

The Gottlieb-Tartaro Report

THE INSIDERS GUIDE FOR GUN OWNERS

Issue 165

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Dear Subscriber,

Atlanta International Airport wants to ban guns from its unsecured areas - terminals, parking lots, roads and other airport areas - where many states currently allow passengers to carry firearms.

But each of the nation's 450 commercial airports has a detailed written security program that can be changed only with TSA approval. Atlanta's is the first such request to the TSA from an airport.

The issue arose in July after Georgia's legislature passed a law to allow residents with gun licenses to carry firearms onto public transportation, including subways, buses and airports - but not into TSA secured areas.

When city-owned Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport said it would keep its longstanding firearms ban in unsecured areas, GeorgiaCarry.org, a well-respected gun rights advocacy group, sued (more on Page 3).

On July 17, after the lawsuit was filed, Hartsfield officials asked the TSA to amend its airport security program to include a gun ban.

GeorgiaCarry.org discovered that the airport "is trying to create a back door way to ban firearms if their case should fail," according to its website. The group has filed a Freedom of Information Act request with TSA asking for all documents submitted by the airport in its request to change the security plan.

Airport officials and lawmakers nationwide are watching closely. "Any decisions we make that affect Atlanta could affect every other airport in the country," TSA spokesman CHRISTOPHER WHITE said.

"I don't really like the idea of people coming here with weapons and carrying them into terminals, but that's their right as citizens of the state of Texas," said ALAN BLACK, public safety chief at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport.

The congressional gun ban crowd has not gone away. Rabid anti-gun Democrat Representative CAROLYN McCARTHY (NY) has co-sponsored the first significant anti-gun legislation since the U.S. Supreme Court's recent ruling on the District of Columbia v. Heller, (the landmark case that confirmed gun ownership is an individual right rather than a collective right of the states to maintain militias).

McCARTHY's bill would require background checks for all gun store employees and dealers, supposedly using the FBI's NICS database, but would most likely make licensed dealers go through elaborate red tape with the United States Attorney General to certify all employees to transfer firearms to lawful purchasers, even when a dealer goes out of business.

The transparent move has no criminal-control value, but is actually harassment intended to increase the paperwork load on gun dealers, increase their costs, and drive them out of business.

The idea was an outgrowth of Blooming Idiot New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg's Mayors Against Illegal Guns Summit and the Democrat-dominated Congressional Task Force on Illegal Guns, leading McCARTHY to co-sponsor the elaborate and tricky H.R. 6676.

Predictably, Brady Campaign president PAUL HELMKE praised the bill and its co-sponsor, Representative MARK KIRK, anti-gun Republican from Barack Obama's home state of Illinois.

Also in this issue: ● Sarah Palin gets her gun and VP nod ● Fight over guns in unsecured Atlanta airport areas ● Capital Gun Owners new D.C. advocates ● Guns Save Lives features heroes around America ● Pennsylvania anti-gun group fires alleged NRA spy ● Granny get your gun in our Page Eight "Parting Shot"

**AT THE
FEDERAL
LEVEL**

SARAH PALIN: A GOD, GUNS, AND GUTS VEEP CANDIDATE

Presidential candidate Senator John McCain stunned America by selecting God-fearing, gun-toting former beauty queen and present governor of Alaska, Sarah Palin, as his vice-presidential running mate.

Barack Obama's campaign had to do some quick recalibration of its strategy when McCain announced that a lifelong member of the National Rifle Association who hunts, shoots and fishes would stand with him as the Republican Party's candidate for Vice President of the United States.

Within minutes, the Obama campaign sent out a negative news release condemning Palin as inexperienced, with only two years as governor.

But when Obama saw that during her short tenure she broke up the state's old-boy network, passed a huge reform bill, and put the state's checkbook online, he personally called a news conference to politely welcome Palin to the national debate as a woman who put some new cracks in the "glass ceiling" - realizing that some of Hillary Rodham Clinton's votes might jump ship and back this tough babe from Alaska, even if she was a social and fiscal conservative.

**2008
ELECTION**

WANT A HUNTER FOR PRESIDENT?

Some 76 percent of sportsmen say they prefer to elect a president who hunts or fishes, according to a survey by the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation.

