



# Press Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Brown Rudnick Provides Pro Bono Representation in U.S. Supreme Court Gun Case D.C. v. Heller**

**Boston, MA, February 7, 2008** – Brown Rudnick, a premier international law firm, today announced that it has filed an amicus brief in the gun case before the U.S. Supreme Court entitled D.C. v. Heller. Brown Rudnick represents James Alan Fox, the Lipman Family Professor of Criminal Justice at Northeastern University, and other criminologists in this matter. Brown Rudnick's pro bono representation is provided through the firm's Center for the Public Interest, the umbrella entity that encompasses pro bono legal work, charitable giving, community involvement and public interest efforts. Albert W. Wallis, Executive Director of Brown Rudnick's Center for the Public Interest, and Nancy B. Reiner, a partner in the firm's Litigation Department, are lead pro bono counsel in this matter.

The brief argues that the Second Amendment does not support the private use of handguns, but even if the Court concludes that it does, the handgun ban should be upheld as an important governmental interest because the ban has helped reduce the number of homicides and incidents of gun-related violence in Washington, D.C. Moreover, the respondent's argument that the crime rate has increased due to the ban is incorrect.

Professor Fox and some of his colleagues will be presenting the criminologists' view in support of the D.C. gun law, arguing:

- 1) D. C. gun law control law is an effective mechanism for reducing handgun violence;
- 2) there is a proven correlation between the availability of handguns and incidents of violence;
- 3) the effectiveness of the gun control law demonstrates its reasonableness;
- 4) the law effectively reduces the supply of handguns in the district; and
- 5) stricter gun control laws in adjacent jurisdictions would make individual gun control laws more effective.

### **About Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP**

Brown Rudnick is an international law firm with offices in the United States and Europe. The firm represents clients from around the world, providing business-focused solutions that address today's ever-changing, ever-demanding competitive marketplace. With an entrepreneurial and collaborative mindset, Brown Rudnick offers a broad slate of capabilities and talents in areas that include: Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring, Complex Litigation,



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The Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest is a measure of the Firm's strong commitment to the community and serves as an umbrella entity encompassing the Firm's pro bono legal work, charitable giving, community involvement and public interest efforts. For more information, please visit [www.brownrudnickcenter.com](http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com).

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