



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives

Martinsburg, West Virginia 25405

www.atf.gov

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3311/2011-1023

JUL 27 2011

Ms. Beth Sumners
Firequick Products, Inc.
1137 Red Rock Inyokern Rd
Inyokern, California 93527

Dear Ms. Sumners:

This refers to the Firequick prototype flare launcher that has been delivered to the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, for classification under the Gun Control Act (GCA). A .22 caliber starter pistol, manufactured by ALFA in the Czech Republic, has been used as the foundation for your flare launcher.

The ALFA starter pistol has been previously evaluated, and was not classified as a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. Section 921(a)(3). In addition, FTB has examined a flare launcher similar to the currently submitted item, and that launcher was not classified as a firearm.

Evaluation of your submitted sample (see enclosed photo) indicates that several modifications have been performed to the ALFA starter pistol. These modifications include the following:

1. The original, solid, "barrel" has been removed.
2. A gas manifold has been installed in place of the original barrel. This manifold incorporates a series of offset ports that are designed to allow gas from a fired blank cartridge to enter the main barrel, thereby expelling a flare. A support housing has been installed over the manifold.
3. A large tubular barrel approximately 3 inches in length and 1-3/4 inches in diameter has been installed on the support housing.
4. Inside the large barrel, a flare barrel approximately 3-3/8 inches in length and 1-3/4 inches in diameter has been installed. This dual-chamber design appears to be intended to vent excess gas during the firing of a flare.

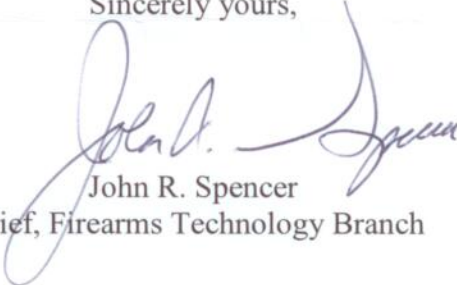
Ms. Beth Sumners

The modifications performed on the ALFA, .22 caliber blank revolver do not allow the revolver to accept conventional ammunition. Therefore, the Firequick flare launcher is not a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. section 921(a)(3).

We caution that our classification is based on the item as submitted to our Branch. Any changes to its characteristics or design features will void this classification and require re-evaluation by FTB.

We thank you for your inquiry and trust that the foregoing has been responsive. If we can be of any further assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,



John R. Spencer
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

Enclosure

Ms. Beth Sumners

Firequick flare launcher:

