Dangers of 3D-printed ghost guns

- Lack serial numbers cannot be traced by law enforcement.
- Parts can be obtained online without background checks, which makes it harder for the government to track their movement.
- Parts for 3D-printed ghost guns are usually untraceable.
- More than 2,500 ghost guns with untraceable serial numbers were connected to the commission of a violent crime from 2020 to 2020, according to Everytown for Gun Safety.
- Online purchases of untraceable gun kits and 3D printers have skyrocketed since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The two-step methodology:

Step 1: Assess whether the law burdens the “core” right to what degree.

- The historical test evaluates modern day regulations by asking whether they fall within the guidelines set by past cases. If they do, the law is deemed lawful.
- This method is a better fit:
  - For law enforcement to determine whether a law is in violation of the Second Amendment.
  - For judges to determine whether a law is in violation of the Second Amendment.

Step 2: Assess whether the law burdens the “core” right to what degree.

- The two-step methodology: a two-step methodology that first asks whether a regulated activity falls within the Second Amendment’s protected scope and then determines whether the regulation survives means-end scrutiny. The two-step methodology is the best approach to handling new Second Amendment cases involving new, emerging gun technologies, such as 3D-printed ghost guns.

Why the two-step method is a better fit:

- The historical test evaluates modern gun laws against guidelines set by past cases, which makes it harder for judges to make their decisions.
- By contrast, the two-step approach ensures that a law serves modern public safety needs without infringing on the Second Amendment.

Conclusion:

The two-step methodology is the best approach to handling new Second Amendment cases involving new, emerging technology, such as 3D-printed ghost guns.