



AG STRANGE FILES AMICUS BRIEF IN LAWSUIT AGAINST CONNECTICUT'S GUN BAN

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Luther Strange yesterday filed an *amicus* brief, or friend of the court brief, that was joined by a bipartisan group of 22 Attorneys General against a Connecticut law banning certain kinds of semiautomatic firearms. The brief was filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit as a part of a lawsuit filed by organizations and individual gun-owners who challenged Connecticut's gun ban.

"This brief is about protecting the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens to bear arms in the defense of themselves and their families," Attorney General Strange said. "I, and other Attorneys General, believe these fundamental rights deserve the highest protection and that Connecticut's gun ban is unconstitutional under principles the Supreme Court has already established."

Alabama was the lead author of the bipartisan brief, joined by Attorneys General representing Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, West Virginia and Wyoming.

Like the brief filed earlier this month against a similar New York law, this brief explains that semiautomatic firearms are commonly owned by law-abiding citizens for lawful purposes. It urges the Second Circuit Court of Appeals to subject Connecticut's categorical ban of certain semiautomatic weapons to heightened scrutiny. The brief argues that, because Connecticut failed to show that banning semiautomatic weapons would increase public safety or decrease gun violence, the ban is unconstitutional.

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