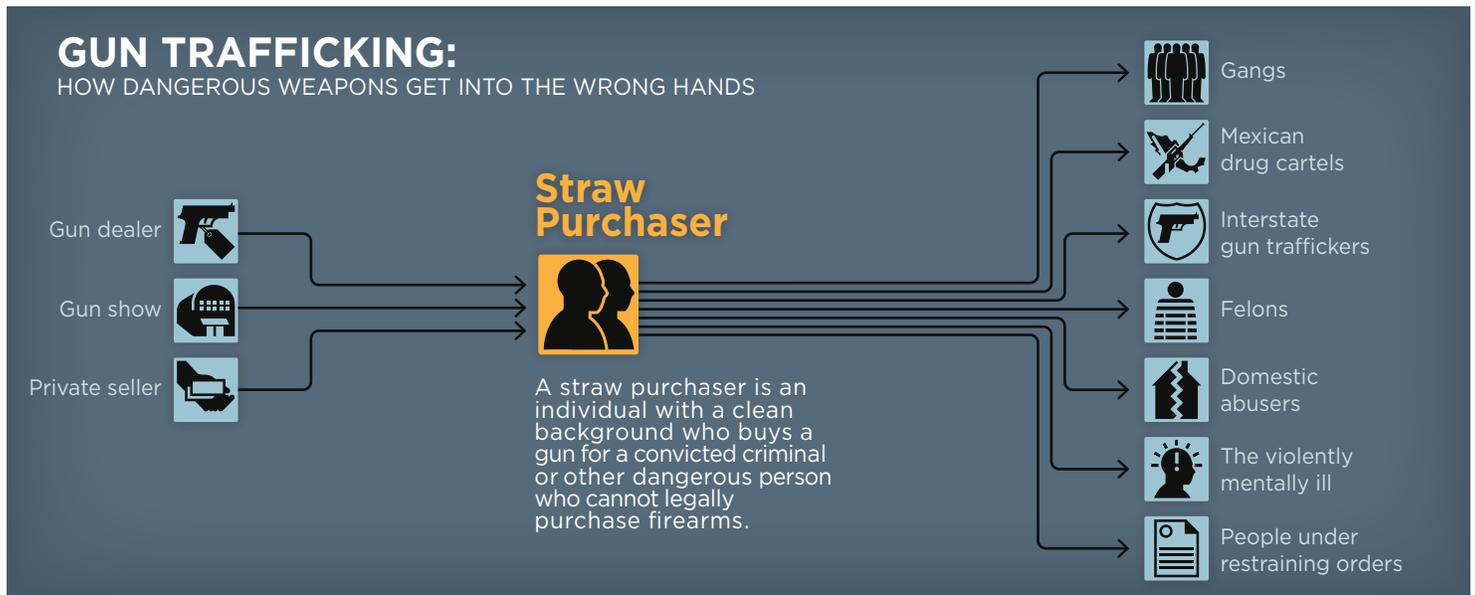
## WHY AMERICA NEEDS TO MAKE GUN TRAFFICKING A FEDERAL CRIME

### WHY IT MATTERS:

Crystal Erin Davis walked into a Georgia gun shop, and bought a cheap pistol commonly known as a Saturday night special. She filled out paperwork that said the gun was for her.

In reality, Davis bought the weapon – and 20 others – for her boyfriend, Jeffrey Martin Colon-Moore, an ex-convict who could not legally buy guns from licensed dealers. He sold and shipped the firearms to buyers in Oakland, putting those weapons directly in the hands of criminals. Many of these guns have since been recovered by law enforcement across the Bay Area – taken from parolees after car chases, from juveniles after a robbery, and from a car searched after a fatal shooting at a San Francisco nightclub. Despite her full knowledge of her boyfriend’s intent, Crystal Davis only served 18 months of home confinement for her participation in gun trafficking and the tragic consequences.

Every year, tens of thousands of guns find their way into the hands of criminals through similar illegal trafficking channels. However, there is no clear and effective statute that makes gun trafficking a federal crime, making it extremely difficult for law enforcement to prosecute and shut down trafficking networks and keep illegal guns off our streets.



### THE DETAILS:

- Prosecutors who want to combat traffickers are often forced to rely on a weak law that prohibits “engaging in the business of selling guns without a federal license,” which carries the same punishment as trafficking chicken or livestock.
- As a result of the weak laws, according to the Department of Justice’s Inspector General, U.S. Attorneys are forced to decline to prosecute 25% of gun trafficking cases. Comparatively, U.S. Attorneys decline only 9% of drug conspiracy cases.

**WE CAN PREVENT GUNS FROM FALLING INTO THE HANDS OF CRIMINALS BY GIVING LAW ENFORCEMENT THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO SHUT DOWN GUN TRAFFICKING NETWORKS WITH STRONG PENALTIES FOR STRAW PURCHASERS.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE [SMARTGUNLAWS.ORG](http://SMARTGUNLAWS.ORG)  
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