





**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

*Background*

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3 9. The Second Amendment to the United States Constitution provides: “A well  
4 regulated Militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep  
5 and bear Arms shall not be infringed.”

6 10. The Second Amendment is incorporated as against the states through the  
7 Fourteenth Amendment, such that Defendants cannot, under color of law, deprive Plaintiffs of  
8 their right to keep and bear arms.

9 11. The Second Amendment guarantees the right of law-abiding individuals to  
10 publicly carry operational handguns for self-defense.

11 12. States retain the ability to regulate the manner of carrying handguns, prohibit the  
12 carrying of handguns in specific, narrowly defined sensitive places, prohibit the carrying of arms  
13 that are not within the scope of Second Amendment protection, and disqualify specific,  
14 particularly dangerous individuals from carrying handguns.

15 13. States may not completely ban the carrying of handguns for self-defense, deny  
16 individuals the right to carry handguns in non-sensitive places, deprive individuals of the right to  
17 carry handguns in an arbitrary and capricious manner, or impose regulations on the right to carry  
18 handguns that are inconsistent with the Second Amendment.

19 14. Almost all states basically respect the Second Amendment rights to carry a  
20 handgun for self-defense, in that the right to carry a handgun is either unregulated, or regulated to  
21 the extent that individuals passing a background check and completing a gun safety course are, as  
22 a matter of course, licensed to carry handguns. In some of these states, a license to carry a  
23 handgun is required only if the handgun is concealed.

24 15. California law generally bans the carrying of concealed firearms. California Penal  
25 Code § 12025. With very few exceptions, California generally prohibits the open, public carrying  
26 of loaded handguns for self-defense in incorporated cities and many unincorporated areas, Penal  
27 Code § 12031.





1 damaging Plaintiffs in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiffs are therefore entitled to  
2 permanent injunctive relief against such customs, policies, and practices.

3 **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF**  
4 **U.S. CONST., AMEND. XIV – EQUAL PROTECTION, 42 U.S.C. § 1983**  
5 **AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS**

6 27. Paragraphs 1 through 26 are incorporated as though fully stated herein.

7 28. By maintaining and enforcing a set of customs, practices, and policies arbitrarily  
8 denying Plaintiffs permits to carry handguns based on a subjective determination of their “good  
9 cause” for the permit, and by denying some individuals the right to bear arms for self-defense  
10 while allowing others access to that right, Defendants are propagating customs, policies, and  
11 practices that violate Plaintiffs’ rights to equal protection of the laws under the Fourteenth  
12 Amendment to the United States Constitution, by improperly classifying them relative to those  
13 who are allowed to enjoy their fundamental right to bear arms, damaging Plaintiffs in violation of  
14 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiffs are therefore entitled to permanent injunctive relief against such  
15 customs, policies, and practices.

16 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

17 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request that judgment be entered in their favor and against  
18 Defendants as follows:

19 1. An order permanently enjoining Defendants, their officers, agents, servants,  
20 employees, and all persons in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice  
21 of the injunction, from enforcing the “good moral character” and “good cause” requirements of  
22 California Penal Code § 12050 against handgun carry permit applicants who seek the permit for  
23 self-defense and are otherwise qualified to obtain a handgun carry permit under that section;

24 2. Declaratory relief that the “good moral character” and “good cause” provisions of  
25 California Penal Code § 12050 are unconstitutional either on their face and/or as applied to bar  
26 applicants who are otherwise legally qualified to possess firearms and who assert self-defense as  
27 their “good cause” for seeking a handgun carry permit;

28 3. Costs of suit, including attorney fees and costs pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1988;

4. Any other further relief as the Court deems just and appropriate.

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Dated: October 22, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Donald E.J. Kilmer, Jr. (Calif. Bar No. 179986)  
Law Offices of Donald Kilmer, A.P.C.  
1645 Willow Street, Suite 150  
San Jose, CA 95125  
408.264.8489/Fax 408.264.8487  
E-Mail: Don@DKLawOffice.com

Alan Gura (Calif. Bar No. 178221)  
Gura & Possessky, PLLC  
101 N. Columbus St., Suite 405  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703.835.9085/Fax 703.997.7665

By: /s/ Donald Kilmer  
Donald E.J. Kilmer, Jr.

By: /s/ Alan Gura  
Alan Gura

Attorneys for Plaintiffs