



**Violence Policy Center**

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# **DEADLY EXCEPTIONS**

**Gun Manufacturers That Would be  
Protected by the "Small Business"  
Cap on Punitive Damages**



**February 2000**

**The Violence Policy Center** is a national non-profit educational organization that conducts research and public education on firearms violence and provides information and analysis to policymakers, journalists, grassroots advocates, and the general public. The Center examines the role of firearms in America, analyzes trends and patterns in firearms violence, and explores new ways to reduce firearm-related death and injury.

For more information about this report, please contact Violence Policy Center Director of Federal Policy Kristen Rand at 202-822-8200 x102.

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Past studies released by the Violence Policy Center include:

- *Where Did You Get That Statistic? — A Bibliography and Resource Guide for Advocates Working to Reduce Gun Death and Injury* (January 2000)
- *The Endgame: Any Settlement of Firearms Litigation Must Address Three Specific Areas of Gun Industry Conduct and Include a Strict Enforcement Mechanism* (December 1999)
- *Cashing in on the New Millennium: How the Firearms Industry Exploits Y2K Fears to Sell More Guns* (December 1999)
- *Firearms Production in America—1999 Edition* (November 1999)
- *When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 1997 Homicide Data* (October 1999)
- *Gold Medal Gunslingers: Combat Shooting Targets the Olympic Games* (July 1999)
- *One Shot, One Kill: Civilian Sales of Military Sniper Rifles* (May 1999)
- *Start 'Em Young: Recruitment of Kids to the Gun Culture* (April 1999)
- *License to Kill, and Kidnap, and Rape, and Drive Drunk...* (March 1999)
- *Who Dies?—A Look at Firearms Death and Injury in America* (February 1999)
- *Making a Killing: The Business of Guns in America* (January 1999)
- *Young Guns: How the Gun Lobby Nurtures America's Youth Gun Culture* (March 1998)
- *Target America: Can the Flood of Foreign Assault Weapons Be Stopped?* (March 1998)
- *Broken Promises: The Failure of the Trigger Lock "Deal" Between the Gun Industry and the White House* (October 1998)
- *License to Kill: Arrests Involving Texas Concealed Handgun License Holders* (January 1998)
- *That Was Then, This is Now: The NRA and the Gun Industry Talk About Assault Weapons—From Both Sides of Their Mouths* (December 1997)
- *Joe Camel with Feathers: How the NRA with Gun and Tobacco Industry Dollars Uses Its Eddie Eagle Program to Market Guns to Kids* (November 1997)
- *Cease Fire: A Comprehensive Strategy to Reduce Firearms Violence* (Revised, October 1997)
- *Kids Shooting Kids: Stories From Across the Nation of Unintentional Shootings Among Children and Youth* (March 1997)

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## INTRODUCTION

The "Small Business Liability Reform Act," (H.R. 2366 and S. 1185) would limit consumer rights in product liability suits. One component would shield "small businesses" from punitive damages by capping the amount that could be awarded against companies that engage in willful misconduct or conscious, flagrant indifference to safety. "Small business" is defined as a company employing fewer than 25 full-time employees. Under this proposal, punitive damages would be capped at \$250,000 or three times (two times under the Senate legislation) the amount of compensatory damages, whichever is *less*.

In February 2000 the Violence Policy Center (VPC) conducted a telephone survey of firearm manufacturers to determine which companies would stand to benefit from the "small business" cap.

The VPC found that the "small business" cap would protect many manufacturers of assault weapons, Saturday Night Special handguns, and even 50 caliber sniper rifles. Many of these companies have experienced safety-related problems with their products or have been defendants in product liability lawsuits.

The legislation would protect Intratec, the manufacturer of the TEC-DC9 assault pistol, and Hi-Point, maker of the Carbine used in the April 1999 Columbine massacre in Littleton, Colorado.

The legislation would protect gun companies from product liability lawsuits where a firearm contains a safety-related defect, as well as from suits like those filed by cities and counties alleging that the gun industry has engaged in negligent distribution and marketing practices.

## Waco, Texas

**Number of Employees:** Less than 25

### PISTOL PRODUCTION HISTORY

Year	.22	.25	.32	.380	9mm	.45	Total
1986	27	2	50	55	1,110	1,807	3,051
1987	47	3	57	338	847	1,572	2,864
1988	25	2	43	586	960	1,778	3,394
1989	72		69	58	903	3,475	4,577
1990	51		128	82	1,829	3,302	5,392
1991	71	11	84	51	3,539	4,815	8,571
1992	71	11	84	51	3,539	4,815	8,571
1993							
1994	108	4	69	1,820	515	6,951	9,467
1995	108		39	40	333	4,775	5,295
1996	91	15	437	935	271	3,657	5,406
1997	30	11	68	1,107	133	2,279	3,628
1998	108	15	363	765	395	1,521	3,167

- o ATF production reports show duplicate production numbers for 1991 and 1992.
- o Production figures for 1993 are not listed by ATF even though the company states that it manufactured firearms that year.

