Friends, Donors, and Fellow Lovers of Liberty,
I haven't as much exciting news to relay in this update, but am writing because the last update estimated a start-production date in August or September and mid-August is upon us.

Jacket production has been delayed.

We are very happy with the injection molding supplier we've chosen to produce jackets. As discussed in the previous update, the precision and geometry of Dagger jackets lie at the very edge of what may possibly be accomplished with injection molding. Fortunately the manager of the firm is as enthused with mold design and optimization as I am with those of firearms, and so has worked with remarkable diligence to solve many of the endemic challenges, even covering the significant material cost for the prototyping mold. Unfortunately, this **troubleshooting cost more time than expected**, especially as the production capacity shortages have kept such suppliers busy with existing production lines. Early last week saw the last uncertainty resolved and the formal commission of production molds. 12 weeks expected lead time has started to elapse and **we should finally have means of mass-producing jackets in November.** This has been a very long time coming, but in light of the difficulty and anxiety we've had sourcing jackets by any means, we are very happy to have found such a reliable, economical, aesthetically-pleasing solution without trading design performance for manufacturability.

Core production is in optimization.

We received the first small batch of Piggy Popper cores some time ago. These technically met our specifications and could certainly have been utilized for projectiles. However, there were aesthetic defects and the leading points weren't as sharp as we'd like, so the machine shop has been working to polish the process while we wait on jackets. These new samples are still not as sharp or flawless as what may be achieved with the "single point" process we employ for prototyping and your keychain favors, but to eek out that last minute of improvement would demand tremendous cost-per-projectile while the imperfections are indeed likely unnoticeable to anyone but us who have developed the round. **Cores will be ready for production before the jacket mold is finished.**

Speaking of keychains, we still have quite a stock of keychain favors over here, so **please order your favor** if you're due to receive it. If not claimed, they'll eventually be offered to a broader range of donors until there are no more. Reach out to us if you can't find your coupon code or experience any trouble at all.

The assembly machine is capable of production.

The bulk of my work the last few months has been construction of the commercial assembly machine. This has been an enormous undertaking in many ways more complicated than the development of the projectile itself. I feel akin to an author who upon writing an epic novel says, "now I have to design and build a printing press to publish this work lest no one ever read it!" Many parts are still 3D printed, SLA and FDM, and several auxiliary systems are yet to be finished, but the machine is now capable of producing projectiles, albeit slowly and with close

operator support. **If we had jackets, we'd already be in production.** While we wait for jackets, many of the printed components will be replaced with permanent steel tooling and I will finish construction of the machine to run mostly **unattended at a rate of 2000 projectiles per hour**. In the future, a fleet of these machines, configured for multiple variants of multiple calibers will fill our factory floor and provide cash flow to move at lightning pace on the other exciting projects we have planned in individual and DIY armament. I know it's quite difficult for many to see our progress and I suspect non-donors think we're sitting on our hands because they can't see or appreciate all the work spent on this machine and commercial infrastructure, but the design of the commercial assembly machine is the one ace we're keeping to ourselves while we open-source all else so we can't show it off yet. I do, though, look forward to exhibiting the factory when advisable.

Commercial business infrastructure is nearing completion.

The bulk of Michael's work in the last few months has been building all the commercial infrastructure for Atlas Arms Manufacturing. **At the core is a self-hosted, open-source software called Odoo** which seamlessly integrates every aspect imaginable of our online presence and website, accounting, logistics, communications, sales, and supply lines. We're quite impressed with Odoo and heavily recommend it to other business operators. Part of our Odoo integration was the **funding and oversight of a BTCPay module** to enable and facilitate Bitcoin-native business, accepting BTC no differently than credit cards. This isn't just for our own use, but will be available for all Odoo users. As well, all emails pertaining to orders and support are end-to-end encrypted through ProtonMail, and we've left MailChimp in the dust as all our bulk mailing, including this update, will be handled in-house so no one else has access to the address lists.

The system isn't finished yet with some quirks left outstanding, but this will keep the company running smoothly, maintaining efficiency and quality as we begin doing business while leaving our hands available for higher occupation than with the tedious minutiae of less automated inventory-, book-, and schedule-keeping. It has and is taking quite some time to build this, but customers and users will see benefit in increased creative and material quality and productivity. Feel free to **visit atlasarms.com** to check out the unfinished for-profit site. Atlas Arms T-shirts and Dagger-shaped snap caps are already available in limited supply.

The instructive patent has issued.

Many foreign and domestic states prohibit private publication of instructions regarding construction of weapons. Because of this, we may never publish instructions to build Dagger technology for an open audience, so the primary purpose of the patent on the technology is to include all basic and critical specifications in the application which is published by the Federal Government through the USPTO as a matter of course. You may now view the application and included projectile specification as **US11371817B2**. Here is an Espace link: https://worldwide.espacenet.com/patent/search/family/078292716/publication/US11371817B2?q=pn%3DUS11371817B2

Dimensional specifications are in the text beginning in paragraph [0076] of the description and reference the figures. Assembly and loading instruction follows until paragraph [0094]. This **application describes only a non-final revision** of a particular variant of the technology in

9mm and continuation applications (one already filed) will be clearer and more complete in these instructions, but the form presented performs nearly identically to the final revision and the full DIY manual will be released with commercial product. There is an awful lot of patent law garbage in the application, some of which is nonsensical or even objectively incorrect, but that's the artificiality of patent law and processes for you. Take it with a grain of salt besides the instructions.

In the future, I fancy keeping projects in the dark as vague rumors before they're released. No pressure. No debt of promises on which to deliver. Driven by passion for the project rather than anxious discipline to serve a compelling obligation. We could never have accomplished all this without your help, and for that I am always deeply grateful. But to ask for that help, we had to share our vision and promise to fulfill it going on 4 years ago. Such a time frame is certainly reasonable for such a project, but after a while it feels like a lame duck, as if it already happened, old news despite continuing nonexistence. I know some of you have been waiting quite a while for this because we had to tell you about it so early in the process, but we're ever closer, and nobody is more impatient than I. If not enough that it's my own concept, work, identity, and reputation, it's eaten my finances for 4 years while I've yet to pull a cent from it. Now with my first child due in December, the last bit of pressure to carry through and commercialize is ever-present in my mind. I did not know how long this road would stretch before starting toward a destination I wasn't sure actually existed, but it's almost over and I look forward to the metaphorical Sabbath.

Reach out any time by email or through Twitter. Tell us you're a donor to warm our reception.

--Austin Thomas Jones
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