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EDMONDS CITY CLERK

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SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR SNOHOMISH COUNTY

BRETT BASS, an individual; SWAN SEABERG, an individual; THE SECOND AMENDMENT FOUNDATION, INC., a Washington non-profit corporation; and NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.; a New York non-profit association;

Plaintiffs,

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CITY OF EDMONDS, a municipality; DAVE EARLING, Mayor of the City of Edmonds, in his official capacity; EDMONDS POLICE DEPARTMENT, a department of the City of Edmonds; and AL COMPAAN, Chief of Police, in his official capacity,

Defendants.

No. 18 2 07049

SUMMONS [20 DAYS]

TO: Mayor Dave Earling:

A lawsuit has been started against you in the above-entitled Court by Plaintiffs. The Plaintiffs' claims are stated in the written Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you with this Summons.

In order to defend against this lawsuit, you must respond to the Complaint by stating your defense in writing and serving a copy upon the person signing this Summons within twenty (20)

SUMMONS [20 DAYS] – 1



CORR CRONIN LLP 1001 Fourth Avenue, Suite 3900 Seattle, Washington 98154-1051 Tei (206) 625-8600 Fax (206) 625-0900 31

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days after service of this Summons, excluding the day of service, or a default judgment may be entered against you without notice. A default judgment is one where the Plaintiffs are entitled to what they ask for because you have not responded. If you serve a Notice of Appearance on the undersigned person, you are entitled to notice before a default judgment may be entered.

You may demand that the Plaintiffs file this lawsuit with the Court. If you do so, the demand must be in writing and must be served upon the person signing this Summons. Within fourteen (14) days after you serve the demand the Plaintiffs must file this lawsuit with the Court, or the service on you of this Summons and Complaint will be void.

If you wish to seek the advice of an attorney in this matter, you should do so promptly so that your written response, if any, may be served on time.

This Summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4 of the Superior Court Civil Rules of the State of Washington.

DATED this 7th day of August, 2018.

CORR CRONIN LLP

Steven W Fogg WSBA No. 23528 Eric A. Lindberg, WSBA No. 43596 1001 Fourth Avenue, Suite 3900 Seattle, Washington 98154 (206) 625-8600 (Phone) sfogg@corrcronin.com elindberg@corrcronin.com Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR SNOHOMISH COUNTY

BRETT BASS, an individual; SWAN SEABERG, an individual; THE SECOND AMENDMENT FOUNDATION, INC., a Washington non-profit corporation; and NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.; a New York non-profit association:

Plaintiffs,

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CITY OF EDMONDS, a municipality; DAVE EARLING, Mayor of the City of Edmonds, in his official capacity; EDMONDS POLICE DEPARTMENT, a department of the City of Edmonds; and AL COMPAAN, Chief of Police, in his official capacity,

Defendants.

No.

18 2 U7049 COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY

AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

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Plaintiffs, by and through their attorneys, allege the following Complaint for declaratory and injunctive relief against Defendants City of Edmonds, Mayor Dave Earling, the Edmonds Police Department and Chief of Police Al Compaan:

I. NATURE OF THE CASE

The City of Edmonds has passed an ordinance regulating the possession of firearms by mandating how firearms must be stored within the city. However, the ordinance's mandates are

COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF - 1



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illegal and legally unenforceable. The state of Washington has the exclusive right to regulate the possession of firearms by occupation of the field of regulation because the right to possess firearms is a constitutional matter of general concern within the state. Wash. Const. art. 11, § 11 (cities may regulate using police powers unless such regulation conflicts with state law). The state legislature enacted express statutory preemption to make it clear cities may not enact local laws or regulations related to the possession of firearms. RCW 9.41.290. Indeed, when considering the Ordinance, the Edmonds City Council explicitly acknowledged the limits the preemption statute places upon municipalities like Edmonds, but nevertheless passed the Ordinance knowing that it undoubtedly violated the exclusive jurisdiction of the state's legislature and the preemption statute and would be reversed in litigation. The rule of preemption could not be clearer: the City of Edmonds (like any municipality in the state of Washington) is not permitted to pass laws that target the possession of firearms through any means. Accordingly, Plaintiffs bring this action for injunctive and declaratory relief, and ask this Court for an order that would require the Defendants to follow the law.

II. PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiff Brett Bass is an individual residing in Edmonds, Washington. Mr. Bass is a Sergeant in the Military Police Field in the Individual Ready Reserve of the United States Marine Corps. Mr. Bass is credentialed as a Chief Range Safety Officer. Mr. Bass currently owns a firearm that he keeps unlocked in his home for self-defense. Mr. Bass has a strong desire to continue having his firearm in an unlocked and usable state in his home as his training and experience tell him that a person cannot be reasonably expected to access a locked firearm under the time and pressure imposed by a home invasion. Mr. Bass fears enforcement of the Ordinance were he to continue his possession of an unlocked firearm.
 - 2. Plaintiff Swan Seaberg is an individual residing in Edmonds, Washington. Mr.

Seaberg is a United States Marine Corps and Coast Guard veteran and was qualified as an expert rifleman in the Marine Corps. Mr. Seaberg currently owns a firearm that he keeps unlocked in his home for self-defense and defense of his family. Mr. Seaberg has a strong desire to continue having his firearm in an unlocked and usable state in his home as his training and experience tell him that a person cannot be reasonably expected to access a locked firearm under the time and pressure imposed by a home invasion. Mr. Seaberg fears enforcement of the Ordinance were he to continue his possession of an unlocked firearm.

- 3. Plaintiff Second Amendment Foundation, Inc. ("SAF") is a non-profit membership organization incorporated under the laws of Washington with its principal place of business in Bellevue, Washington. SAF has over 600,000 members and supporters nationwide, including thousands in the state of Washington. The purposes of SAF include education, research, publishing, and legal action focusing on the constitutional right to own and possess firearms. SAF brings this action on behalf of itself and its members.
- 4. Plaintiff National Rifle Association of America, Inc. ("NRA") is a non-profit association incorporated under the laws of New York, with its principal place of business in Fairfax, Virginia. NRA has over five million members, including members in the state of Washington. NRA's purposes include protection of the right of citizens to have firearms for lawful defense, hunting, and sporting use, and to promote public safety. NRA brings this action on behalf of itself and its members.
- 5. Defendant City of Edmonds ("Edmonds" or "the City") is a municipal corporation and optional municipal code city organized under the laws of the state of Washington.
- 6. Defendant Dave Earling ("Mayor Earling") is the Mayor of the City of Edmonds. Mayor Earling is the head of the Executive Department, and in that capacity directs and controls all City offices and departments, except where that authority is granted to another office by the

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Edmonds City Charter.

- 7. Defendant Edmonds Police Department is an agency of the City of Edmonds, which oversees the enforcement of Edmonds's laws and promulgation of relevant regulations.
- 8. Defendant Al Compaan is the Chief of Police. Chief Compaan oversees the enforcement of Edmonds' laws.

III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 9. This Court has jurisdiction under RCW 2.08.010, RCW 7.24.010, and RCW 7.40.010.
 - 10. Venue is properly in this Court under RCW 4.12.020(2) and RCW 4.12.025(1).

IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

11. Washington law states in no uncertain terms that the authority to regulate firearms rests exclusively with the State. Washington law expressly states:

The state of Washington hereby fully occupies and preempts the entire field of firearms regulation within the boundaries of the state, including the registration, licensing, possession, purchase, sale, acquisition, transfer, discharge, and transportation of firearms, or any other element relating to firearms or parts thereof, including ammunition and reloader components. Cities, towns, and counties or other municipalities may enact only those laws and ordinances relating to firearms that are specifically authorized by state law, as in RCW 9.41.300, and are consistent with this chapter.

RCW 9.41.290 ("Preemption Clause").

12. The State of Washington has fully occupied the field of firearms regulation. Neither the Washington State Constitution nor any controlling statutory provisions authorizes cities, towns, counties, or other municipalities to enact laws and ordinances relating to the possession, transportation, or regulation of firearms, unless specifically authorized under RCW 9.41.300. Cities, towns, counties, or other municipalities have no constitutional authority to

¹ RCW 9.41.300, which is referenced in the Preemption Clause, permits cities, towns, counties, and other municipalities to enact laws and ordinances restricting the discharge of firearms in certain locations and restricting

regulate in fields that the State has fully occupied. Brown v. City of Yakima, 116 Wn.2d 556, 559, 807 P.2d 353, 354 (1991).

- On July 24, 2018, the Edmonds City Council passed Ordinance 4120, titled "An 13. Ordinance relating to the safe storage of and access to firearms." On July 29, 2018, Mayor Earling approved and signed the Ordinance, making the Ordinance effective on August 23, 2018. The Ordinance states that enforcement shall begin 180 days from the date of final passage.²
- The Ordinance added Chapter 5.26 to the Edmonds City Code, which states, in 14. part:

5.26.020 Safe storage of firearms

It shall be a civil infraction for any person to store or keep any firearm in any premises unless such weapon is secured by a locking device, properly engaged so as to render such weapon inaccessible or unusable to any person other than the owner or other lawfully authorized user. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for purposes of this Section 5.26.020, such weapon shall be deemed lawfully stored or lawfully kept if carried by or under the control of the owner or other lawfully authorized user.