DA 38  
DOUBLE ACTION  
DERRINGER™  
World's Lightest .357 MAGNUM



**CALIBERS**  
 .38 Special  
 9mm Luger  
 .357 MAGNUM  
 (New for 1991)

MODEL 2 STEEL "PEN" PISTOL

*Transforms From A "Pen" To A Legal Pistol In 2 Seconds*

Two new genera and five Platystrophia forms are given a Latin Plural in 2 numbers. This should not be found in an "PL" designation. In numbers was "Two" plus a plural all you have to do is add a plural and listed 0 00



MADE  
IN  
USA

## WARNING

1. If you are a first time hand gun purchaser it is mandatory that you take a firearms safety & handling course for handguns before you use this pistol.
2. Never carry a single action derringer (Models 1, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, L.D., A.D. & T.X) with the hammer (Firing Pin) resting on a loaded cartridge or in the full cocked position. If you drop any single action pistol with the hammer down on a loaded shell it can fire. Always carry it in the half cock position with the safety engaged!!! This applies to all double barrel single action derringers.
3. Always read instructions before using. Do not load your gun until you are ready to use it.
4. All firearms are dangerous weapons. They are not fool proof consumer products or toys and must be kept out of the hands of children.
5. All of our derringers are short range defense weapons and/or collector's items. They are not target pistols!! It is your responsibility to select the pistol best suited for your needs. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the factory.

## Company Facts:

Labeling itself the "complete headquarters for high quality derringers," American Derringer Corporation offers numerous models of single- and double-action derringers with calibers ranging from .22 rimfire to 10mm. Among the models offered is the Lady Derringer, designed "for the woman who wants a small compact pistol for home or personal protection." Company literature touts one pistol as the "World's Lightest .357 Magnum" while another is labeled "the most powerful pocket pistol ever made." American Derringer also sells shotgun shells manufactured by Winchester that are chambered for .45 Colt/.410 versions of its handguns. The company's brochure promises, "Penetration when fired in a pistol is approximately 700 pages in a telephone book at 10 feet. Has *Double* the stopping power of a .410 Rifled Slug."

At one time American Derringer offered the Stainless Steel Pen Pistol Model 2, which transformed "from a 'PEN' to a legal pistol in 2 seconds." The pen pistol was of such dubious reputation that at the 1992 S.H.O.T. (Shooting, Hunting, Outdoor Trade) Show (the annual trade show for the firearms industry), the event sponsor asked that it be removed from display. The company also sold an ankle holster for the pen gun. According to *Firearms Business*, an industry newsletter, warranty cards shipped with the first pen guns sold by American Derringer attempted to disclaim all warranties with the language "as is, with all faults. The entire risk as to the quality and performance of the product is with the buyer...the buyer assumes the entire risk of all necessary service or repairs." The company abandoned this policy after receiving inquiries from customers.

In an apparent attempt to avoid potential liability, American Derringer's 1992 catalog contained a five-part warning. One of the five points warned buyers, "Never carry a single action derringer...with the hammer (Firing Pin) resting on a loaded cartridge or in the full cocked position. If you drop any single action pistol with the hammer down on a loaded shell it can fire. *Always carry it in the half cock position with the safety engaged!!* This applies to all double barrel single action derringers." The final warning in the list stated, "All of our derringers are short range defense weapons and/or collector's items. *They are not target pistols!* It is your responsibility to select the pistol best suited for your needs. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the factory."

# Barrett Firearms Manufacturing, Inc.

## Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Number of Employees: Approximately 25

### RIFLE AND SHOTGUN PRODUCTION HISTORY

Year	Rifle	Shotgun	Total
1985	35		35
1986	25		25
1987			
1988	123		123
1989	158		158
1990	270		270
1991	500		500
1992	237		237
1993	265		265
1994	800		800
1995	96		96
1996	227		227
1997	60		60
1998	103		103



Firearms Manufacturing, Inc.

P.O. Box 1077 • Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37133 • USA • 615-896-2938 • FAX 615-896-7813

## Model 82A1



**Long range  
accuracy,  
light weight,  
low recoil**

**82A1 FEATURES:**

- Caliber: .50 BMG
- Operation - Short Recoil, Semi-Automatic
- Overall Length - 57 Inches
- Barrel Length - 29 Inches
- Weight: 28.5 Lbs.
- Feed Device - 10 Round Box Magazine
- Highly Efficient Muzzle Brake
- Sorbothane® Recoil Pad
- Match Grade Barrel
- Extreme Accuracy
- Scope Optional

## Company Facts:

Barrett manufactures sniper rifles, a military high-caliber weapon capable of pinpoint shots at distances of up to 2,000 yards. Numerous engagements with 50 caliber sniper rifles during the Gulf War took place at 1,750 yards. From the West Front of the U.S. Capitol, this range would allow accurate firing as far as the Smithsonian Metro station on the National Mall.

