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Testimony Before The
House Judiciary Committee
On
External Safety Devices for Firearms
And
Personalized Firearms

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Safety Locks For Firearms

The following are currently available firearm safety devices:

Gun Vault, Inc. Mini Vault GV 1000

Operation: Firearm is placed within and the door is closed. The correct code is entered on a key pad or a key is used and the door opens.

Dimensions: 12" x 8" x 5"

Construction: 16 ga steel with foam lining

Locking Mechanism: Electronic key pad and manual key lock

Security Level: Maximum

Positive Aspects: Designed to be mounted on immovable or cumbersome object, not easily compromised, well constructed, easy to operate, firearm hidden from view.

Negative Aspects: Expensive

Price: \$190.40

Remington, Safety Gun Lock (Action Lock)

Operation: Vinyl covered, steel cable is threaded through the action of a firearm and locked. The lock prevents closing the action of the firearm, disabling it.

Dimensions: 8" x 1¼" x 3/4"

Construction: Steel lock and cable with vinyl covering

Locking Mechanism: Key lock

Security Level: Medium

Positive Aspects: Can be secured to an object, not easily compromised, inexpensive, easy to operate.

Negative Aspects: Firearm not hidden from view

Price: \$8.06

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Master Lock Company, Gun Lock (Trigger Lock)

Operation: Lock is placed over the trigger and trigger guard area of the firearm and is locked in place. The lock prevents access to the trigger, disabling the firearm.

Dimensions: 2½" x 1½" x 2¼"

Construction: Cast aluminum alloy with plastic and rubber inserts

Locking Mechanism: Key lock

Security Level: Medium

Positive Aspects: Not easily compromised, inexpensive, easy to operate, well constructed.

Negative aspects: Firearm not hidden from view, does not deter theft.

Price : \$12.69

Central Specialties, Ltd., Trigger Lock

Operation: Lock is placed over the trigger and trigger guard area of the firearm and is locked in place. The lock prevents access to the trigger, disabling the firearm.

Dimension: 1 5/8" x 1¼" x 1"

Construction: Plastic with steel lock mechanism

Locking Mechanism: Screw with special key

Security Level: Minimum

Positive Aspects: Inexpensive

Negative Aspects: One key fits all, poorly constructed, firearm not hidden from view, does not deter theft, easily compromised.

Price: \$5.91

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Saf T Lok, Saf T Lok
Operation:

Grips on a firearm are replaced by a mounting plate, lock mechanism and modified grips. The lock interrupts the actuation of the trigger mechanism or prevents the manual safety from being deactivated.

Dimension: 3 3/4" x 3" x 1 3/8"

Construction: Metal lock with rubber grip covering

Locking Mechanism: Manual push button combination

Security Level: Minimum

Positive Aspects: Attaches directly to the firearm, not easily lost or misplaced

Negative Aspects: Durability and reliability questionable, easily compromised

Price: \$89.95

Personalized Firearms (Smart Gun Technology)

Existing technology is not in place to manufacture personalized firearms that can only be discharged by the authorized user.

Colt's Manufacturing, Inc. in cooperation with Sandia National Laboratories and funding from the National Institute of Justice is the current leader in the development of personalized firearm technology. According to Beth Lavach, a Colt's representative, a second generation personalized firearm (smart gun) does exist. Lavach further stated it will be more than a year before a personalized firearm (smart gun) will be available to law enforcement.

See Enclosures one and two for Colt's Manufacturing, Inc. information on personalized firearm technology (smart gun).

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Gun Vault, Inc.
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Scottsdale, AZ 85260
(800) 622-4903

Remington Arms
Ilion, NY 13357
(315) 895-3200

Master Lock Company
Milwaukee, WI

Central Specialties, Ltd.
1122 Silver Lake Road
Cary, Il 60013
(708) 639-3900

Saf T Lok
18245 S. E. Federal Highway
Tequesta, FL 33469
(800) 723-8565

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