

Thank you for visiting our site. We would like to personally invite each of you to visit one of our shows either as a dealer or attendee. Please pardon me for my somewhat lengthy sets of rules, but I have found over the years that most problems are caused by misunderstandings resulting from a lack of knowledge of what the other person wants or expects. That also means you get to send comments to me, so feel free to send me an e-mail or fax.

So, what is a gun show? If you've been to one, you already know. If you haven't, you're in for a surprise. Simply, gun shows are events where buyers and sellers interested in guns get together. To be sure, you may find static displays or exhibits, but the activity is mostly buy, sell, and trade. Gun shows vary tremendously in their content and management. I try to maintain a very high degree of gun, knife, and military related merchandise. Some shows on the other hand will let anyone in if their merchandise will fit on a dealer table. Click on the dealer rules to see my policy on merchandise. I call my show The Real Gun Show ® and have a registered trademark for the name. If it doesn't say The Real Gun Show ®, it isn't.

I would like to explain that contrary to the leftist propaganda espoused by much of the equally leftist media, gun shows are not places where disregard for the law is encouraged or tolerated. Private individuals have a right to conduct their private affairs if the law does not prohibit such activity. That means that if you lawfully own a gun, you may sell or trade it to someone else that is not prohibited from firearms ownership, i.e. a felon, etc. As things stand now, that is the law in Texas. Engagement in the business of buying and selling firearms requires a federal license. You will find that the overwhelming majority of gun dealers at my shows are Federal Firearms License (FFL) holders. The requirements they must observe are the same as would be observed in any gun shop. Also understand that federal or state laws do not generally cover firearms made before 1899. Last, the agency that oversees federal gun laws, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, & Firearms (BATF), has classified another rather large list of firearms as curios, relics, and antiques. The law and the requirements under the law are pretty much a case of definitions and classifications and as such are technical and detailed. Such an activity does not lend itself to sound bites or 15 second news pieces. The biggest problem facing America on the gun issue is not some alleged loophole, but the breathtaking ignorance of most politicians and the media as judged by their statements.

While we're on the subject of gun laws, I want to give my interoperation to questions that I seem to get at every show. Prohibited weapons covered under the US National Firearms Act of 1935 include shotguns with a barrel length of less than 18 inches or overall length of less than 24 inches, rifles with a barrel less than 16 inches, and fully automatic firearms of any kind. Fully automatic means that the weapon will fire more than once from a single activation of the trigger. Possession of such a weapon is lawful only if the weapon has been registered in accordance with the Act. If you find yourself in possession of such a weapon, I suggest that you contact an attorney who is knowledgeable of firearms laws. He will be able to advise you. If the weapon has been previously registered under the Act, it is quite valuable. If the weapon has never been registered, then generally your only recourse is surrender of the weapon to law enforcement. I will be adding links to the site that will direct you to much more exhaustive and authoritative discussion of firearms laws. Anything I say is only my understanding and opinion. I am not an attorney. So, as always, your best action is to contact an attorney who is knowledgeable of firearms law.

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