When asked who they'd rather hunt with, 49 percent said John McCain while 27 percent said Barack Obama. As for fishing buddies, 44 percent said they prefer McCain; 31 percent Obama.

Sportsmen have a solid history of voting, with 9 in 10 currently registered to vote and of those 83 percent say they will vote in the November election, according to the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation survey. Overall, there are an estimated 40 million sportsmen of voting age in the United States.

DEMS PLATFORM SHOW THEY STILL "DON'T GET IT" ABOUT GUN RIGHTS

The 2008 Democratic Party's draft platform confirms that the party still "doesn't get it" about Second Amendment gun rights versus the Utopian fantasy that gun control laws will somehow make neighborhoods safer, the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms said in a news release.

"While promising to preserve our Second Amendment rights," said CCRKBA. "the party platform demonizes guns and wants them banned with so-called 'common-sense' gun laws. Boiled down, all it really means is that the Democrats are still the party of gun control no matter how they try to re-package the rhetoric."

BRADY CAMPAIGN SAYS JOE BIDEN A GOOD GUN CONTROL RUNNING MATE FOR OBAMA

Giving Barack Obama some foreign policy clout is not all Sen. Joe Biden does for his presidential ticket, says the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence. He's "a straight talker about the need for common sense gun laws."

"Common sense" has become the buzzword for gun control since the Supreme Court ruled against Washington, D.C.'s handgun ban earlier this year.

VULNERABLE DEMOCRATS HOPE TO WIN BY LIFTING D.C.'S NEW GUN LAWS

When the Supreme Court overturned the District of Columbia's handgun ban, D.C. officials enacted strict rules that violate the high court ruling. Democrats facing election challenges in Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Texas and Pennsylvania are co-sponsoring a bill to lift D.C.'s gun restrictions in hopes it will win votes.

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ACTIVIST JUDGE IGNORES GEORGIA STATE LAW IN AIRPORT GUN BAN CASE

Our Page 1 story on GeorgiaCarry.org's lawsuit against Atlanta officials who declared Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport a "gun-free zone" contrary to a new Georgia state law has developed a new twist.

U.S. District Judge Marvin Shoob has ruled that the ban could stay due to firearms posing "a serious threat to public safety and welfare." GeorgiaCarry.org is considering their options at this time and may appeal.

Governor Sonny Perdue argued that the airport qualifies as Mass Transit, specifically denoted as a location where firearms are permitted, but Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin claimed allowing firearms would encourage terrorism.

ON THE LEGAL FRONT

The Transportation Safety Administration is considering its own national ban on loaded firearms in public, non-secure areas of airports, and have even discussed extending that ban to public streets surrounding the airport.

NEW YORK JUDGE RAISES SENTENCES FOR CRIMINALS USING GUNS

Schenectady County Court Judge Karen Drago has toughened her sentencing policy against people accused of firing a weapon in a crime, hoping to send a message about escalating violence in the community, officials said.

Drago has told the Schenectady County District Attorney's Office that she no longer will accept a plea agreement that does not require the person to serve a minimum of 10 years in prison.

The change has forced a rethinking of strategy among attorneys that are tougher on guns than on the criminals who use them.

MILITIA LEADER'S MACHINE GUN CONVICTION UPHELD

Hollis Wayne Fincher, a leader of the Washington County Militia in Arkansas, has no Second Amendment right to possess a machine gun and a sawed-off shotgun, according to an 8th U.S. Circuit Court ruling upholding a lower court conviction.

Justices added that even under a recent ruling overturning Washington D.C.'s outright ban on handguns, the government can regulate certain weapons. "Machine guns fall within the category of dangerous and unusual weapons that the government can prohibit for individual use," according to the ruling.

ALASKA GUN DEALER SUED IN SHOOTING

Rayco Sales gun store in Juneau is being sued by the family of Simone Young Kim, an Anchorage man who was fatally shot with a rifle bought there. Kim's family says Rayco negligently supplied Jason Cody with the rifle even though he was a fugitive and prohibited from buying or possessing guns. The lawsuit was filed by the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence and Juneau attorney Mark Choate.

WYOMING LOSES GUN RIGHTS RESTORATION CASE

A three-judge panel of the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver has ruled against Wyoming in a lawsuit over a state law that allows people convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence to regain their gun rights, because the law fails to expunge the criminal record of people convicted of domestic violence.

