

Pull out your current policy and check the box next to any coverage you can confirm is already in place — anything unchecked is worth a quick conversation with your advisor. Coverage checklist for retail firearms dealers, pawn and consignment dealers, and gunsmiths. Priorities reflect typical exposure for this class; confirm against the store's services and whether it operates a range.

COREPREVALENTSITUATIONAL

— Core: almost always needed · Prevalent: commonly carried by businesses in this class · Situational: depends on specific exposure

COVERAGE	WHY THIS BUSINESS NEEDS IT	PRIORITY
☐ Commercial General Liability (incl. Products)	Covers customer injuries and product claims; confirm firearms and ammunition sales are not excluded.	CORE
☐ Firearms Dealer Liability / Negligent Entrustment	Confirms coverage for suits alleging a sale should not have been made — a key exception to federal PLCAA protection.	CORE
☐ Commercial Property (Inventory)	Covers firearm and ammunition inventory, safes, and fixtures against theft and fire.	CORE
☐ Crime / Employee Dishonesty	Covers theft of firearms or cash by employees.	PREVALENT
☐ Bailee's Customer Coverage	Covers customers' firearms held for gunsmithing, consignment, or transfer.	PREVALENT
☐ Inland Marine / Transit & Gun Shows	Covers firearms at gun shows and in shipment.	SITUATIONAL
☐ Workers' Compensation	Required in most states with employees.	SITUATIONAL
☐ Range Liability	Needed if the store operates a range or rents firearms for use on site.	SITUATIONAL
☐ Umbrella / Excess Liability	Adds limits for severe injury claims.	PREVALENT

COMMON COVERAGE GAP FOR THIS CLASS

The most commonly missed exposure for this class is negligent entrustment. Federal law (PLCAA) blocks most lawsuits over criminal misuse of firearms, but courts allow claims to proceed when a dealer allegedly sold to a straw purchaser or someone clearly unfit. These suits can succeed even without a crime by the dealer, and some general liability policies exclude them. Dealers should confirm their policy covers firearm-sale claims and keep strong compliance records. Theft is the other key exposure: federal law requires reporting any lost or stolen firearm within 48 hours, and inventory losses can be large.

IMPORTANT — PLEASE READ

This checklist is a free educational tool from Cory Washington & Co. to help you review your own coverage and have a more informed conversation with a licensed insurance professional. It is general information only — not insurance, legal, or financial advice, and not a recommendation to buy, change, or cancel any policy. The Core / Prevalent / Situational labels describe general patterns observed for this class of business — what is commonly carried, not a personalized recommendation or needs analysis for your specific operations. Coverage terms, availability, limits, and requirements vary by policy, carrier, and state, and only the language in your actual policy governs what is and isn't covered. Checking or leaving blank any item above does not indicate that you are adequately insured or under-insured. Using this checklist does not create a client, agency, or fiduciary relationship. Always consult a licensed professional about your specific situation.