Thomas A. Selmont

Executive | Appraiser | Auctioneer | Expert Witness | Public Official | Military NCO

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Thomas A. Selmont is an executive, entrepreneur, U.S. patent co-inventor, auctioneer, firearms appraiser, insurance professional, expert witness, and public servant with more than 20 years of leadership experience across regulated and collectible assets, insurance, litigation support, regulatory compliance, and public service. He is a Partner of Connecticut Firearms Auction and Good Bottle Auctions, Founder of TSEL Group, LLC, a licensed Federal Firearms Licensee, and an elected Planning and Zoning Commissioner for the Town of Cheshire, Connecticut.

Mr. Selmont is trusted by attorneys, fiduciaries, collectors, insurers, estates, and government stakeholders for objective valuation, compliant disposition, and professional guidance involving historic firearms, National Firearms Act firearms, estate collections, rare whiskey and wine, insurance matters, and other specialized assets.

CAREER SNAPSHOT

His professional profile combines business ownership, technical appraisal expertise, regulated-asset compliance, civic leadership, and public service. He is a partner in two specialized auction firms, the founder of an independent insurance agency, a federal firearms licensee, an experienced expert witness in probate and civil litigation matters, a Connecticut Bar Association presenter, an elected municipal official, a nonprofit board member, a Staff Sergeant in the Second Company Governor's Foot Guard, a former Firefighter II and EMT-Basic, and a named co-inventor of U.S. Patent No. 8,545,904 B1.

CORE AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Firearms Appraisal	**Probate Collections**	**Expert Witness Work**	**Historic Firearms**
NFA Firearms	**ATF Compliance**	**Auction Management**	**Rare Spirits Auctions**
Insurance Risk	**Estate Disposition**	**Public Leadership**	**Professional Education**

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP & PUBLIC SERVICE

Planning and Zoning Commissioner	As an elected official for the Town of Cheshire, Connecticut, Mr. Selmont participates in land use policy, zoning matters, subdivision applications, and long-range community planning. The role reflects public trust, local leadership, and practical experience with municipal decision-making.
Board Member, The Geronimo Foundation	Mr. Selmont serves on the board of The Geronimo Foundation, Inc. in Wallingford, Connecticut, a nonprofit organization focused on veteran recognition, living history, educational programming, and historical preservation. His service supports strategic leadership, community outreach, and preservation of military history.
Staff Sergeant, Second Company Governor's Foot Guard	As a noncommissioned officer in the Second Company Governor's Foot Guard, Mr. Selmont participates in official state ceremonies, military honors, civic events, and historic commemorations while helping preserve one of Connecticut's longstanding military traditions.
Former Firefighter II and EMT-Basic	Mr. Selmont previously served the community through emergency fire suppression, rescue work, and emergency medical services, adding a practical public safety dimension to his broader record of civic service.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Connecticut Firearms Auction, LLC

Partner | Firearms Expert | Auctioneer | Plantsville / Southington, CT | October 2017 - Present

As Partner, Firearms Expert, and Auctioneer, Mr. Selmont helps lead one of New England's specialized firearms auction firms, overseeing appraisal, cataloging, compliance, marketing, and disposition work for approximately 3,000 to 4,000 firearms annually. His responsibilities include detailed historical research, authentication, valuation, and catalog development for firearms spanning from flintlocks and early American arms to modern transferable machine guns and other regulated firearms.

His appraisal work supports probate, bankruptcy, divorce, litigation, insurance, fiduciary, and private collection matters, with assignments ranging from individual firearms to major estates of 500 firearms or more. He has valued individual pieces reaching the high six-figure range and provides executive oversight for federal and state firearms compliance, including ATF requirements, Connecticut State Police matters, municipal compliance, and National Firearms Act transfers and evaluations. He also directs strategic marketing initiatives through social media, email campaigns, print mailers, bidder outreach, consignor development, and auction promotion.

Good Bottle Auctions, LLC

Partner | Auctioneer | Plantsville, CT | 2023 - Present

Mr. Selmont is a Partner and Auctioneer with Good Bottle Auctions, a specialty auction business focused on rare whiskey, wine, and collectible spirits. His work extends his auction and valuation background into another highly regulated collectible asset category, where he supports auction strategy, consignor relations, valuation, catalog development, bidder engagement, marketing, and business growth.

In this role, he advises collectors, estates, and consignors regarding disposition planning, auction preparation, market positioning, and compliant sale of rare bottles and spirits collections. The position complements his broader expertise in the valuation and disposition of specialized property, particularly where collectible markets, regulatory requirements, provenance, and estate considerations intersect.

TSEL Group, LLC

Founder & President | Independent Insurance Broker | Wallingford, CT | July 2010 - Present

As Founder and President of TSEL Group, LLC, Mr. Selmont owns and leads an independent multi-line insurance agency serving central Connecticut, with a particular emphasis on commercial products and complex client needs. He designs, sells, services, and executes insurance policies of varying size and complexity while emphasizing client service, risk management, regulatory compliance, and appropriate product fit.

His executive responsibilities include agency operations, personnel leadership, expense controls, financial reporting, profit and loss analysis, marketing campaigns, sales forecasting, carrier relationships, and ongoing client development. He has also built and maintained professional relationships with business owners, attorneys, advisors, and community leaders through networking and strategic outreach.