The ruling is a victory for the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, which had informed Wyoming that if it persisted in using the state law, the federal government would no longer accept Wyoming concealed weapons permits as a substitute for instant background checks for gun purchases.

BRADY CENTER CROWS OVER WYOMING DECISION

The Brady Center see the 10th Circuit ruling against Wyoming as an indicator of the outcome in the U.S. Supreme Court case United States v. Hayes, which deals with misdemeanor convictions for domestic violence. The Brady Center filed a brief in Hayes opposing a circuit court ruling that could require the names of such misdemeanants be purged from the federal Brady background check system.

MEET CAPITAL GUN OWNERS, D.C.'S NEW GUN RIGHTS GROUP

Amy McVey, the first D.C. resident to register a handgun after the District's 32-year-old ban on handguns was struck down by the Supreme Court in June, is head of **Capital Gun Owners**, a new D.C.-based gun advocacy and education group.

The group includes co-founders George Lyon and Gillian St. Lawrence, two of the six plaintiffs in the initial challenge to the District's handgun ban in 2003, which led to the District of Columbia v. Heller Supreme Court case.

Mrs. McVey said the group's top priorities are lobbying the District to lift its ban on semiautomatic handguns, allow residents to carry handguns outside of the home, streamline or eliminate firearm registration and lobby Congress to allow D.C. residents to buy handguns in Maryland and Virginia.

IN THE STATES

ILLINOIS TOWNS OBEY SUPREME COURT RULING

Following on the heels of the Supreme Court decision ruling that a blanket ban on handguns violated Second Amendment rights, Evanston's City Council voted 7-1 to amend the North Shore suburb's weapons ordinance to conform to the landmark court ruling.

Nearby Morton Grove's landmark handgun ban, imposed 27 years ago, is dead, having died quietly as the Chicago suburb's Village Board bowed to the new legal reality and the high cost of litigation and repealed the ordinance.

Wilmette also repealed its gun ban, and even Chicago's Mayor Richard Daley is thinking about junking his gun ban. Only the Village of Oak Park is holding out.

MARYLAND CITY HEEDLESSLY OKAYS GUN THEFT REPORTING

Gun owners in Baltimore whose firearms are stolen are required to report the theft to police under legislation approved by the City Council despite questions about whether the proposal is legal.

Mayor Sheila Dixon says the bill will help police track stolen weapons used in crimes, but the city's law department has questioned whether Baltimore can legislate gun control, typically a state issue.

Baltimore's law department told the City Council to hold the bill until the Maryland attorney general issues an opinion - but that opinion is not finished.

PHILADELPHIA SETS \$1,900 FINE FOR NOT REPORTING LOST GUN

A new ordinance in Philadelphia intended "to crack down on irresponsible gun owners" imposes a fine up to \$1,900 on anyone failing to report a lost or stolen firearm within 24 hours. Repeat offenders face another steep fine or 90 days in jail.

The strict penalties are part of the Lost or Stolen Firearm Ordinance, one of the three surviving pieces of gun legislation that Mayor Michael Nutter signed into law after a judge blocked two more aggressive laws that would have instituted a one-gun-per-month limit and an assault-weapons ban.

VIRGINIA LAWMAKERS STILL FIGHTING OVER CONCEALED CARRY PRIVACY

State leaders are continuing last year's battle over what, if any, information should be public record about Virginia's concealed carry permits. Newspapers have revealed all of the holders, but many gun rights activists say that shouldn't be allowed. A bill to stop it is now back in subcommittee for another year, with gun activists saying it still needs a lot of work.

SEATTLE MAYOR HOLDING OFF ON GUN BAN

Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels said he would issue an executive order to prohibit guns on all city-owned property after three people were injured in a shooting at Seattle Center's Northwest Folklife festival in May. But he hasn't done it yet.

State Attorney General Rob McKenna is writing a legal opinion on whether state law pre-empts Nickels' executive order, due in September.

Also, the Second Amendment Foundation and the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, will mount a legal challenge to any executive order.

BLOOMBERG ANTI-GUN CRUSADE GETS MORE CROOKED ALL THE TIME

Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick - jailed for violating terms of his bond as he faces trial on ten felony counts - is a prominent member of New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg's anti-gun Mayors Against Illegal Guns coalition.