The longest-range confirmed sniper kill of the Gulf War was reported to have been made by a Barrett Model 82A1 sniper rifle at a range of 1,800 meters—nearly 2,000 yards, or almost 10 times the maximum effective range of a standard hunting rifle. This same model is available to civilians with no more purchase restrictions than a hunting rifle.

Barrett calls its Model 82A1 "heavy firepower for light infantry" and boasts in its promotional brochure that the rifle "allows sophisticated targets to be destroyed or disabled by a single soldier. Armored personnel carriers, radar dishes, communications vehicles, aircraft...are all vulnerable to the quick strike capability of the Barrett 82A1."

# Calico Light Weapons Systems

## Sparks, Nevada

Number of Employees: 5

### PISTOL PRODUCTION HISTORY

Year	.22	.25	.32	.380	9mm	.45	Total
1989	10				3,771		3,781
1990	349				532		881
1991	1,800				900		2,700
1992	675				495		1,170
1993	688				676		1,364
1994	625				2,569		3,194
Less than 175 pistols were produced from 1995 to 1998							

### RIFLE AND SHOTGUN PRODUCTION HISTORY

Year	Rifles	Shotguns	Total
1989	5,826		5,826
1990	2,136		2,136
1991	1,900		1,900
1992			
1993	1,743		1,743
1994	5,058		5,058
1995	668		668
1996	546		546
1997	154		154
1998	144		144





### Company Facts:

Calico's assault weapons line includes pistols and Carbines in 9mm and .22LR. All utilize Calico's unique helical-feed magazine, the "most advanced method for efficiently storing and dispensing ammunition in small arms." The cylindrical magazine can hold up to 100 rounds of ammunition. Calico expresses a commitment to "our 'revolution in firepower.'" Calico's long list of accessories includes: high-capacity ammunition magazines; holsters, slings, carrying cases and brass catchers; scope mounts, "ultra dot" sights and laser sights; a "speed loader" for the helical magazine; stock replacement kits; bipod; and a Calico lapel pin and patch.

Calico's advertisements stress its weapons' high ammunition capacity, durability, and "overwhelming firepower advantage." The company also stresses the alleged suitability of its firearms for sporting use. Ads feature wholesome couples in the outdoors using sporterized versions of Calico assault rifles, noting, "Calico firearms incorporate leading edge technology to make shooting safer, more fun, and easier than ever." A similar ad promises, "Our M-100 broken down will fit just right into your backpack!"

In February 1999, a jury in the Federal District Court in Brooklyn found Calico (along with five other gun manufacturers) negligent in its marketing and distribution practices, and that those practices contributed to illegal gun trafficking into the state of New York.

