



21

On average 21 guns go missing every day in Pennsylvania.

## ILLEGAL FIREARM TRAFFICKING COSTS LIVES. **REPORTING STOLEN GUNS COULD STOP IT.**

Kareem was found in his Lehigh Valley home by his mom in 2012 with a bullet in his head. When police confronted the owner of the weapon used in the shooting, they owners claimed it was stolen. Nothing could have been further from the truth.

The couple sold more than 40 firearms to people not legally allowed to own a firearm. One of them was used to kill Kareem, but others were still out there to be used in shootings throughout the Lehigh Valley.

But, they were never prosecuted for providing the weapon used in his murder. Requiring reporting of stolen firearms could have stopped the trafficking before a 17 year old's life was cut short.

### HOW IT WORKS



#### 72 HOURS TO REPORT

Gun owners have to report missing firearms within 72 hours of noticing a firearm missing. This ensures there are only consequences for intentionally refusing to report a missing firearm.



#### FOCUSED ON ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING

The law starts with a summary offense of \$500, increasing after each offense until it leads to jail time. This focuses the consequences on repeat offenders who are using claims of missing firearms to avoid straw purchase laws.



#### ENDING ILLEGAL FIREARM TRAFFICKING

When a legal gun purchaser intentionally buys a weapon for someone who cannot legally own a firearm, it is called a straw purchase. It is illegal. But without a mandatory reporting law, they can claim it was lost or an unreported theft.



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[info@ceasefirepa.org](mailto:info@ceasefirepa.org)



215-923-3151

# 21 GUNS DISAPPEAR DAILY IN PA. REPORTING STOLEN FIREARMS CAN SAVE LIVES.

Whether stolen out of a car, a home, or sold illegally, firearms go missing at an alarming rate: about 21 guns every day in Pennsylvania. It adds up. Every year, 380,000 firearms are stolen from gun owners across the country—20 times more than from gun dealers.

However, up to 40 percent of these are never reported to law enforcement. That leaves them to be illegally trafficked to individuals who are not allowed to own a firearm whether it is because they are too young as the case of Jeremiah Sanchez who used a stolen firearm to shoot two at a mall in Lancaster or for use in other crimes like Kareem's case.

## THE ISSUES

Wherever a gun is stolen, it often becomes part of a deadly shooting next. States that encourage responsible gun ownership by requiring the reporting of missing firearms, have lower rates of gun trafficking.



**33%**

of recovered crime guns in a  
Pittsburgh study owner's  
claimed were lost or stolen



**23,000**

Stolen firearms between  
2010-2016 were connected  
to crimes--many violent.



**46%**

reduced illegal gun  
movement in states with this  
law.



**60%**

increased guns reported  
stolen in a decade.



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