With Bloomberg's Detroit "soul-mate" looking more like a "cellmate," it's odd somebody doesn't start a coalition of Guns Against Illegal Mayors.

BLOOMING IDIOT WATCH

The irony, said Joe Waldron, Legislative Affairs Director of Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, is that since Kilpatrick is under indictment, he cannot possess a firearm.

Kilpatrick's lawyers are proposing a plea to have him resign, plead guilty to two felonies, make restitution, serve five years' probation, give up his law license, not run for office for two years, and complete 300 hours of community service in exchange for avoiding jail time.

Waldron added, "Bloomberg is lucky he's not facing charges for that vigilante gun shop sting operation he mounted two years ago because it interfered with legitimate federal investigations."

And that's not going so well itself.

BLOOMBERG MONITORING OF STING OPERATION GUN SHOPS RAISES RUCKUS, QUESTIONS

Bloomberg had New York City sue 27 "stung" gun shops in five states in 2006 in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District, claiming each had contributed to street crime by selling to "straw purchasers" who bought guns legally but quickly passed them to disqualified buyers forbidden by law from owning guns.

A few of the stung dealers simply closed, or sold to new owners. Almost all of the rest quickly settled, bargaining to pay no money damages, but have their sales practices supervised for three years by a court-appointed "special master," prominent Manhattan corporate attorney Andrew Weissmann of the firm Jenner & Block.

The court appointed Weissmann personally, not his firm, and did not give him authority to delegate his special master status to anyone else.

Weissmann ended up monitoring some two dozen gun shops from Pennsylvania to South Carolina, telling them as special master how to follow the law.

Weissmann's reports about his gun store visits have been sealed in U.S. District Court in Brooklyn at Mr. Weissmann's request. No reason for the secrecy has been put on the court record. What is Weissmann hiding?

The question became important last month when Jay Fisher, owner of Gallery Distributing, a "stung" gun shop in Mount Penn, Pennsylvania, barred Weissmann - or somebody - from entering his store, shouting, "This is my store, and I tell you what is going to happen," according to a report of the incident filed in federal court in Brooklyn and signed by Weissmann.

But who really tried to get into Fisher's store? Weissmann's signed report makes it look possible that he has, without authority, bestowed the title of "special master" on two law firm associates as well as on a former federal agent he has hired as a consultant.

He wouldn't reply to media requests asking if he personally had confronted Fisher, or whether it was some other person without authority. Did Weissmann get his reports sealed to hide the misuse of his authority as special master?

Last April, Mr. Weissmann told the public he was devoting his time pro bono, but in fact two associates were billing the city \$250 an hour to assist him.

Has any of this harassment of gun shops done the slightest good to curb criminal New Yorkers? The answer is under a court seal. Do we smell corruption?

Jay Wallace, the owner of the "stung" Adventure Outdoors sporting goods store in Smyrna, Georgia, has countersued Bloomberg and other city officials for libel in Georgia, saying they wrongly branded him as a rogue gun dealer. That case is pending.

And Wallace is pleading no-contest in Bloomberg's suit against him, hoping to have New York City overturned on appeal. That's one thing we *will* know about.

SELF-DEFENSE STORIES FROM AROUND AMERICA

California: A man described as a Hispanic male in his 20s tried to rob the Y and M Market in Coachella, California. He shot at the clerk who fired back and hit the robber, who fled in a waiting getaway car driven by a woman. They were not caught, said the Riverside County Sheriff's Department. No one in the store was hurt.

Kansas: A man, his brother, and son were watching television in their Kansas City home when four men burst in with guns drawn. The boy was able to escape and call 911 from a neighbor's home while his father and uncle were held at gunpoint.

The man told police, "These guys had us in there for about 20 minutes. One of them came outside and tried to get in my Escalade. When that guy went outside, my brother jumped up and grabbed the gun from him. I went downstairs and grabbed my gun, and the shootout was on after that."

The man and his brother shot two of the intruders and held a third until police arrived and took them into custody. The fourth fled and has not been caught.