5.26.030 Unauthorized access prevention

It shall be a civil infraction if any person knows or reasonably should know that a minor, an at-risk person, or a prohibited person is likely to gain access to a firearm belonging to or under the control of that person, and a minor, an at-risk person, or a prohibited person obtains the firearm.

- 15. The Ordinance makes a violation of these provisions a civil infraction subject to a penalty of up to \$10,000 per offense. Any "peace officer" is authorized to issue a notice of infraction imposing the penalty.
- Defendants have enacted and are required to enforce this regulation despite the fact 16. that the State of Washington has fully occupied the field of firearms regulation.

the possession of firearms in a municipality-owned stadium or convention center. RCW 9.41.300(2). This statutory provision is inapplicable to the present case, which concerns city restrictions that have nothing to do with the discharge of firearms or the possession of firearms in stadiums or convention centers.

² Final passage of the Ordinance occurred on July 24, 2018. Enforcement will therefore begin on January 20, 2019.

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- 17. Defendants' refusal to recognize the State's basic preemption principle will cause irreparable harm to citizens who are hindered in their ability to exercise a basic constitutional right of possessing a firearm in the City of Edmonds.
- 18. The individual Plaintiffs possess firearms in Edmonds and plan to do so in the future. The Second Amendment and NRAs' Edmonds members also possess firearms in Edmonds and plan to do so in the future. If the Ordinance becomes effective, these Plaintiffs will be forced to alter the manner in which they possess firearms to their detriment.
- 19. Irreparable harm is faced by those individual Plaintiffs who require a firearm to be unlocked and usable in their home.

V. <u>CAUSES OF ACTION</u>

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION: DECLARATORY RELIEF

-Against All Defendants-

- 20. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege paragraphs 1 through 19 as if fully set forth herein.
- 21. A present controversy exists concerning whether Defendants have legal authority to regulate the possession of firearms by regulating the manner in which firearms are possessed. The Plaintiffs' statutory right to be free from local interference with the possession of firearms is affected by this controversy. In addition, the rights of the individual Plaintiffs and the rights of the Edmonds members of the organizational Plaintiffs to possess firearms in Edmonds is affected by this controversy, and the protection of those rights is germane to the organizational Plaintiffs' purposes.
- 22. Plaintiffs are entitled, under RCW 7.24 and CR 57, to an accelerated judicial declaration that:
- a. The Ordinance violates Washington statutory and constitutional law and is therefore null and void;

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- b. Defendants lack legal authority to enact any ordinance, law, or rule that regulates the manner in which firearms are stored; and
 - c. Defendants may not enforce the Ordinance.
- 23. Such declaration will conclusively terminate the controversy giving rise to this proceeding.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION: INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

- Against All Defendants -

- 24. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege paragraphs 1 through 23 as if fully set forth herein.
- 25. The Plaintiffs' statutory rights to be free from local interference with the possession of firearms is in jeopardy of immediate invasion, causing actual and substantial injuries without any adequate remedy at law.
- 26. The Plaintiffs' right to be free from local regulation due to the State of Washington fully occupying the field of firearms regulation is in jeopardy of immediate invasion, causing actual and substantial injuries without any adequate remedy at law.
- 27. In addition, the individual Plaintiffs' and the organizational Plaintiffs' Edmonds members' rights to possess firearms in Edmonds is in jeopardy of immediate invasion, causing actual and substantial injuries without any adequate remedy at law.
- 28. Plaintiffs are entitled, under RCW 7.40 and CR 65, to an injunction as enjoining Defendants from enforcing the Ordinance.

VI. REQUEST FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request that judgment be entered against Defendants as follows:

- a. Declaring that Defendants' actions in enacting and enforcing the Ordinance were contrary to law and the Ordinance is null and void;
 - b. Awarding Plaintiffs' fees, costs, and disbursements incurred in this action

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as the Court deems just and equitable; and

c. Awarding any additional or further relief which the Court finds appropriate, equitable, or just.

DATED this 7th day of August, 2018.

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CIVIL

SNOHOMISH COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT Case Information Cover Sheet (CICS)

Case Nurlba 2 070 49 31 Case Title: Brett Bass, et al. v. City of Edmonds, et al.

Attorney Name Steven W. Fogg Bar Membership Number 23528

Please check one category that best describes this case for indexing purposes. Accurate case indexing not only saves time in docketing new cases, but helps in forecasting needed judicial resources. Cause of action definitions are listed on the back of this form. Thank you for your cooperation.

