

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 21, 2013

Doug Smith, COO
Magpul Industries Corp
P.O. Box 17697
Boulder, CO 80308

Dear Mr. Smith:

I want to be the first to welcome you to consider your neighbor to the West, Arizona, to relocate your business. Arizona respects business creators and understands that the private sector needs supportive state and federal governments. Businesses and manufacturers do not need a government that attacks them, over regulates them, or tries to tax them out of existence. Arizona gets it.

Arizona is perfect for Magpul. Attached is an article from the Arizona Republic that discusses the gun manufacturers that already call Arizona home. As stated in this article:

Its dry, warm climate, its pro-gun politics and its shooting culture make this former Wild West state appealing to firearms and components manufacturers.

More than 100 manufacturers of firearms and components in Arizona are licensed and regulated by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Those manufacturers generate hundreds of millions of dollars in annual sales.

The state has mainstream manufacturers such as Sturm, Ruger & Co., which operates a pistol manufacturing facility in Prescott. It also is home to boutique companies, such as Patriot Ordnance Factory, a Glendale semiautomatic rifle maker, and Coharie Arms Inc., which assembles clones of MP5 semiautomatic rifles in Mesa. (**"Guns in Arizona: Gun makers find place in the sun" Arizona Republic July 15, 2011**).

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2011/07/15/20110715arizona-guns-special-report-employers.html#ixzz2OBmGU3Me>

I am offering to personally arrange, and join you on, a tour of Pinal County, Yavapai County, Gila County, Yuma County, Mohave County, Maricopa and La Paz Counties. Of course there are other counties as well that you can consider, but these counties have a proven skilled workforce, affordable housing for your employees, and unlimited recreational opportunities. These counties, and the state in general, promote private businesses like yours and welcome your job creating manufacturing. And in Arizona, we defend the Second Amendment, we do not attack it.

Please contact me at 928-445-1683 to discuss this further, and please feel free to take me up on my offer to guide you on a tour of the state. On that tour I would ask Speaker of the House Andy Tobin and Senate President Andy Biggs to join us, along with Governor Brewer and Secretary of State Ken Bennett. I am copying Ken Chappa with the Arizona Commerce Authority, who is tasked with providing you additional information at your convenience.

Thank you for considering Arizona and we are all looking forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul A. Gosar" followed by a stylized flourish.

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

Enclosure

CC:

Governor Jan Brewer - Arizona
Speaker Andy Tobin – Arizona State House of Representatives
President Andy Biggs – Arizona State Senate
Secretary of State Ken Bennett - Arizona
Ken Chappa - Arizona Commerce Authority

Guns in Arizona: Gun makers find place in the sun

Manufacturers like Ariz. climate, firearms culture

by **Max Jarman** - Jul. 15, 2011 12:00 AM
The Arizona Republic

Its dry, warm climate, its pro-gun politics and its shooting culture make this former Wild West state appealing to firearms and components manufacturers.

More than 100 manufacturers of firearms and components in Arizona are licensed and regulated by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Those manufacturers generate hundreds of millions of dollars in annual sales.

The state has mainstream manufacturers such as Sturm, Ruger & Co., which operates a pistol manufacturing facility in Prescott. It also is home to boutique companies, such as Patriot Ordnance Factory, a Glendale semiautomatic rifle maker, and Coharie Arms Inc., which assembles clones of MP5 semiautomatic rifles in Mesa.

Combined, the companies employ more than 1,000 people.

Based on federal background checks, demand for guns - mostly handguns - in Arizona is up 16 percent since 2007.

And that represents only those weapons purchased through licensed dealers. About 40 percent of the guns sold in Arizona are purchased at gun shows through private transactions that are not tracked by the federal government.

The increased demand is being seen by manufacturers such as Sturm, Ruger & Co. Ruger reported that sales of pistols to retailers rose 23 percent in 2010 and that demand for revolvers was up 16 percent.

Ruger's Prescott-made pistols produced \$108 million in sales for the company last year.

"It's a great state for firearms," said Kelly McMillan, president of McMillan Fiberglass Stocks and an officer in the related McMillan Firearms Manufacturing. "The politics are pro-firearms, and the weather is as good as it gets for making fiberglass gun stocks," he said.

Synthetic gun stocks, pioneered a half-century ago, are stable in any weather or climate and much lighter than wood stocks.

"People can go out and shoot year-round," McMillan said of the state's shooting culture. And there is plenty of state and federal land where it is legal to fire guns.

Phoenix-based McMillan, which manufactures precision bolt-action hunting rifles, is one of a number of Arizona companies that also makes gun components used by other manufacturers. McMillan said that the majority of the 50-employee company's revenue comes from selling its custom rifle stocks, and the business is growing. The privately held company doesn't report revenue figures.

Another company, Granite Mountain Arms in Phoenix, makes firing mechanisms, or actions, for high-end hunting rifles. Young Manufacturing, also in Phoenix, makes aftermarket components to customize M-15 and AR-15 semiautomatic rifles

In California, it is illegal to own a semiautomatic weapon with a magazine holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition. Because Arizona has no restrictions on owning semiautomatic weapons, there's a thriving trade for modifying and customizing military weapons such as Russian Saiga combat shotguns, M-16 assault rifles used by the U.S. military and other weapons.

Young Manufacturing founder Dan Young cites a strong demand for the company's products.

"When Obama got in, there was a lot of panic buying, and we were running 24 hours a day," Young said "It dropped off last year, and now it's picked up again."

The 20-year-old business has 13 employees.

Young is not sure what is causing the increase in demand for his products but suspects it has to do with lingering concerns about the economy.

"When the economy gets bad, people get concerned about protecting what they have," he said.

Phoenix-based Robar Companies Inc. builds and refurbishes high-performance rifles used by law-enforcement SWAT teams. The company also makes bolt-action precision rifles for consumers and does considerable business applying custom finishes to most types of firearms. Finishes add protection and a unique look.

Robbie Barrkman, who founded Robar in 1986, was an instructor at a Phoenix-area shooting school and started fixing students' guns in his spare time.

"It grew into a business," he said.

Barrkman agreed with others that Arizona's friendly stance toward gun ownership has contributed to the thriving firearms manufacturing sector in the state.

"There is a big shooting public in Arizona," he said. "There are lots of gun owners and lots of places where they can shoot."

Read more: <http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2011/07/15/20110715arizona-guns-special-report-employers.html#ixzz2OBo0wL15>