

The Gottlieb-Tartaro Report

THE INSIDERS GUIDE FOR GUN OWNERS

Issue 169

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Dear Subscriber,

Great news for gun owners who are **active in the outdoors**: the Interior Department has amended its rules and **will henceforth allow licensed concealed carry in national parks**. The move was hailed as a victory for the Second Amendment by the Bellevue, Washington-based Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms (CCRKBA).

A news release by CCRKBA said, **"No longer will American citizens be required to leave their right of self-defense at the gates of a national park."**

National parks have become such favorite targets for thieves and muggers to victimize the unwary who "feel safe" in government-owned scenic areas that park rangers increasingly carry sidearms.

Under the rule change, **individuals may carry concealed handguns in national parks and wildlife refuges only if they are licensed to carry under the laws of the state in which the park or refuge is located**. This new rule *does not allow the illegal carrying of any firearm*, nor will it allow hunting, target practice or poaching.

CCRKBA added, **"This common-sense change in regulations reflects not only changes in the laws of 48 states, but more importantly the Supreme Court's ruling in June that upheld the individual right to keep and bear arms that is protected by the Second Amendment."**

Predictably, **the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence** sharply criticized the Bush Administration's decision, calling it "a last minute change" - *it's been in the works more than a year* - and claiming it will "endanger park users and threaten our natural resource crown jewels." **They won't admit that criminals in national parks are the only ones threatened by the decision.**

But park service officials in Alaska aren't particularly concerned. "We've had guns in the ANILCA parks since 1980 with no real troubles," noted Alaska region spokesman JOHN QUINLEY. The legislation creating the **Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act**, or ANILCA, parks has always allowed for private guns.

On another front, **a coalition is forming against BARACK OBAMA's nomination of ERIC HOLDER to be the United States Attorney General**. Sen. Arlen Specter (R-PA), the Ranking Member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, **has serious doubts about HOLDER's qualifications** for a number of reasons, including gun rights.

Gun rights activists are organizing against HOLDER, including KIM STOLFER of Firearms Owners Against Crime, JIM TOMES of Second Amendment Patriots, DANIEL WHITE of Ohioans for Concealed Carry, and PHILIP VAN CLEAVE of the Virginia Citizens Defense League.

JEFF KNOX, SHOTGUN NEWS COLUMNIST, says the nomination **"demands an immediate and unequivocal response from gunowners and rights advocates and that response should be 'Absolutely Not!'"**

KNOX stresses that Holder's appointment to be AG must be approved by the Senate. While he knows it is highly unlikely that opponents could muster the 51 votes needed to reject Holder's appointment, he points out that a single Senator like Specter can place a "hold" on the confirmation and lock up the system just as Democrats did with a number of President Bush's judicial appointments.

Also in this issue: ● Gun ownership is growing Australia ● Los Angeles passes new gun control ordinance ● Libel case against Bloomberg stays in Georgia court ● Florida store owner shoots robber ● Mike Ditka mouths off about NFL players who own guns ● Three days in Mumbai, a gun-free zone in our Page 8 "Parting Shot"

**ON THE
FEDERAL
LEVEL**

AUSTRALIA: GUN OWNERSHIP INCREASES WITH BETTER LAWS

The Australian State of New South Wales (NSW) reports that gun ownership is booming, with 40,000 new firearms registered in the past four years.

The rise began when the State Government and the Shooters Party reached agreement to improve overzealous gun laws introduced in the wake of the 1996 Port Arthur shootings by 28-year-old Martin Bryant, who killed 36 people. Many of those people died because a service station attendant with a rifle could not get to his ammunition, since it was locked elsewhere in obedience to Australia's irrational law, and thus couldn't stop the killer. Fortunately, reason has returned.

Figures from the NSW Firearm Registry show gun ownership has risen at the rate of 10,000 a year since 2004 to 687,138 in October 2008.

AROUND THE WORLD

GUATEMALAN POLICE ARE MISSING 2,000 FIREARMS

More than 2,000 firearms are missing from the armories of Guatemala's National Civilian Police (PNC), the force's director says. Marlene Blanco said that among the unaccounted-for weapons are AK-47 assault rifles and Uzi submachine guns, acknowledging that some of the missing police arms have been used to commit crimes.

Blanco also said that she knew of at least one judge who was carrying a police-issue Uzi for personal protection. With 18,534 officers, the PNC is hard-pressed to maintain even a minimal level of public safety in the Central American country, where murders are running at an average of 17 per day.

U.S. AND MEXICO BICKER OVER "ASSAULT RIFLE" BAN

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Mexican Foreign Secretary Patricia Espinosa got into a squabble over the expired "assault weapon" ban during a recent news conference. Espinosa said the ban's expiration had escalated Mexico's drug-fueled violence that has killed more than 5,400 people this year.

