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Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein Issues Statement as Court Temporarily Blocks Law Restricting Local Action to Prevent Gun Violence

Says decision is one of many steps necessary to address gun violence and keep kids and communities safe

COLUMBUS, OH— Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein issued a statement as Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Judge Stephen L. McIntosh granted a preliminary injunction temporarily blocking a state law that prohibits municipalities like Columbus from enacting gun safety ordinances aimed at combatting gun violence. City Attorney Klein filed a lawsuit on behalf of the city [in March 2019](#) to challenge the law.

Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein's statement is below:

“Self-governance is the bedrock of our nation, the belief that citizens should have the right to come together to decide what’s best for their community. Today’s ruling upholds our constitutional right to home rule, and with it, the people’s right to push for commonsense measures to reduce gun violence and keep our kids and communities safe.

“We respect the Court’s decision and stand ready to continue to advocate on behalf of Columbus residents, families and young people who have told us loudly and clearly that they want their leaders to do something to disrupt the flow of illegal guns into our streets, keep weapons out of the hands of dangerous individuals, and enact commonsense reforms that make our communities safer.”

Once the Common Pleas Court issues a briefing schedule, the City of Columbus looks forward to presenting its case. It will ask the Court to make the injunction against the State’s firearms pre-emption law permanent.

The City intends to dismiss a lawsuit [it filed last week](#) calling on the Ohio Supreme Court to compel a decision by Judge McIntosh in this case.

[The Court’s order is attached.](#)

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