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June 1, 2022

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## Latest News

### **Reminder: SAM.gov Registration Renewal Due in June, July for Many Townships**

Many townships need to renew their [SAM.gov](#) registration, which is required for the American Rescue Plan funding as well as any other federal funding you may receive, such as disaster aid. Renewal must be done each year and through the [SAM.gov](#) website, which is always free. PSATS recommends not waiting until the last minute as SAM.gov accounts are being verified at renewal, which may require additional documentation or action if the township's name is different on another federal account.

To update your township's registration, follow these steps:

1. Navigate to [SAM.gov](#) and sign in using your login.gov credentials.
1. Click the link for "Workspace" in the subheader menu.
1. Click on the "Entities" widget.
1. Select the green number above "Active" to display a list of your active registrations.
1. Locate the entity record you want to update and click the three dots near the expiration date. Select "Update."
1. You will be asked "What would you like to update?" Select update/renew your entire entity registration. Then click "Next."

From this point on, you will navigate through multiple sections to validate your township's information and update sections as needed. You should plan to have the following information on hand: Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN); Commercial

and Government Entity (CAGE); and incorporation date (available on the [Pennsylvania State Archives website](#)).

If you have any questions, concerns, or issues while renewing your SAM registration, please contact the Federal Service Desk at 866-606-8220 or go to [fsd.gov](#).

### **Commonwealth Court Strikes Challenge to Uniform Firearms Act**

In *Crawford v. Commonwealth*, \_\_\_ A.3d \_\_\_, 2022 WL 1681980 (Pa.Cmwlt. May 26, 2022), the Commonwealth Court dismissed a petition for review filed by a number of Philadelphia residents in which they alleged that the General Assembly engaged in unlawful conduct because it failed to revise the Uniform Firearms Act and Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law to permit municipal regulation of firearms.

The residents asserted that the General Assembly should be liable under the state-created danger doctrine, substantive due process, and interference with statutory delegation of powers principles. In a lengthy opinion, the court rejected all of those arguments and stated, “To the extent Petitioners claim that municipalities could enact local laws more effective than the Firearm Preemption Statutes, these matters are reserved to the social policy-making branch of our government, the General Assembly.”

In a concurring opinion, President Judge Renee Cohn Jubelirer referenced Judge Leadbetter’s concurring opinion in a case earlier this year, in which she stated that “local conditions may well justify more severe restrictions than are necessary statewide.” Judge Jubelirer argued that the novel arguments raised here may provide a basis for the Supreme Court to reconsider its prior opinions and allow for local restrictions narrowly tailored to local necessities.

Judge Ellen Ceisler filed a dissenting opinion, in which she stated that “Pennsylvania’s municipalities protect the health, welfare, and safety of their citizens. In my view, protecting citizens against the threat of gun violence lies at the heart of that duty.”

### **Pittsburgh Gun Ordinances Fail as Preempted**

In *Firearm Owners Against Crime v. City of Pittsburgh*, \_\_\_ A.3d \_\_\_, 2022 WL 1698851 (Pa.Cmwlt. May 27, 2022), the court found that ordinances adopted by the City of Pittsburgh regulating the use of assault weapons and large capacity magazines and an “extreme risk” ordinance intended to prohibit certain individuals from possessing or using a firearm, violated the preemption provisions in Section 6120(a) of the Uniform Firearms Act. It held that the UFA “contains a prolific, sweeping, and expansive force of preemption and the cases strongly suggest that an ordinance will be preempted so long as it touches upon or relates to the field of firearm regulation “in any manner.”

### **Today in History....**

On June 1, 1779, the court-martial of Benedict Arnold convened in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. After a relatively clean record in the early days of the American Revolution, Arnold was charged with 13 counts of misbehavior, including misusing government wagons and illegally buying and selling goods. Although his notorious

betrayal was still many months away, Arnold's resentment over this order and the perceived mistreatment by the American Army would fuel his traitorous decision.

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## Learn

PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars; Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety.



### [Duties Of A Zoning Hearing Board - 6/22/22 - Lehigh County](#)

Topics to be covered include procedures for deciding variances and special exceptions, handling hearing-related questions, Ethics Act requirements and much more. Attendees will also learn specific, practical tips that will leave them better prepared for their next meeting or hearing.

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#### **Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors**

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