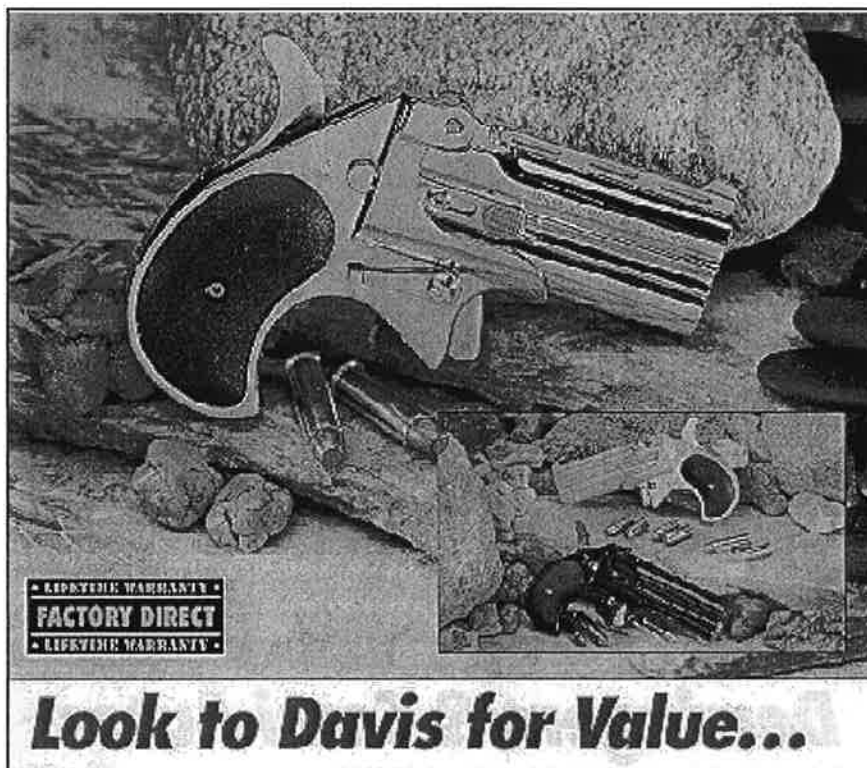
# Davis Industries

## Chino, California

Number of Employees: 15

### PISTOL PRODUCTION HISTORY

Year	.22	.25	.32	.380	9mm	.45	Total
1986	21,286	4,060	8,034				33,380
1987	24,557	3,525	36,316				64,398
1988	27,215	2,901	56,317				86,433
1989	26,618	2,818	54,894	19,919			104,249
1990	28,492	3,770	40,888	70,102			143,252
1991	29,915	2,886	37,459	100,816			171,076
1992	37,114	3,532	38,126	109,007			187,779
1993	43,501	4,465	31,729	98,576			178,271
1994	21,124	1,075	13,032	31,380	18,513		85,124
1995	11,283	281	3,959	26,866	2,782		45,171
1996	10,013	614	4,696	22,099	1,671		39,093
1997	9,024	547	4,874	20,321	1,859		36,625
1998	8,537	360	4,822	17,947	1,642		33,308



• REPEATED WARRANTY •  
**FACTORY DIRECT**  
 • REPEATED WARRANTY •

**Look to Davis for Value...**

## Company Facts:

Davis Industries is one of six companies in southern California known for manufacturing the majority of Saturday Night Special handguns, or "junk guns," in the United States. In her 1992 *Wall Street Journal* article, reporter Alix Freedman noted that Davis Industries was founded in 1982 by Jim Davis and his wife Gail. Gail Davis is the daughter of Saturday Night Special patriarch George Jennings. Wrote Freedman, "Low costs and high production are key....The popular Davis derringers account for about 25 percent of Davis's annual production...and they pay off all overhead, letting Jim Davis make pure profit from the rest of the product line."

According to its promotional material, dealers, "Look to Davis for value....Davis Industries has been offering Americans one of the finest selections of affordable arms for personal protection for over ten years now." Davis handguns are made of an inexpensive die-cast zinc alloy and are sold at low prices—at or below \$100. Davis' "smaller than palm-sized" .22, .25, and .32 Standard Series models are "handy little spitfires [that] list for just under \$70!" The *Journal* reported that the Davis .380 pistol had a production cost of \$15, a wholesale price of \$55, a dealer price of \$63 to \$68, a retail price of \$95 to \$100, and an illegal street price of \$150 to \$600. One advertisement aimed at dealers states, "More than ever, Americans want value. They don't mind paying a fair price for quality goods—but the goods have to deliver on their promise...every Davis gun is priced to let you maintain a full profit markup and still give your customers a terrific deal. That's Value with a capital 'V.'"

For women's self-defense needs, the company claims, "Davis protects day and night." Davis anchors its ads with supposed symbols of feminine prestige and moral values—pearls, wedding rings, money, and even the Bill of Rights. One ad features sparkling, small caliber pistols as the safeguard for one's "Precious Possessions." Another advertisement warns women: "What with all the crime in the streets these days, a woman needs a body-guard more than ever."

In 1995 Davis settled a product liability lawsuit brought by a first-time gun owner whose Davis P-380 pistol exploded while he was practicing with his new weapon. The man's hand was injured and a shell casing fragment lodged in his eye, requiring surgery. Davis settled for \$40,000.

# Harris Gunworks

## Phoenix, Arizona

Number of Employees: 4

### RIFLE AND SHOTGUN PRODUCTION HISTORY

Year	Rifle	Shotguns	Total
1998	53		53

2 Exciting Additions to the .50 Caliber Line-up  
**M-95 Ultra-Light .50 Caliber Weight Reduction Breakthrough...**



M-95 ULTRA-LIGHT .50 BMG (12.7 x 99mm)  
Harris Gunworks introduces a breakthrough in weight reduction technology — an Ultra-Light .50 Cal. BMG Long Range Sniper Rifle offering 20% weight reduction.  
This .50 Cal. action is built of AERO SPACE TITANIUM coupled with Harris revolutionary GRAPHITE barrels, offering the same rigid qualities and accuracy with the benefit of weight reduction.  
This sniper weapon is designed for a high efficiency of this, providing operational capability at ranges of 2000 meters on hard targets, allowing the

## Company Facts:

Harris Gunworks manufactures sniper rifles, a military high-caliber weapon capable of pinpoint shots at distances of up to 2,000 yards. Numerous engagements with 50 caliber sniper rifles during the Gulf War took place at 1,750 yards. From the West Front of the U.S. Capitol, this range would allow accurate firing as far as the Smithsonian Metro station on the National Mall.

