

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday October 27, 2015

Lyons Approves Ordinance to safeguard public in gun sales

Lyons, Illinois – Village Mayor Christopher Getty today announced that the village has approved an ordinance that spells out procedures to help crackdown on the sale of guns to “straw purchasers.”

The ordinance responds to a lawsuit filed last July by Chicago activists who alleged three suburban Chicago communities including Lyons are responsible for guns sold legally at a village-based gun shop that later made their way into the hands of criminals.

Getty said he is confident Lyons would have been dismissed from the lawsuit, but said taking action to increase the safety and security of residents is a priority. In response, the plaintiffs have agreed to remove the Village of Lyons from their lawsuit.

“The new ordinance approved today spells out a strategy to help prevent straw buyers from purchasing guns that end up in the hands of criminals,” Getty said.

“Working with the Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart, the plaintiffs, the Lyons Police and the gun shop in Lyons, we believe that through this partnership we can significantly reduce the likelihood of legally purchased guns ending up in the hands of people who use them in the commission of a crime.”

The ordinance calls for close cooperation between the Village of Lyons and the gun shop, Midwest Sporting Goods, 8565 Plainfield Rd, which is the only gun retailer in Lyons.

A few components would include the gun shop sharing the same information with the Village of Lyons Police that they provide to the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, random inspections by the local officials as well as providing proper training to gun shop employees to better detect straw purchases.

“Some guns that are sold legally do fall into the hands of the wrong people. But the gun dealer, who cooperated with us, and the Village of Lyons have no control over that, we can only aim to work together to continue to make policies better” Getty said.

“This is about being practical to prevent the sale of guns to the wrong people.”

The ordinance was approved unanimously at a special board meeting held on Tuesday afternoon (October 27, 2015) and becomes law immediately.

END

DRAFT MEDIA ADVISORY

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**Lyons to Approve Ordinance to safeguard public in gun sales
Village will be dropped from Gun Shop Lawsuit**

Village of Lyons President Christopher Getty will hold a press conference **today, Tuesday October 27, 2015 at 4:30 pm** at the **Lyons Village Hall, 4200 South Lawndale Avenue**, to spell out steps being taken to crack down on legally sold guns ending up in the hands of straw buyers.

We will hand out copies of the ordinance, press release, and bullet points at the press conference

WHERE: Lyons Village Hall
4200 South Lawndale Avenue

WHEN: Tuesday October 27, 2015
4:30 PM (CST)

WHO: Mayor of Lyons Chris Getty
Lyons Deputy Police Chief Matthew Buckley
Lyons Attorney Burton Odelson
Village Manager Tom Sheahan
Village Officials