Indiana: Two residents of an Indianapolis apartment on 42nd Street were asleep when, at about 1 a.m., an intruder broke into the rear of the house. One resident armed himself and confronted the intruder, who was also armed. They traded shots, the resident being hit in the head and the intruder in the chest. Their injuries were serious but not life threatening. The other resident was not involved in the gunfire exchanged. Police took the suspect into custody.

Mississippi: A Jackson man went to his car a 5:30 on a Saturday morning and found Mario Lampkin breaking into it. A dispute followed and the car owner shot Lampkin, who ran away and managed to get to nearby Baptist Hospital for treatment. Police believe Lampkin was also involved in two previous auto break-ins before he was shot. He will be charged with auto burglary when released.

Texas: Two men broke into a home on Pecan Villas in southeast Houston and the homeowner heard their noise. He grabbed his gun and shot at the intruders, hitting one, who was taken to the hospital in serious condition. The second suspect was arrested at the scene.

Pennsylvania: The owner of a Philadelphia locksmith store on the 1500 block of Federal Street was accosted by an 18-year-old thug armed with a handgun. The locksmith was also armed and shot the young would-be robber in the head. The thug was listed in critical condition. His gun was found by police at the scene.

Florida: A Pensacola former Navy sailor and his girlfriend were asleep in their home when Rodney Allen Williams burst in demanding money. The former sailor grabbed his gun and fired four times, killing Williams. An unseen accomplice escaped and was seen by neighbors running to a getaway car driven by a woman, now on the run. Police said the two suspects will be charged with felony murder, said Lee Tyree, Escambia County sheriff's Investigator. "Since the result of this crime was death, and they participated in the crime, they will be charged with causing the death because they committed the crime."

Georgia: Two men took their car to a Parker's gasoline station on Savannah's Abercorn and Wilshire about 4:45 a.m., parked it a short distance away and walked toward a friend's apartment when three men in a Buick LaSabre stopped beside them, got out, and attempted to rob them.

The three, Eric "Lil E" Johnson, 22, Jayoun Rasheen Reeder, 26, and aspiring rapper Kareem Omarr Grant, 25, had seen them at the Parker's and targeted them. One of the robbery victims drew his gun and shot Grant in self-defense.

The robbers got back into their car and drove away. Grant was taken to Memorial University Medical Center where he died a week later. No charges were filed against Grant's shooter or friend, whose names were withheld "for their safety."

Pennsylvania: Joshua Eastman, 28, of East Stroudsburg was loading groceries in his car at a Wal-Mart when Reneau Jean Jacques, 17, pointed a handgun at him and demanded that he hand over his money. Jacques shot at Eastman when he produced only a debit card, and Eastman shot back, wounding his attacker in the leg. Police Sgt. James Wielgus said "it was an armed robbery gone badly for the suspect."

**GUNS
SAVE
LIVES**

GUN NEWS TICKER - QUICK TAKES ON THE NEWS

● **Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:** Anti-gun group CeaseFirePA has fired board member Mary McFate after a report in Mother Jones magazine that she was working for the NRA. She had been a member of the gun control group's board of directors for several years. Mother Jones said McFate is actually freelance infiltrator Mary Lou Sapone and that she used her maiden name as an alias when hired by a consulting firm to spy for the NRA. Neither Sapone nor NRA had any comment.

● **Nashville, Tennessee:** Tennessee Titans' wide receiver Brandon Jones will be on probation for the next six months for bringing a loaded .32-caliber handgun in one of his bags to Nashville International Airport in June. Jones said he forgot the firearm was in his bag. He accepted a conditional guilty plea of unlawful possession of a firearm, a misdemeanor. He will have to pay a \$500 fine plus court costs and supervised probation. He will also have to forfeit the gun.

● **Ottawa, Canada:** Newfoundlanders and Labradorians are Canada's most heavily armed citizens, but also its least violent. According to numbers from the Canada Firearms Centre, the province has 70,977 registered firearms. Statistics Canada estimates the population at 508,270. That's one gun for every 7.2 people, the highest ratio of guns to people in Canada. Newfoundlanders also have the lowest rate of firearm-related crime in the country. Private guns stop crime.

● **Boulder, Colorado:** Students for Concealed Carry on Campus plans to ask University of Colorado regents to allow people with handgun permits to carry guns on campus. CU Regent Kyle Hybl said he was not sure if regents would take up the issue. The Colorado Springs chapter of the group argues that gun-free zones on college campuses translate into a ban on self-defense.