Harris Gunworks markets several different models of 50 caliber sniper rifles. Its 1999 catalog announced "2 exciting additions to the 50 caliber line-up" including the M-95 Ultra-light "designed for a high efficiency of 'hits' providing operational capability at ranges of 2000 meters on hard targets, allowing the engagement of fast moving vehicles, helicopters, etc. with greater portability."

The M87 comes in three variants (single shot, repeating, and folding stock butt). The M92 is a short stock or "bullpup" configuration of the weapon.

# Hi-Point Firearms (Beemiller)

## Mansfield, Ohio

Number of Employees: Less than 25

### PISTOL PRODUCTION HISTORY

Year	.22	.25	.32	.380	9mm	.45	Total
1993					32,221		32,221
1994				4,569	20,659		25,228
1995				2,960	11,360		14,320
1996				6,900	14,015		20,915
1997				6,940	12,966		19,906
1998				6,120	11,103	6,270	23,493

### RIFLE AND SHOTGUN PRODUCTION HISTORY

Year	Rifle	Shotgun	Total
1996	8,700		8,700
1997	25,100		25,100
1998	28,642		28,642



## Company Facts:

Hi-Point Firearms manufactures semiautomatic handguns and a 9mm Carbine assault rifle. The Carbine was one of the guns used in the April 1999 massacre at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado.

Hi-Point touts the Carbine, which retails for \$179, as the "Hottest gun since the SKS!" A 1999 flyer advises, "Don't Be Discouraged by the 'Gun Snobs.' You know who we're talking about. Just because the price is low does not mean it isn't accurate! So don't be intimidated by the 'Gun Snobs' who believe that a gun has to be expensive to shoot well." In the same flyer, ad copy for the Hi-Point .45 pistol, which retails for \$148.95, states, "It is the most powerful caliber we manufacture! Whether it's Bad Guys or Bowling Pins, you can knock 'em down and keep 'em down with this heavy hitter."

# Intratec (Navegar)

## Miami, Florida

Number of Employees: Less than 25

### PISTOL PRODUCTION HISTORY

Year	.22	.25	.32	.380	9mm	.45	Total
1980					4		4
1981					2,995		2,995
1982					4,626		4,626
1983					1,562		1,562
1984					9,671		9,671
1985					4,572		4,572
1986					13,535		13,535
1987					14,725		14,725
1988	5,286				13,770		19,056
1989	15,821				15,837		31,658
1990	5,694				11,991		17,685
1991	17,006	2,387			14,383		33,776
1992	12,781	7,017			22,775		42,573
1993	16,341	1,621			35,261		53,223
1994	27,580				75,102		102,682
1995	3,296	49			9,584	1,301	14,230
1996	2,679	262		328	5,820	949	10,038
1997	1,469	581		156	7,534	201	9,941
1998	1,836	847		86	12,545	381	15,695





## Company Facts:

Intratec is best known for its inexpensive assault pistols, most notably the TEC-9, TEC-DC9 and the AB-10. The TEC-DC9 was one of the guns used in the 1999 massacre at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. The 1994 crime bill banned the TEC-9 and the TEC-DC9 by name. But, following enactment of the ban, Intratec retooled its product line to follow the letter, but certainly not the spirit, of the law. The company began producing the AB-10, a slightly modified version of the TEC-DC9 that was technically legal under the law (AB stands for "after ban"). Intratec sells the gun with a pre-ban 32-round ammunition magazine despite the fact that production of ammunition magazines holding more than 10 rounds was also banned in 1994. At the same time the company began marketing a new line of Saturday Night Special handguns, or "junk guns," promising its customers, "The Legend Continues...." The "Pro 'TEC' tor Series" of Saturday Night Specials features two double-action pistols, the .25 ACP Protec-25 and the .22 LR Protec-22. The June 1995 issue of *Gun Tests* magazine—which views itself as the *Consumer Reports* of guns—called the Protec-25 "a nightmare," citing its lack of any safety device and repeated malfunctioning. Intratec also offers the "'Cat'egory Series" of small, powerful handguns. Promising "Hurricane Force," the pistols come in 9mm, .380, .40, and .45. The 'Cat'egory-9 9mm is described in 1995 dealer copy as, "The first 9mm that fits in the palm of your hand."

