

September 26, 2018

Elchanan Jaglom  
Chairman of the Board & Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Stratasys Ltd.  
7665 Commerce Way  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Vyomesh Joshi  
Chief Executive Officer  
3D Systems Corporation  
333 Three D Systems Circle  
Rock Hill, SC 29730

S. Kent Rockwell  
Chief Executive Officer  
ExOne  
127 Industry Blvd.  
North Huntingdon, PA 15642

Dion Weisler  
Chief Operating Officer  
HP Inc.  
1501 Page Mill Road  
Palo Alto, CA 94304

Victoria Holt  
Chief Operating Officer  
Proto Labs  
5540 Pioneer Creek Dr.  
Maple Plain, MN 55359

Dear Mr. Jaglom, Mr. Joshi, Mr. Rockwell, Mr. Weisler, and Ms. Holt:

As mayors representing communities across the country, we write with grave concern about the recent news that blueprints for making fully functional guns using 3-D printers could be promulgated widely on the internet. The capability for 3-D printers to produce homemade “ghost guns” poses a threat to public safety in all our communities, and we urge you to take action to prevent your technology from being used for this purpose.

As mayors, we grapple with the impact of gun violence in our communities every day. Across this country, in large cities and small towns, **96 Americans are killed with guns every day**, and hundreds more are shot and injured. One of the biggest challenges to our efforts to reduce gun violence and save lives is the ease with which individuals who seek to do harm can obtain these deadly weapons. Each of us work with our law enforcement leadership to combat illegal gun trafficking, straw purchasing and the use of highly dangerous weapons of war in our streets. The availability of 3-D printer technology to create homemade firearms will only compound these challenges.

3-D printed guns pose two primary risks to public safety. First, these guns are untraceable, essentially phantom guns. They are manufactured without any oversight or regulation, so there is no documentation of these weapons. They have no serial number to track if and when they are recovered from a crime scene. Neither the producers nor the users of these homemade weapons undergo any background checks, making it possible for individuals barred from legally possessing a firearm to skirt the law and make one themselves. Second, 3-D printed guns can be undetectable. Their plastic composition makes it possible for a functional firearm to bypass metal detectors, which are commonly used to protect weapons being smuggled into sensitive locations such as schools, airports, courthouses and government buildings. In Israel, a reporter successfully brought a 3-D printed gun into the Parliament, illustrating how easily a fully functional plastic firearm can bypass security screenings. The fact that 3-D printed guns can circumvent standard security screens is alarming to both civilians and security professionals, making finding a solution to this public safety challenge an imperative.

You are leaders of companies at the forefront of 3-D printing technology. You have smart, innovative employees creating the next generation of so many things needed by society; from cars to homes, 3-D technology will have profound impacts. Now is the time to ensure the best impacts for our communities.

We urge you to work together to develop a technology-based solution to prevent 3-D printers from producing firearms. Major 3D printing company Sculpteo has banned firearm printing, saying it doesn't want to be associated with weapon manufacturing. And we were heartened to see Materialise, a publicly traded 3D printing manufacturer and software developer, has launched a feature to block the production of guns.

This is certainly an unintended use of your technology and, as leaders of this industry, you have the ability and the responsibility to work to devise an innovative solution to address this real threat. Your technology has been integral to the advancement of the engineering, manufacturing and medical industries by accelerating innovation to improve lives. Please do not allow it to be weaponized to create untraceable, undetectable firearms.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jenny A. Durkan  
Seattle, Washington

Mayor Catherine Pugh  
Baltimore, Maryland

Mayor Jonathan Rothschild  
Tucson, Arizona

Mayor Darrell Steinberg  
Sacramento, California

Mayor Jim Kenney  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Mayor Bill Peduto  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Mayor Sam Liccardo  
San Jose, California

Mayor Buddy Dyer  
Orlando, Florida

Mayor Nan Whaley  
Dayton, Ohio

Mayor Levar Stoney  
Richmond, Virginia

Mayor Daniel Horrigan

Mayor Rahm Emanuel

Akron, Ohio

Mayor Cassie Franklin  
Everett, Washington

Mayor Melvin Carter  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Mayor Miguel Pulido  
Santa Ana, California

Mayor Andrew J. Ginther  
Columbus, Ohio

Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms  
Atlanta, Georgia

Mayor LaToya Cantrell  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Mayor Michael Tubbs  
Stockton, California

Mayor Randal Woodfin  
Birmingham, Alabama

Mayor Martin J. Walsh  
Boston, Massachusetts

Mayor London N. Breed  
San Francisco, California

Chicago, Illinois

Mayor Pete Buttigieg  
South Bend, Indiana

Mayor Eric Garcetti  
Los Angeles, California

Mayor Greg Fischer  
Louisville, Kentucky

Mayor Steve Adler  
Austin, Texas

Mayor Jacob Frey  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mayor Tom Barrett  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Mayor Sharon Weston Broome  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Mayor Ted Wheeler  
Portland, Oregon

Mayor Muriel Bowser  
Washington, D.C.