

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3005

August 09, 2019

Jeffrey Bezos, Chairman, President, and CEO
Amazon.com Inc.
1200 12th Ave. South, Suite 1200
Seattle, WA 98144

Dear Mr. Bezos:

We write to urge you to immediately implement stronger measures to keep gun accessory sales off your platform. America is in the throes of a gun violence epidemic and it is incumbent upon corporate America to do its part to help end the carnage.

As you know, Amazon prohibits sellers from listing guns and gun accessories for sale.¹ Unfortunately, it appears as though Amazon's efforts to enforce this policy are insufficient. For example, *The Washington Post* reports that a search on August 5, 2019 found ammunition clips for sale, such as the Butler Creek 25-round magazine, an attachment for rifles used to store multiple bullets.² Clearly, Amazon must do more to keep these items off its platform.

We applaud Amazon for refusing to service online firearm and ammunitions purchases. This is exactly the type of common sense gun policy that enjoys broad support with the American public. Unfortunately, it is not enough to simply ban such sales. Effective monitoring and the suspension of accounts in violation of these policies is essential. As such, we have concerns that Amazon's efforts are falling short of what is required in light of the current crisis.

To address these concerns, please provide answers to the following questions no later than September 9, 2019:

1. On average, how many listings for gun and/or gun accessory sales does Amazon take down per month?
2. On average, how many accounts does Amazon suspend for violating the gun sale policy per month?
3. What measures does Amazon have in place to ensure that if an account is suspended for violating the gun sale policy, that seller cannot create another account under a different username?

¹https://sellercentral.amazon.com/gp/help/external/200164950?language=en-US&ref=mpbc_200277700_cont_200164950; <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2019/08/06/google-amazon-prohibit-firearm-parts-listings-its-easy-find-them-anyway/>

² <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2019/08/06/google-amazon-prohibit-firearm-parts-listings-its-easy-find-them-anyway/>

4. What proactive measures does Amazon take to ensure that sellers are not able to skirt Amazon's ban on gun and gun accessory sales?
5. What policies does Amazon have in place to alert law enforcement to instances of gun trafficking on its platforms?
6. How does Amazon handle reports from users alerting it to listings for gun and/or gun accessory sales on its platform? On average how many listings for gun and/or gun accessory sales are flagged by users each month?
7. Given that Amazon searches conducted mere days after the attacks in El Paso and Dayton yielded results for a high-capacity magazines³, please describe in detail what new measures Amazon will implement to ensure these products are kept off of its platform.

Sincerely,



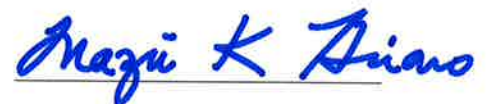
Robert Menendez
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



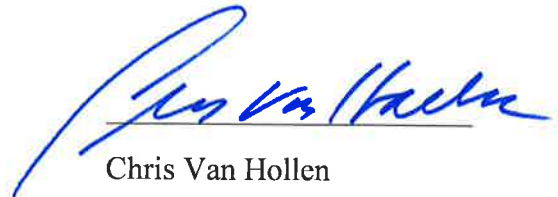
Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Kamala D. Harris
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator

³ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2019/08/06/google-amazon-prohibit-firearm-parts-listings-its-easy-find-them-anyway/>

Edward J. Markey

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United States Senator

Sherrod Brown

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United States Senator

Cory A. Booker

Cory A. Booker

United States Senator