

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY
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ALVIN L. BRAGG, JR.
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

October 15, 2025

Wenjian Pei
Founder and Chairman
Zhejiang Flashforge 3D technology Co., Ltd.
No.518 Xianyuan Road
Jinhua, Zhejiang 32100, CN

Dear Mr. Pei,

I am writing in my capacity as the Manhattan District Attorney in response to a growing and concerning number of “Ghost Guns” being manufactured using your company’s personal desktop 3D printers that have been seized by the New York City Police Department (NYPD) and my office. Privately made firearms (PMFs), commonly referred to as “Ghost Guns,” are firearms that have been completed, assembled, or produced by a person other than a licensed manufacturer without serial numbers.¹

3D-printed guns are being used to commit violence right here in Manhattan. In 2024, Luigi Mangione allegedly used a 3D-printed ghost gun and silencer to murder Brian Thompson,² making clear these weapons are just as effective and deadly as a traditional firearm. Furthermore, the Office has had many other cases over the past several years where 3D-printers and 3D-printed weapons have been recovered. In 2023, Cliffie Thompson plead guilty in Manhattan Supreme Court for running a sophisticated ghost gun factory in his apartment. A Flashforge printer was used in the printing of the guns and gun parts seized by the NYPD in this case.³

Once created, an individual has acquired a firearm without a background check that is difficult if not impossible to track. While my office, along with the NYPD, works to crack down on the deadly proliferation of Ghost Guns in New York City, your company must do its part. It is

¹ Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Privately Made Firearms (2023), <https://www.atf.gov/firearms/privately-made-firearms>.

² D.A. Bragg Announces Murder Indictment Of Luigi Mangione (2024), <https://manhattanda.org/d-a-bragg-announces-murder-indictment-of-luigi-mangione/>.

³ D.A. Bragg Announces Guilty Plea of Cliffie Thompson For Operating Ghost Gun Factory (2023), <https://manhattanda.org/d-a-bragg-announces-guilty-plea-of-cliffie-thompson-for-operating-ghost-gun-factory/>.
D.A. Bragg Announces Guilty Plea of Cory Davis For Manufacturing Ghost Guns In An Upper East Side Apartment (2023), <https://manhattanda.org/d-a-bragg-announces-guilty-plea-of-cory-davis-for-manufacturing-ghost-guns-in-an-upper-east-side-apartment/>.

imperative that you take swift action to protect your customers and the communities they live in from violence and criminal activity by adopting commonsense security measures to deter the spread of illicit firearms both locally and across the country.

In New York City, the NYPD reported a significant increase in ghost guns seized on the streets from 2020-2025. In 2018, 17 ghost guns were seized; in 2021, this increased to 263 ghost guns; in 2024, the number was 438.⁴ The number of 3D-printed ghost guns continues to increase, and your company's printers are among those seized by law enforcement search warrants in New York City.

After a 2022 de facto federal ban on ghost gun assembly kits, the number of ghost guns recovered at crime scenes began to decrease, but 3D printers provide a growing risk of reversing this trend. The use of 3D printers within the United States has grown rapidly over the past few years as they become more financially accessible and easy to use. 3D printers are a great tool for learning, innovation, and art, but your company currently provides no protection against the creation of illegal weapons.

We have been in contact with a number of 3D printer companies and cloud services this year about this concerning trend, and have been encouraged by some preliminary actions taken by a number of these companies to prohibit the download and printing of gun parts and accessories.⁵ For example, Creality Cloud has updated their user agreement to prohibit the making of gun parts, and will block attempts to upload models containing designs that could be used, or have the potential to be used, for violence or physical harm are strictly prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, fully functional firearms or firearm replicas; gun components or parts used to assemble firearms (e.g., frames, receivers, barrels, slides, triggers, magazines); suppressors, silencers, or weapon enhancement accessories; ammunition or ammunition components; concealed weapons or disguised weapon parts, or templates for untraceable or unregistered firearms.⁶

A separate company, Spanish 3D printing software company Print&GO, has also recently developed "3D GUN'T," a program that checks print jobs against a database of gun blueprints and uses A.I. to attempt to recognize the shapes of common gun parts. When a user opts into this program, it blocks prints of detected firearms.⁷

⁴ Mayor Adams Announces Removal of Over 4,000 Illegal Firearms From New York City Streets Since Beginning of 2025 Alone, as Record Low Shootings Continue (2025), <https://www.nyc.gov/mayors-office/news/2025/09/mayor-adams-announces-removal-of-over-4-000-illegal-firearms-from-streets>

⁵ Digital design firm agrees to block 3D guns, following letter from Manhattan DA, (ABC News), [Digital design firm agrees to block 3D guns, following letter from Manhattan DA - ABC News.](https://abcnews.go.com/US/digital-design-firm-agrees-to-block-3d-guns-following-letter-from-manhattan-da/story?id=12345678)

⁶ Creality statement and new restriction on the uploading of firearms can be found at <https://www.crealitycloud.com/post-detail/68107babf8576ee3f9fa0b6b>.

⁷ *The Ghost Gun Market's Vanishing Act*, (The Trace 2025).

In order to protect your customers and our residents, and to provide additional roadblocks in the acquisition of illicit firearms, I urge that you implement similar security features as a default standard for all users of your product. Additionally, it is paramount that you explicitly ban the creation of illicit weapons in your company's user agreement.

To that end, I respectfully request a meeting with representatives from Flashforge and members of my office. The Manhattan District Attorney's Office is committed to working with you to curb the creation of ghost guns to keep our communities safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alvin L. Bragg, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alvin L. Bragg, Jr.