Notorious for its willingness to cater to the criminal market, Intratec's dealer advertising copy has bragged that its guns are "as tough as your toughest customers." The 1994 dealer copy for the TEC-DC9 promised that the assault pistol was "ideal for self-defense or recreation" and "does not give up one ounce of gutsy performance and reliability to any other gun on the market." Intratec is not subtle in its pitch for the male market. Up until 1995 the company offered a wall calendar featuring its handguns held by pouty-lipped models in various stages of undress. The 1994 calendar displayed a semi-nude model on all fours holding an assault pistol. An advertising flat for the "Scorpion Series" Tec-22 featured the pistol posed majestically in front of a raging fire. A scorpion poised to strike crawls alongside the weapon. The text reads: "A 30-round magazine is standard and ready to be 'jungle clipped' with a second mag. for 60 rounds of immediate firepower....The TEC-22. It's fun. It's affordable. And it's hot." Other advertising copy for the Tec-22 promised, "Only your imagination limits your fun!"

In April 1991 the National Rifle Association's *American Rifleman* magazine ran a notice for owners of Intratec's TEC-22 Scorpion, advising them that "a flawed part may cause these guns to function full automatic," and that the guns could be returned to the factory for free modifications. The company issued no recall for the weapon. In 1995 Intratec issued a recall of its 'Cat'egory pistols. The guns' slides were defective and presented a risk of serious injury.

In September 1999 the California Court of Appeal ruled that Intratec could be held liable for damages resulting from a 1993 mass shooting at a San Francisco law firm. The court held that firearm manufacturers have a duty not to increase the lethality of their weapons. The court's opinion cited Intratec's marketing of the TEC-DC9 (the same weapon used in the Columbine massacre) that emphasizes high fire-power, a threaded barrel for the easy attachment of a silencer, and the gun's "excellent resistance to fingerprints." The court pointed out that Intratec's "officers were aware of reports in the media and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms data showing that the high firepower, low price, concealability, and certain other characteristics of the TEC-DC9 made it the 'weapon of choice' of certain types of criminals...."

# Phoenix Arms

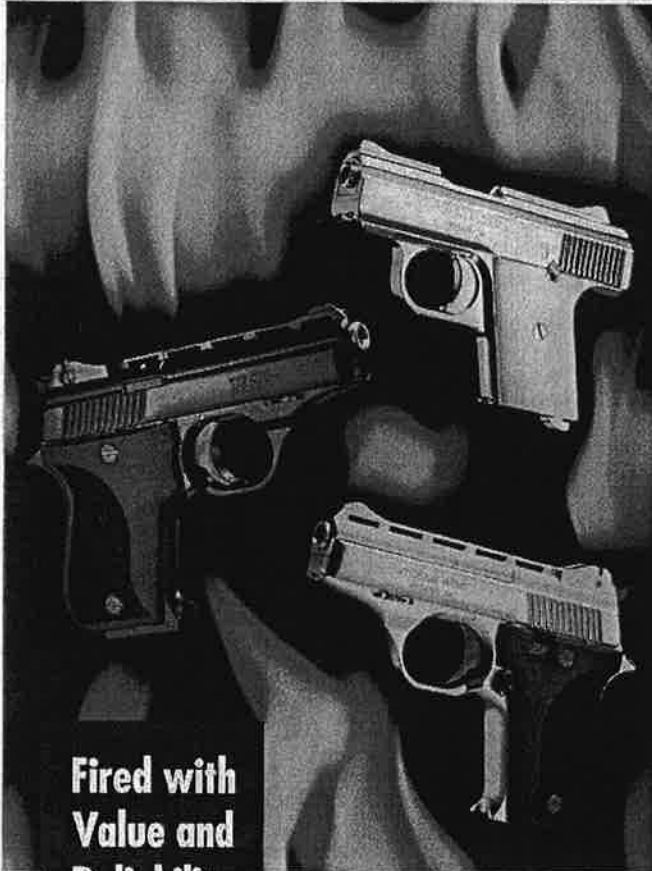
## Ontario, California

Number of Employees: 15

### PISTOL PRODUCTION HISTORY

Year	.22	.25	.32	.380	9mm	.45	Total
1992		67,824					67,824
1993	5,761	93,860					99,621
1994	35,461	26,148					61,609
1995	32,719	15,662					48,381
1996	29,913	11,730					41,643
1997	27,405	15,680					43,085

# Phoenix Arms



**Fired with  
Value and  
Reliability**

1420 South Archibald Avenue, Ontario, CA 91761  
(909) 947-4843 FAX (909) 947-6798

## Company Facts:

Phoenix Arms is one of the six "Ring of Fire" companies that produce the majority of Saturday Night Special handguns, or "junk guns," in the United States. As detailed in a 1992 article by *Wall Street Journal* reporter Alix Freedman, in 1970 George Jennings produced a cheap .25 pistol and founded Raven Arms. Twenty-one years later, in November 1991, a fire destroyed the Raven Arms factory. George Jennings retired and sold the tooling from Raven Arms to the aptly named Phoenix Arms. Phoenix was owned in equal shares by his son Bruce's ex-wife and children; four of his daughter's children; and by Raven's former general manager. The mainstay of the new company is still the .25 Raven model. Phoenix also sells larger .25 and .22 pistols "[d]esigned for personal protection as well as sport and target shooting."

