



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

**News Release**

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**Statement of Attorney General Mark Bennett  
regarding the decision of the United States Supreme Court in  
*District of Columbia v. Heller***

"I have reviewed the United States Supreme Court's decision in *District of Columbia v. Heller*. The District of Columbia law that was invalidated in that case differs in significant respects from Hawai'i's gun control laws. The Supreme Court also did not explicitly decide whether or not its ruling applies to state laws, but there is a strong indication that the Court's majority would apply the Second Amendment to the states and state laws. We intend to fully review Hawai'i's gun control laws, but we believe that they are defensible against constitutional challenges. We believe that challenges to Hawai'i's laws are likely, as are challenges to gun control laws throughout the United States. Ultimately, questions as to constitutionality will be settled in the courts."

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