	ABJ	Abstract of Judgment	PRG	Property Damage – Gangs
	ALR	Administrative Law Review	PRP	Property Damages
	ALRJT	Administrative Law Review-Jury Trial (L&I)	QTI	Quiet Title
	CRP	Petition for Certificate of Restoration of	RDR	Relief from Duty to Register
		Opportunity		
	CHN	Non-Confidential Change of Name	RFR	Restoration of Firearm Rights
	COL	Collection	SDR	School District-Required Action Plan
	CON	Condemnation	SPC	Seizure of Property-Commission of Crime
	COM	Commercial	SPR	Seizure of Property-Resulting from Crime
	DOL	Appeal Licensing Revocation	STK	Stalking Petition
	DVP	Domestic Violence	SXP	Sexual Assault Protection
	EOM	Emancipation of Minor	TAX	Employment Security Tax Warrant
	FJU	Foreign Judgment	TAX	L & I Tax Warrant
	FOR	Foreclosure	TAX	Licensing Tax Warrant
	FPO	Foreign Protection Order	TAX	Revenue Tax Warrant
	HAR	Unlawful Harassment	TMV	Tort - Motor Vehicle
\boxtimes	INJ	Injunction	TRJ	Transcript of Judgment
	INT	Interpleader	TTO	Tort – Other
	LCA	Lower Court Appeal – Civil	TXF	Tax Foreclosure
	LCI	Lower Court Appeal – Infractions	UND	Unlawful Detainer – Commercial
	LUPA	Land Use Petition Act	UND	Unlawful Detainer – Residential
	MAL	Other Malpractice	VAP	Vulnerable Adult Protection Order
	MED	Medical Malpractice	VVT	Victims of Motor Vehicle Theft-Civil Action
	MHA	Malicious Harassment	WDE	Wrongful Death
	MSC2	Miscellaneous – Civil	WHC	Writ of Habeas Corpus
	MST2	Minor Settlement – Civil (No Guardianship)	WMW	Miscellaneous Writs
	PCC	Petition for Civil Commitment (Sexual Predator)	WRM	Writ of Mandamus
	PFA	Property Fairness Act	WRR	Writ of Restitution
	PIN	Personal Injury	WRV	Writ of Review
	PRA	Public Records Act	XRP	Extreme Risk Protection Order

IF YOU CANNOT DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE CATEGORY, PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CAUSE OF ACTION BELOW.

Please Note: Public information in court files and pleadings may be posted on a public Web site.



APPEAL/REVIEW

Administrative Law Review-Petition to the superior court for review of rulings made by state administrative agencies.

Appeal of a Department of Licensing Revocation-Appeal of a DOL revocation (RCW 46.20.308(9)).

Lower Court Appeal-Civil-An appeal for a civil case; excludes traffic infraction and criminal matters.

Lower Court Appeal-Infractions-An appeal for a traffic infraction matter.

CONTRACT/COMMERCIAL

Breach of Contract-Complaint involving monetary dispute where a breach of contract is involved.

Commercial Contract-Complaint involving monetary dispute where a contract is involved.

Commercial Non-Contract-Complaint involving monetary dispute where no contract is involved.

Third Party Collection-Complaint involving a third party over a monetary dispute where no contract is involved.

PROTECTION ORDER

Civil Harassment-Petition for protection from civil harassment.

Domestic Violence -Petition for protection from domestic violence.

Extreme Risk Protection Order-Petition to restrict ownership,
possession, custody or control of a firearm or concealed weapons
permit.

Foreign Protection Orders-Any protection order of a court of the United States, or of any state, territory, or tribal land, which is entitled to full faith and credit in this state.

Sexual Assault Protection-Petition under RCW 7.90.020.
Stalking- Petition for protection from stalking for victims who do not qualify for a domestic violence protection order. (RCW 7.92.030)
Vulnerable Adult Protection-Petition for protection order for vulnerable adults, as those persons are defined in RCW 74.34.020.

UDGMENT

Abstract Only-A certified copy of a judgment docket from another superior court, an appellate court, or a federal district court.

Foreign Judgment-Any judgment, decree, or order of a court of the United States, or of any state or territory, which is entitled to full faith and credit in this state.

Judgment, Another County-A certified copy of a judgment docket from another superior court within the state.

Judgment, Another State-Any judgment, decree, or order from another state which is entitled to full faith and credit in this state. Tax Warrants -A notice of assessment by a state agency creating a judgment/lien in the county in which it is filed. (Four types available.) Transcript of Judgment-A certified copy of a judgment from a court of limited jurisdiction to a superior court in the same county.

