

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS WASHINGTON, DC 20226

MAR - 4 ~

903050:DLB 3311/ 2002-142 2002-184

Ms. Rita DeSimone Bushmaster Firearms, Inc. Post Office Box 1479 999 Roosevelt Trail #3 Windham, Maine 04062

Dear Ms. DeSimone:

This refers to your letters dated December 7, 2001, and January 25, 2002, regarding markings on certain Bushmaster Model M17S rifles that have been returned to Bushmaster Firearms for repair.

The Model M17S rifle meets the definition of a semiautomatic assault weapon as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(30)(B). Section 922(v) of 18 U.S.C. provides that it shall be unlawful for a person to manufacture, transfer, or possess a semiautomatic assault weapon; however, the prohibition shall not apply to the possession or transfer of any semiautomatic assault weapon otherwise lawfully possessed under Federal law on the date of the enactment of this subsection, September 13, 1994.

You inquired about the repair of M17S rifles that were lawfully possessed prior to the date of enactment. The receivers for these rifles are defective and require replacement. Due to the particular design and construction of the rifles, it is not feasible to mark the replacement receivers with the same serial number as the defective receiver. Since the repaired firearms would bear a different serial number, you requested a marking variance in accordance with the provisions of Title 27 CFR, Part 178, § 178.92.

Based on the information provided, we find that your request is reasonable and will not hinder effective administration of 18 U.S.C. Chapter 44 and the regulations in 27 CFR Part 178. Therefore, Bushmaster Firearms, Inc., is hereby authorized to replace the defective receivers bearing the following serial numbers with new receivers bearing the serial numbers indicated below:





Ms. Rita DeSimone

P00957 replaced with P07694 P01229 replaced with P07722 P01514 replaced with P07743 P00961 replaced with P07778

The rifles bearing the above serial numbers are considered to have been lawfully possessed prior to September 13, 1994, and are not subject to the prohibition in 18 U.S.C. § 922(v). The defective prohibition in 18 U.S.C. § 922(v). The defective receivers must be destroyed. This determination applies solely to the firearms bearing the above-described serial numbers. Any additional firearms requiring replacement receivers may be covered under a separate authorization. Please ensure that your manufacturing and disposition records accurately reflect the above serial number changes.

We trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your inquiry. If you have further questions concerning this matter, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,

Em homas

Gary L. Thomas

Chief, Firearms Programs Division



DATE	INVOICE NUMBER	
04/04/02	365498	
DATE	ORDER NUMBER	
DATE	PICKING SLIP NO.	



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for Exchange within 30 days of Invoice Date. Returns after 30 days are made at the company's discretion and are subject to a 20% Restocking Fee.



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BACK ORDERS WILL BE FILLED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. YOUR INVOICE IS YOUR PROOF OF PURCHASE. LIMITED WARRANTY: Parts & Labor - One Year from Invoice Date. Returns for Refund must be made within 15 days, or for Exchange within 30 days of Invoice Date. Returns after 30 days are made at the company's discretion and are subject to a 20% Restocking Fee.





DATE	INVOICE NUMBER		
04/04/02	365493		
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