Rice said the expired ban had no bearing on Mexico's violence. "I follow arms trafficking across the world, and I've never known illegal arms traffickers who cared very much about the law," Rice said. "And the overriding challenge is to stem the relentless flood of illegal narcotics to American users."

Gun rights groups suspect that President-elect Barack Obama may try to revive the ban on some automatic weapons. His transition team listed "making the expired federal assault weapons ban permanent" as a goal of the incoming administration.

KNIFE CONTROL ISN'T WORKING IN GREAT BRITAIN

Fatal stabbings have reached a record level in England and Wales this year, with five people a week being killed with a knife or sharp instrument. The surge in fatalities comes despite a drive by the Government and police to reduce attacks involving knives.

In London alone the number of knife fatalities in 2008 grew by one quarter to 86, with 277 fatal stabbings overall in England and Wales combined.

James Brokenshire, a Conservative home affairs spokesman, said, "Combating knife crime requires concerted action in the long and short term, not just spin. As well as deploying our police on to the streets we would introduce an automatic presumption of jail for knife possession. This may be harsh but it is absolutely necessary." So knife control clamps down in Great Britain.

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LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL PASSES ANTI-GUN LAW

The Los Angeles City Council unanimously approved six anti-gun ordinances, including 1) landlords may evict tenants illegally possessing guns; 2) sale of .50-caliber ammunition is banned; 3) ammunition vendors must be licensed and all ammunition sales in the city of Los Angeles must be face-to-face transactions and recorded; vehicles used by gang members while committing a crime may be seized; secret compartments in vehicles to hide firearms are banned; gun dealers must conduct and report inventories to the Los Angeles Police Department.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IS AT IT AGAIN

The D.C. Council has given preliminary approval to rules that would require gunowners to renew their registrations every three years and notify police every year whether they still own guns - a move to evade the U.S. Supreme Court's *Heller* decision overturning D.C.'s handgun ban.

IN THE STATES

Such niggling restrictions strike Alan Gura, the lawyer who successfully argued *Heller* before the Court, as open to legal challenge. The Second Amendment Foundation supported Gura's legal efforts, and agrees that requiring repeated registration will bring the city more legal problems. "None of this is going to reduce crime, but it is going to increase litigation," said Gura.

CHICAGO GUN BAN CASE APPEALED

Attorneys representing the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) and the Illinois State Rifle Association (ISRA), and four Chicago residents, filed a lawsuit in federal district court in Chicago to overturn that city's decades-old handgun ban. U.S. District Judge Milton Shadur concluded that the Supreme Court's *Heller* decision overturning the District of Columbia's handgun ban did not give him the authority to extend the D.C. ruling to Chicago and Oak Park. SAF and ISRA immediately appealed to the U.S. Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

NEW JERSEY PANEL VOTES TO LIMIT GUN SALES TO 13 A YEAR

The New Jersey state Senate Law and Public Safety and Veterans' Affairs Committee has approved a bill to limit gun buyers to 13 per year by a 3-2 vote. It now goes the full Senate. The Assembly approved a companion measure June 23 by a 47-28 vote with four abstentions. Ted Deeds, chief operating officer of the Law Enforcement Alliance of America opposed the bill.

LAWMAKER WANTS TO REPEAL OKLAHOMA GUN TAX

Rep. Eric Proctor, D-Tulsa is set to file legislation to repeal the sales tax on the purchase of guns or ammunition in Oklahoma. The measure, by Proctor and state Sen. Kenneth Corn, D-Howe, will not affect any dedicated revenue stream for wildlife or other programs.

"People shouldn't have to pay a tax to the government if they need a gun in the home for self-protection," Proctor said. "No matter what, the responsibility to protect your family is greater than the state's need to generate taxes."

PITTSBURGH CITY COUNCIL PASSES ANTI-GUN BILL

A bill that would require gun owners to report lost or stolen guns was approved by Pittsburgh City Council on a vote of 6-1. But the debate in council chambers was over whether the bill has any teeth to it - as well as arguments that the state's preemption law may limit the city's power.

SEATTLE MAYOR CHICKENS OUT, HIDES FROM HEARING ON HIS GUN BAN

When a cross-section of firearms owners - gays, straights, men and women, including one self-described feminist Democrat party activist - gathered at Seattle City Hall to oppose Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels' gun ban scheme, the mayor was nowhere in sight to defend his plan. It's the kind of crowd he says he loves, but not when it's gun owners outraged at his plan to ban their guns on city property.

JUDGE PASSES THE BUCK ON CHICAGO'S HANDGUN BAN

When U.S. District Judge Milton Shadur rejected the lawsuit of the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) and the Illinois State Rifle Association (ISRA) to overturn Chicago's handgun ban, the media touted it as a victory for Mayor Richard Daley's anti-gun politics.