OTHER COMPLAINT/PETITION

malicious harassment.

Petition for Certificate of Restoration of Opportunity-Created under Second Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1553

Change of Name-Petition for a change of name. If change is confidential due to domestic violence/anti-harassment see case type 5 instead.

Deposit of Surplus Funds-Deposit of money or other item with the court.

Emancipation of Minor-Petition by a minor for a declaration of emancipation.

Injunction-Complaint/petition to require a person to do or refrain from doing a particular thing.

Interpleader-Petition for the deposit of disputed earnest money from real estate, insurance proceeds, and/or other transaction(s).

Mallclous Harassment-Sult involving damages resulting from

Minor Settlements-Petition for a court decision that an award to a minor is appropriate when no letters of guardianship are required (e.g., net settlement value \$25,000 or less).

Petition for Civil Commitment (Sexual Predator)-Petition for the involuntary civil commitment of a person who 1) has been convicted of a sexually violent offense whose term of confinement is about to expire or has expired, 2) has been charged with a sexually violent offense and who has been determined to be incompetent to stand trial who is about to be released or has been released, or 3) has been found not guilty by reason of insanity of a sexually violent offense and who is about to be released or has been released, and it appears that the person may be a sexually violent predator.

Property Damage-Gangs-Complaint involving damage to property

related to gang activity.

Public Records Act-Actions filed under RCW 42.56.

Relief from Duty to Register-Civil action requesting relief from duty to register as a sex offender. Petition can address the registration obligation that arises from multiple cases. RCW 9A.44.142, 9A.44.143.

Restoration of Firearms Rights-Petition seeking restoration of firearms rights under RCW 9.41.040 and 9.41.047. (Eff. 9-2-2014)

School District-Required Action Plan-Petition filed requesting court selection of a required action plan proposal relating to school academic performance.

Seizure of Property from the Commission of a Crime-Seizure of personal property which was employed in aiding, abetting, or commission of a crime, from a defendant after conviction.

Seizure of Property Resulting from a Crime-Seizure of tangible or indirect result of a crime, from a defendant following criminal conviction (e.g., remuneration for, or contract interest in, a depiction or account of a crime).

Subpoenas-Petition for a subpoena.

PROPERTY RIGHTS

Condemnation-Complaint involving governmental taking of private property with payment, but not necessarily with consent. Foreclosure-Complaint involving termination of ownership rights when a mortgage or tax foreclosure is involved, where ownership is not in question.

Land Use Petition-Petition for an expedited judicial review of a land use decision made by a local jurisdiction (RCW 36.70C.040).

Property Fairness-Complaint involving the regulation of private property or restraint of land use by a government entity brought

forth by Title 64 RCW.

Qulet Title-Complaint involving the ownership, use, or disposition of land or real estate other than foreclosure.

Unlawful Detainer-Complaint involving the unjustifiable retention of lands or attachments to land, including water and mineral rights.

TORT, MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

Hospital-Complaint involving injury or death resulting from a hospital.

Medical Doctor-Complaint involving injury or death resulting from a medical doctor.

Other Health Care Professional-Complaint involving injury or death resulting from a health care professional other than a medical doctor.

TORT, MOTOR VEHICLE

Death-Complaint involving death resulting from an incident involving a motor vehicle.

Non-Death Injuries -Complaint involving non-death injuries resulting from an incident involving a motor vehicle.

Property Damage Only-Complaint Involving only property damages resulting from an incident involving a motor vehicle.

TORT, NON-MOTOR VEHICLE

Asbestos-Complaint alleging injury resulting from asbestos exposure.

Other Malpractice-Complaint involving injury resulting from other than professional medical treatment.

Personal Injury-Complaint involving physical injury not resulting from professional medical treatment, and where a motor vehicle is not involved.

Products Liability-Complaint involving injury resulting from a commercial product.

Property Damages-Complaint involving damage to real or personal property excluding motor vehicles.

Victims of Motor Vehicle Theft-Complaint filed by a victim of car

victims of Motor Vehicle Theft-Complaint filed by a victim of car theft to recover damages. (RCW 9A.56.078)

Wrongful Death-Complaint involving death resulting from other than professional medical treatment.

WRIT

Writ of Habeas Corpus-Petition for a writ to bring a party before the court.

Writ of Mandamus-Petition for writ commanding performance of a particular act or duty.

Writ of Restitution-Petition for a writ restoring property or proceeds; not an unlawful detainer petition.

Writ of Review-Petition for review of the record or decision of a case pending in the lower court; does not include lower court appeals or administrative law reviews.

Miscellaneous Writs

Updated: 2/03/2017