CT Gun Broker, LLC

Private Firearms Dealer | Federal Firearms Licensee | Wallingford, CT | November 2015 - Present

Through CT Gun Broker, LLC, Mr. Selmont operates as a licensed firearms dealer specializing in acquisition, transfer, evaluation, and compliant sale of firearms. This work reinforces his practical expertise in regulated transfers, collector markets, compliance procedures, and firearms disposition, and it provides an additional operational foundation for his appraisal and expert witness work.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

Seneco & Associates, Inc.

Independent Associate | Marketing Director | New Haven, CT | October 2007 - July 2010

At Seneco & Associates, Mr. Selmont developed more than $200,000 in new life insurance premium during his first 18 months and provided financial services to clients ranging from middle-class families to demanding high-net-worth clients. His work included estate and retirement planning strategies using life insurance, annuities, deferred compensation plans, deferred benefit plans, and other sophisticated financial products.

He also developed relationships with tax attorneys, CPAs, and other trusted advisors to support advanced client planning strategies, while building marketing approaches designed to attract new clientele. During this period, he deepened his knowledge of trust and tax provisions, estate planning, exit planning, and tax mitigation strategies.

NAMCO, LLC

Director of Services | Manchester, CT | March 2002 - July 2007

Mr. Selmont began at NAMCO at the retail store level in sales and was promoted to Director of Services, reporting directly to the Senior Vice President. He was involved in executive presentations to the Board of Directors regarding current and future departmental plans and developed marketing materials, instruction manuals, policy and procedure guidelines, pricing frameworks, and support networks for new service programs.

He managed a full-service department of 7 to 12 personnel during seasonal operations, including hiring, training, evaluations, compensation recommendations, promotions, separations, and performance oversight. His department introduced new services to nine retail store locations, representing approximately one-fifth of the company, and he balanced and presented a $1.2 million departmental budget to the Board of Directors.

EXPERT WITNESS & LITIGATION SUPPORT

Mr. Selmont is retained as an independent firearms valuation expert and consultant in probate, estate administration, insurance, bankruptcy, divorce, and civil litigation matters. His experience includes appearances, testimony, and expert support in Connecticut Probate Courts, Connecticut Superior Court, and New York probate or estate-related proceedings.

His expert work includes objective appraisal reports and valuation opinions involving individual firearms, regulated firearms, historic arms, and major estate collections. He advises attorneys, fiduciaries, administrators, executors, trustees, insurers, and private clients on valuation, disposition, compliance, market context, and the practical handling of firearms or other regulated collectible assets within legal proceedings.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & CASE APPEARANCES

Connecticut Bar Association Presentation	Presented with Hon. Matthew Jalowiec on "Firearms and Their Appearance in Probate Proceedings," on February 20, 2024. The presentation addresses the practical, legal, valuation, and administrative issues that arise when firearms appear in probate matters.
Probate Court Experience	Mr. Selmont has made numerous appearances and provided testimony in various Probate Courts in Connecticut and New York, including matters requiring valuation, market analysis, compliance understanding, and disposition guidance for firearms or firearms collections.
Estate of John J. Schmalbach	Provided expert testimony for the Estate of John J. Schmalbach, Case No. 24-00044, in Housatonic Probate Court.
Winakor / Peikes v. Sementilli	Served as expert witness for Arlene Winakor, Administrator of the Estate of David Peikes v. Gina Sementilli, Docket No. KNL-CV21-605636-S, New London Superior Court.

SELECTED REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

Representative engagements have included appraising probate firearms collections ranging from single firearms to estates exceeding 500 firearms; providing valuation, disposition guidance, and expert support for historic firearms, collector-grade arms, National Firearms Act firearms, and other regulated assets; and advising attorneys, fiduciaries, insurers, collectors, and consignors on firearms and rare spirits in estate, litigation, insurance, and auction contexts.

These matters often require a combination of appraisal methodology, collector-market knowledge, regulatory awareness, historical research, condition assessment, provenance review, and practical experience with auction disposition. Mr. Selmont's background in insurance, firearms compliance, public service, and auction operations allows him to approach such matters with both technical expertise and practical judgment.

PATENTS & INNOVATION

Co-Inventor - U.S. Patent No. 8,545,904 B1
Mr. Selmont is a named co-inventor of "Topical Composition Containing Carapa (Andiroba) Oil for Psoriasis and Other Related Dermatological Disorders," issued October 1, 2013. The patent lists Tammy Jeanette Morse and Thomas Anthony Selmont as inventors and Liquid Innovators, LLC as assignee.

LICENSES, EDUCATION & TRAINING

Federal Firearms Licensee, Type 01 Dealer	November 2015 - Present
Connecticut Insurance License, All Lines	CT License #02290534 | August 2007 - Present
Yale University	Open Course Study | August 2011 - August 2013
Firefighter II	State of Connecticut | January 2010
EMT-Basic	State of Connecticut | April 2006

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

Mr. Selmont's research interests include American Civil War-era firearms technology, with a focus on carbines and metallic cartridge development; post-Industrial Revolution through pre-1980s firearms design, manufacturing, and distribution; firearms law and regulation in historical, current, and future contexts; and the preservation, valuation, and responsible disposition of historic and regulated collectible assets.

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Professional references are available upon request.