

## MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members

From: Representative MaryLouise Isaacson

Date: December 4, 2020

Subject: **Destroying Confiscated or Recovered Firearms**

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Far too often, firearms used in a crime are confiscated by law enforcement and sold, potentially returning to the hands of future criminals. For this reason, my legislation would mandate that law enforcement agencies of the Commonwealth make reasonable efforts to identify and return all firearms to their rightful and lawful owners. If an owner cannot be identified within 120 days, the firearm would be required to be destroyed. Additionally, individuals who are prohibited by law from possessing a firearm may not have their firearm returned to them.

My legislation would not require that a confiscated or recovered firearm be destroyed if the firearm is evidence in an ongoing investigation, a criminal prosecution, or civil litigation. The firearm would only be destroyed once the investigation has concluded or if the court issues an order authorizing the destruction of the firearm. My legislation would also require that all confiscated firearms be destroyed at smelting plants in the Commonwealth.

Please join me in co-sponsoring this important legislation to help keep our communities safe.