Like its predecessor, Phoenix pistols are cheap. The Model Raven sells for around \$80 and the larger pistols list for \$100. An ad in the September 1994 issue of *American Firearms Industry* for the newer, high-capacity pistols promised, "Protection, Peace of Mind and Self-Confidence under \$100." The December 1994 issue of *Shooting Industry* featured a four-page color ad headlined, "Discreet Personal Protection." The ad read, "Building the best, most affordable compact semi-automatic pistols on the market is no small task, but that's what Phoenix Arms has done with its line of highly concealable defense handguns."

As the result of its small size, the Raven would fail the "sporting purposes" test that is applied to imported, but not domestically produced, handguns.

In February 1999, a jury in the Federal District Court in Brooklyn found Phoenix (along with eight other gun manufacturers) negligent in its marketing and distribution practices and that those practices were the proximate cause of shootings that took place in the New York area. The jury determined that Phoenix's marketing and distribution practices fostered illegal gun trafficking into the state of New York.

**Republic Arms, Inc.**  
**Chino, California**


**Number of Employees:**                      **Less than 25**

PISTOL PRODUCTION HISTORY

Year	.22	.25	.32	.380	9mm	.45	Total
1998						857	857

**REPUBLIC ARMS PATRIOT 45 DAO**

"Sturdy, accurate, reliable operation and an economic price tag.  
The Patriot seems to have it all, and is definitely one of the  
best guns of its type on the market today."  
As reported by Jim Benson in American Survival Guide



- True double action system, offering a vital second strike capability in case of misfire or hard primer
- Comfortable and controllable in even a large hand
- Ergonomically shaped grip and non-slip trigger guard for maximum hand-to-gun contact
- Rapid, effortless reloading with beveled magazine well

### Company Facts:

Republic Arms is owned by Jim Davis, founder and owner of "junk gun" maker Davis Industries. (For more information on Davis Industries see p. 7) Republic manufactures the .45 Patriot pistol which sells to dealers for \$198.

In their most recent advertising flyer Republic Arms stresses the light weight and concealability of the Patriot stating, "No larger than most .380s and lighter than most .32s, the new ultra-compact Republic Arms patriot Model packs 6 + 1 rounds of potent 45 ACP firepower....For those who require a lightweight, readily concealable and easily controllable .45 ACP handgun at a truly affordable price, the Patriot Model .45 is the ideal solution."

# The Robar Companies, Inc.

## Phoenix, Arizona

Number of Employees: 20

### RIFLE AND SHOTGUN PRODUCTION HISTORY

Year	Rifles	Shotguns	Total
1998	83		83

## ROBAR RC50 & RC50-F

For all your long-range shooting, the Robar RC50/RC50-F should be just the formula. This big gun weighs in at 25 lbs. and sports a 29-inch barrel which sits on a McMillan fiberglass composite stock. The hinge system is manufactured and installed by Robar. The stock comes with our standard non-slip package. A Remington trigger and safety with a crisp trigger setting at 2 1/2 lbs. The stock can be finished in black, gray, or camo\* and the bolt, mag & follower are finished in NP3.



### SPECIFICATIONS

**ACTION:** Custom built by Robar  
**BARREL:** Chrome moly match grade barrel.  
**STOCK:** McMillan Stock Company. Fiberglass/composite stock with aluminum pillars and steel epoxy bedding.  
**CAPACITY:** 5 round detachable box magazine  
**TRIGGER:** Modified Remington style with a recommended 2.5 lb. release.  
**WEIGHT:** Approximately 25 lbs.  
**FEATURES:** A state of the art, super accurate .50 caliber rifle with a muzzle break that is smaller and more efficient than any currently on the market. It comes with a fully machined weaver style scope base. Rugard finish with NP3 on bolt and mag follower. Also included is a

*"...this may  
be the lightest  
recoiling  
.50 cal  
I have ever  
shot."  
Denny Hansen  
Editor  
SWAT Magazine*

### Company Facts:

Robar manufactures sniper rifles, a military high-caliber weapon capable of pinpoint shots at distances of up to 2,000 yards. Numerous engagements with 50 caliber sniper rifles during the Gulf War took place at 1,750 yards. From the West Front of the U.S. Capitol, this range would allow accurate firing as far as the Smithsonian Metro station on the National Mall.

