There are two types of gun sales. You have what’s called a commercial gun sale, where if I wanted to go buy a firearm, I could go to Dick’s Sporting Goods or go to a local gun dealer and I would look at a gun and I’d say “I wanna buy that.”

Then the other sale is a private sale. I own guns, and let’s say as a friend, you were very interested in one of my guns. I can just transfer that gun to you—that long gun now, whether it’s a rifle or shotgun, I can just sell that to you.

*PA state law requires that for every single handgun sale,*

*there must be a background check on the buyer.*

*But for assault rifles, shotguns, and long guns*

*the law allows unlicensed sellers to sell those guns...*

*No background checks.*

*No questions asked.*

My name is Larry Glick and I am celebrating my 41st year in law enforcement security this year. I started in police work in 1972.

I was 61 years old this past February. And I look back on my life and I was born and raised in a very rural part of Pennsylvania, so guns were a part of our life.

I mean, when I was—I guess it started at 9 years old, I looked forward to going hunting with my dad and my grandfather and my uncles.

Then finally the day came. 12 years old, I was about to get a hunting license and go out and hunt. And I think that every boy and girl who lived on a farm or in rural Pennsylvania looked forward to doing that. It was a tradition. It was part of our heritage.

*BRoll of Larry handling guns and talking about the difference between hunting rifle and hand guns and semi-automatics.*

*So there’s two distinct weapons groups. These are used for hunting, these are military-style weapons, law enforcement weapons. Now, there are some people that own these types of weapons (pointing to assault) that are competitive shooters; I am a competitive shooter, so I’ve used this weapon both in police work and in competitive shooting. Likewise with this gun.*

In my career in law enforcement and my earlier years and when I was on a special weapons and tactics team, the whole purpose of the special weapons and tactics team was to be better equipped and better armed than the suspect.

I mean, the old saying, you know, guns don’t kill people, people kill people. OK? So if people kill people, that’s just one more reason to have a background check.

There are no disadvantages or negatives to a background check. Honestly, it happens in a matter of minutes. A background check can happen in a matter of minutes. So regardless of where you live, it’s just good common sense to have a background check. Why would you sell a gun to an individual not knowing if that person’s either a convicted felon, wanted by the law for some other crime, or had some mental impairment?

So people will argue that it will never stop those crimes. They are probably right. It’s never going to stop all of that crime. There is no silver bullet here. But I would go back to say simply this: If you were the parent of an 8-year-old that was just shot while they were sitting on a door step, on the front door step, by a person that could have been prohibited from buying a gun, wouldn’t you want a background check?

That is the bottom line here.