● **Wichita Falls, Texas:** The Harrold Independent School District has decided to allow specific employees to carry firearms on school property and at school events. The school district said it will allow the guns to protect students, because board members estimate it would take first responders nearly 30 minutes to get to the school if there was an emergency.

● **Waukegan, Illinois:** Members of the statewide Pro 2 Amendment Resolution movement are asking a Lake County Board committee to sponsor a resolution that would oppose any future gun control legislation. James Stewart, a Waukegan resident and movement supporter, said he believes Lake County should join the 82 other Illinois counties that have passed the resolution. It tells state legislators that local governments "Oppose the enactment of any legislation that would infringe on the right of the people to keep and bear arms." Members of the county board's law and judicial committee expressed reservations about the action.

● **Charleston, West Virginia:** City Council members were surprised to find booklets at their desks asking them to overturn Charleston's handgun laws. The West Virginia Citizens Defense League put them there, said president Jim Mullins, to persuade the council to align its gun laws with the state's. 1993 laws forbid carrying a firearm in City Hall and require a 72-hour waiting period to buy only one handgun per month. Mayor Danny Jones and Council President Tom Lane are hold-overs who drafted and supported those laws, and won't change them.

● **Mishawaka, Indiana:** The Mishawaka City Council voted 5-4 against a weapons ban ordinance to prohibit guns from Mishawaka City Hall, the police station, Battel Center, and Mishawaka Utilities. Mayor Jeff Rea and City Attorney Cory Hamel were the only two people to speak in favor of the ordinance, fearing danger to employees. Resident Len Grimel asked the crowd, "How many people have a license to carry?" Most raised their hands. Grimel told the officials, "You're the most protected city council in the state of Indiana."

● **Orlando, Florida:** Walt Disney World has narrowed its employee gun ban to the actual Disney World property only, lifting the ban from 5,700 workers in its many facilities beyond the actual resort. It got the blessing of Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum, who said Disney's "special exemption" to a new state law only applied only to the resort where Disney has its federal fireworks permit.

Parting Shot

A 'WHAT IF?' TALE OF TWO CITIES

Leda Smith, an 85-year-old resident of Springhill Township, about 45 miles south of Pittsburgh, busted a would-be burglar by pulling a gun on him, then forcing him to call 911 while she kept him in her sights, police said.

"I just walked right on past him to the bedroom and got my gun," said Smith.

Smith heard the 17-year-old burglar break into her home about 3 p.m. one recent Sunday.

She grabbed a .22-caliber revolver she began keeping by her bed when a neighbor's home was burglarized a few weeks ago.

"I said, 'What are you doing in my house?' He just kept saying he didn't do it," Smith told police.

After the burglar called 911, Smith held him at bay until the Pennsylvania state police arrived.

The thug will be charged with attempted burglary and related offenses in Fayette County Juvenile Court, Trooper Christian Lieberum said.

The criminal was not identified because of his age.

"It was exciting," Smith said, who hoped the incident stops burglaries in her neighborhood. "I just hope I broke up the ring because they have been hitting a lot of places around here."

Now, zip back with us less than 24 hours earlier and more than 2,000 miles away. It's Saturday in Santa Ana, county seat of Orange County, California.

More than 2.8 million people live in this county (home to Disneyland), bunched up with urban giant Los Angeles and Long Beach, 13 million people in all.

The telephone system has just been changed by the introduction of a new 657 area code assigned to the region.

Suddenly that Saturday, the Orange County 911 emergency call system was hit by an outage that shut it down, said Sheriff's Lt. Ted Boyne.

Now let's play "what if" with this 911 failure.

What if now Leda Smith is an 85-year-old resident of high crime Santa Ana with no 911, instead of rural Springhill Township, Pennsylvania, with an inept burglar?

What if the 17-year-old thug is a typical Southern California gang member?

Do you think he'd obey this granny with a gun and keep dialing for the 90 minutes it took AT&T to fix 911?

In this "what if," we think Leda Smith would have had to test the fire power of her .22 revolver.

In an outage, which would you rely on, 911 or granny's gun?

Alan M. Gottlieb

Joseph D. Tartaro

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