Robar currently markets two 50 caliber sniper rifles, the RC50 and the RC50-F, and bills itself as "internationally recognized as a world leader in precision sniper weapons." The RC50-F features a "unique two stage hinge system allowing the butt stock assembly to be fully folded flush with the rest of the gun." Both the RC50 and RC50-F come with a five-round detachable magazine, are available in four custom camouflage finishes, and are touted as "the lightest .50 caliber rifles available today."

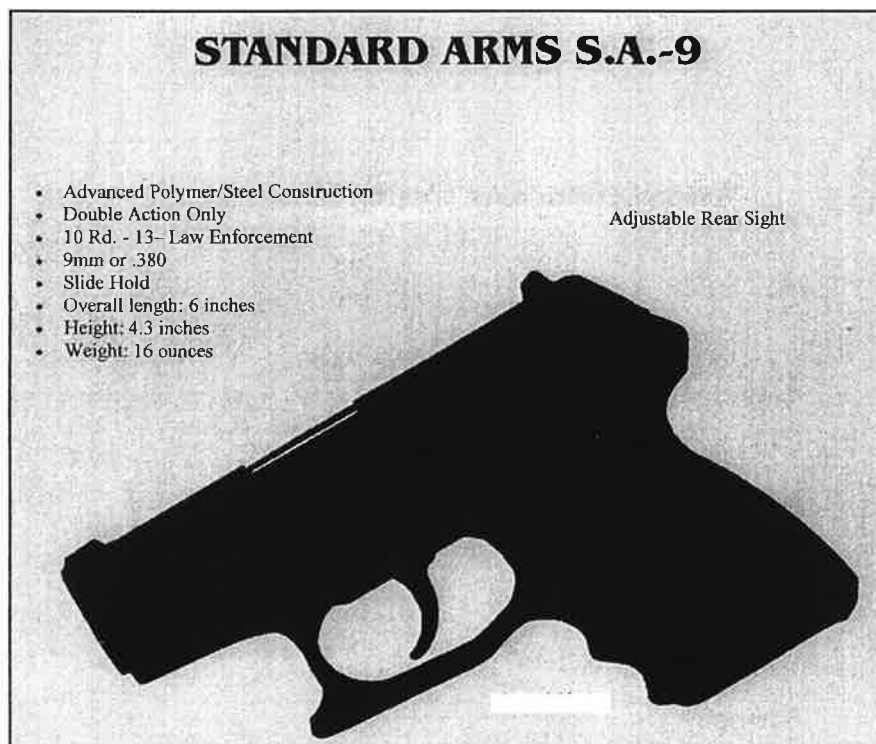
# Standard Arms (formerly Lorcin Engineering)

## Reno, Nevada

Number of Employees: Less than 25

### PISTOL PRODUCTION HISTORY (As Lorcin Engineering)

Year	.22	.25	.32	.380	9mm	.45	Total
1989		15,710					15,710
1990		30,216					30,216
1991		53,459					53,459
1992		105,901	2,910	78,950			187,761
1993	33,524	93,444	8,795	205,480			341,243
1994	12,098	18,310	1,980	85,140	33,680		151,208
1995	5,020	12,032	2,795	47,362	16,254		83,463
1996	7,124	15,656	4,777	41,292	18,648		87,497
1997	8,204	12,524	5,740	38,035	27,530		92,033
1998	6,659	9,729	5,016	32,966	24,880		79,250





## Company Facts:

Standard Arms is the new corporate identity of Lorcin Engineering. In 1993, Lorcin was the number one pistol manufacturer in America, churning out 341,243 guns. Many of Lorcin's handguns are of such poor quality they would be ineligible for importation under the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms' (ATF) "sporting purposes" test. Lorcin's .380 pistol regularly tops the list of all guns traced to crime by ATF.

On October 17, 1996, Lorcin Engineering, Inc. filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. At the time, 18 product liability, personal injury, or wrongful death claims were pending against the company. It is estimated that these cases represented \$32 million in claims.

One of the pending lawsuits was *Hamilton v. Accu-Tek*, a New York case alleging that many handgun manufacturers had engaged in negligent distribution and marketing practices. Subsequent to Lorcin filing for bankruptcy protection, the plaintiffs in the *Hamilton* case intervened in the bankruptcy proceeding as creditors. The bankruptcy judge ruled that the plaintiffs had failed to establish that Lorcin had a legal duty to the plaintiffs and disallowed their claims. The judge in the New York case allowed the claims of the plaintiffs to go to trial against the remaining defendants. On February 11, 1999, a jury found that 15 of those remaining defendants were negligent in their distribution practices.

In January 1997 Lorcin emerged from bankruptcy. In August 1998 Lorcin went out of business with an additional 22 lawsuits filed by cities and counties pending against it. Lorcin founder Jim Waldorf opened Standard Arms, in Nevada, at the end of 1999.