What really happened is that Judge Shadur ruled himself incompetent to decide the case. He wrote in his decision, "This court should not be misunderstood as either rejecting or endorsing the logic of plaintiff's argument. It may well carry the day before a court that is unconstrained by the obligation to follow the unreversed precedent of a court that occupies a higher position in the judicial firmament." He expected to be overturned upon appeal, which SAF and ISRA have filed in federal appeals court. (See related story on Page 3.)

**ON THE
LEGAL FRONT**

BLOOMBERG LOSES: GUN LIBEL SUIT GOES BACK TO STATE COURT

The federal appeals court in Atlanta has ordered the lawsuit of Adventure Outdoor Sports claiming New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg libeled it by calling it a "rogue gun dealer" to be returned to the state court where it originated. Bloomberg wanted it in federal court, knowing he will lose a Georgia Superior Court jury trial with the gun store represented by former U.S. Rep. Bob Barr.

BRADY GROUP SUES TO PREVENT SELF-DEFENSE IN NATIONAL PARKS

The Brady Campaign has sued the Interior Department and its secretary, Dirk Kempthorne, as well as the leaders of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service in U.S. District Court. They want a federal judge to issue an immediate injunction stopping the new rule that allows concealed carry in some of the increasingly crime-ridden national parks. The group threatened to stay away from national parks if they lose. It was not clear whether they ever visited anyway.

JUDGE UPHOLDS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE GUN BAN

U.S. District Judge Lynn Adelman has ruled in the case of Kenneth Luedtke that the federal statute making it a crime for a person subject to a misdemeanor domestic violence injunction to possess a firearm does not violate the right to bear arms. Adelman distinguished the ban from the Washington D.C. gun control law, struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in D.C. v. Heller, which allowed prohibitions on the possession of firearms by felons and the mentally ill. "Nothing in Heller suggests that Congress may not – based on further experience and study – close such loopholes, adding to the list of dangerous individuals historically barred from firearm possession," Adelman wrote. That will spur further debate.

PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY'S GUN POLICY MAY BE UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Delaware County, Pennsylvania has been sued in federal court by C. Scott Shields, a gun-rights attorney, claiming that its policy of refusing to return confiscated firearms unless the owners obtain a court order is unconstitutional. The plaintiff, Thomas DeOrio, 21, of Glen Mills, argued that the county government, judges and Sheriff's Department illegally retained his confiscated guns - even though a protection-from-abuse order requested by his girlfriend was denied.

He committed no crime, but must sue to get his guns back. His suit claims such a requirement unconstitutionally denies his Second Amendment rights.

NORFOLK PAYS \$15,000 TO SETTLE GUN ARREST CASE

A Yorktown gun-rights advocate who sued the city of Norfolk, Virginia after his arrest at Town Point Park for openly carrying a handgun will receive a \$15,000 payout to settle the federal lawsuit.

Chester "Chet" Szymecki Jr. sued the city after his arrest in June 2007 on a charge of violating a city ordinance prohibiting firearms at Harborfest, a local festival. The city later learned that the ordinance is unenforceable because state law prohibits localities from regulating firearms.

MISSOURI CASE BOLSTERS SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS

Mississippi County, Missouri Circuit Court Judge W. H. Winchester has ruled that the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article 1 Section 21 of the Missouri Constitution grants all citizens the right to possess and bear arms in defense of his home, person and property, and shall not be infringed - even if the gun owner is legally intoxicated in the confines of his own home.

The ruling struck down a Missouri law as unconstitutional for banning the right to possess a gun by a legally intoxicated person in his own home. The ruling dismissed a charge against defendant Micah Rains.

ON THE LEGAL FRONT

UTAH POLICE BRUTALITY CASE HAS UNEXPECTED BENEFIT

When Salt Lake City police responded to Liberty Park on a report of a man with a gun, an officer saw Miles Lund standing at a pond's edge, facing away from him, and feeding the ducks. The officer ordered Lund to put both hands on top of his head. Lund explained that he was disabled, and put his left hand on his head, moving the right up as far as he was able. The cop brutally shoved him to the ground, handcuffed his hands behind him, and threw him into a rock so hard that Lund required brain surgery. But Lund was totally unarmed. It was the wrong guy.

Lund sued and won, and the court wrote, "By itself, mere possession of a firearm in public is not unlawful and may well represent the exercise of a fundamental constitutional right guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article I, § 6 of the Utah Constitution."

COLLEGE STUDENT GROUP WANTS CONCEALED CARRY ON CAMPUS

Students for Concealed Carry on Campus have filed a lawsuit asking the court to strike down the University of Colorado's concealed carry ban. Represented by Mountain States Legal Foundation, the group argues that gun-free zones on college campuses translate into a ban on self-defense. Members want the university to improve gun rules and allow those with handgun permits to carry on campus.

