

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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Mayor Healy Testifies Before Senate Law & Public Safety Committee on Firearms Bills

Three Bills Approved by Committee & Head to Full Senate for Consideration

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy continued his fight to stanch the flow of illegal guns into Jersey City by testifying before the State Senate’s Law & Public Safety Committee today in support of three firearms-related bills.

All three bills were passed by the committee and will be considered by the full Senate, and Mayor Healy said he is confident the three bills will be passed by the Senate.

The first bill, **S2470**, will restrict the sale of ammunition to individuals who are licensed to sell, purchase or carry a firearm in the State of New Jersey.

“It only makes sense that a convicted felon who is not allowed to own or purchase a handgun be prohibited from purchasing ammunition,” Mayor Healy said.

The second bill, **S2431**, amends current penalties for carrying a prohibited firearm into a public place from a third degree crime to a second degree crime. And **S2934** requires that an individual report a lost or stolen firearm within 36 hours of discovering it missing.

“In Jersey City we passed a municipal ordinance last year requiring gun owners to report a lost or stolen handgun within 48 hours of their discovering it missing,” Mayor Healy said. “This gets at the heart of the issue – straw purchasers buying guns for criminals.”

Mayor Healy explained that when a gun is used in a crime, it is often traced to an individual who claims it was lost or stolen.

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Additionally, **Mayor Healy** testified about the “One Gun” a month bill, which would restrict the number of handguns an individual could purchase to one a month. Currently, there is no limit to the number of handguns an individual can purchase in New Jersey. The same bill passed the Assembly earlier this year.

The Jersey City Municipal Council passed a similar ordinance a year ago, but it was challenged by the NRA and struck down by a Superior Court Judge. The City is currently appealing that decision.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-686-7244.///

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