FEDERAL APPEALS COURT UPHOLDS LONGER SENTENCE FOR GUN SMUGGLER

The United States Court of Appeals in New York has upheld the sentence imposed by a federal judge for a weapons conviction although it was stiffer than the guidelines recommended because it was in a big city rather than a rural area.

Defendant Gerard Cavera pled guilty in the U.S. District Court in Brooklyn in 2005 to conspiracy to deal in and transport firearms and was sentenced to two years in prison and a \$60,000 fine. Guidelines call for 12 to 18 months in prison and a fine up to \$5,000. The appeals court upheld Sifton's rationale that, since deterrence was the goal, he could consider deterrence in a particular location like a big city, since more people could be harmed there.

HELLER DOESN'T INVALIDATE GUN LAWS, SAYS APPEALS COURT

The U.S. Supreme Court's June decision clarifying the right to bear arms did not invalidate state laws against carrying a concealed weapon or a loaded firearm in a public place, or those prohibiting possession of firearms by felons, Justice Joan Irion of the Fourth District Court of Appeal has ruled.

In the case of *People v. Flores*, noting that the *Heller* court emphasized that Second Amendment rights are not unlimited, and *Heller* could not be read to undermine the constitutionality of prohibitions on firearms possession by felons, or those convicted of misdemeanors.

U.S. ATTORNEYS CAN'T PROVE A GUN IS A GUN

In a weird Nebraska case, federal prosecutors couldn't prove a gun possession charge against Lawrence Ray Cook because they couldn't prove his double-action revolver was a gun - the federal code states it's only a firearm if manufactured after 1896, and they couldn't prove that. So they convicted him on possession of ammunition. He was already a convicted felon for burglary, forgery and more.

ARMED SELF-DEFENSE COMES OF AGE

A few years ago, the media were reluctant to report incidents of people using guns to defend their lives and property against criminals. Nowadays there are so many reports that we can actually get a real picture of self-defense in America.

OGDEN, UTAH: Two men tried to break in into a home on the 200 block of 29th Street, kicking in the door. The homeowner was inside with his family, Ogden Police Lt. Scott Sangberg said "He went to the door with his 9 mm handgun. The burglars realized that the place wasn't vacant and started to leave. As they were leaving, one of the thugs fired a gun at the homeowner and the owner shot back." Police recognized the green Dodge Intrepid they fled in from an attempted burglary case they dealt with the week before and went to the suspect's home, where he was arrested.

GUNS SAVE LIVES

PEMBROKE PINES, FLORIDA: Shedahe ``Roman`` Abdel saw two men rush into his Pembroke Pines Stop-N-Go and order him to open the register, and then the safe. With 18-year-old Yacov Sims forcing two customers and two employees to the floor at gunpoint and 20-year-old Joshua Hammond standing behind him, Abdel did what he was told. With a revolver in his face, he was shoved, so Abdel pulled his .45 out of his waistband and shot Sims in the arm and Hammond in the leg. Both thugs were charged with one count of armed robbery.

FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS: A woman driving on Interstate 40 was flagged down by two men in a black Toyota Camry with Oklahoma plates signalling that she was getting a flat tire. She stopped and got out, then the men tried to rob her at knifepoint. She pulled out her handgun and pointed it at the robbers, who got back in their car and fled. Police were keeping details secret while tracing the men.

COLUMBUS, OHIO: A homeowner returned home off of Reese Road when he found 52-year-old Ludwig Grudisher burglarizing his home and trying to escape in his waiting car. The homeowner feared for his life, pulled his own gun and shot Grudisher in the face, killing him instantly. Police regard it as self-defense.

MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA: 22-year-old Lamont Lee Reed Durrell and another man broke into a home on Burcale Road and assaulted the homeowner, who shot Durrell dead and the other suspect fled. Police say the suspect has not been apprehended and the homeowner will not be charged. The dead man was inside the resident's home.

CHANDLER, ARIZONA: Two men entered the Christopher Diamond Jewelry store, and told the owner that they were robbing the store. When the owner pulled a gun, the robber shot him in the face, police said. The owner shot back, wounding one robber, who was able to flee with the second robber in a stolen pickup truck. The wounded thug collapsed at an intersection and the other one ran. Police took the wounded robber to a hospital where he died. The other suspect was captured and faces robbery charges. The store owner is expected to survive.

IRVINE, KENTUCKY: Police officer Brian Brooks responded to a call at Priceless Foods, 1012 Winchester Road, where he found a man, armed with a small-caliber revolver, slumped over the cash register. The man, in his 20s, then fell to the floor. A security guard had shot the man with a .357 Magnum, Brooks said. The wounded man was taken to University of Kentucky Hospital for treatment.

DOTHAN, ALABAMA: Police Lt. Anthony Westberry said a homeowner is reported to have opened fire on a suspect he found trying to rob his gun cabinet. The homeowner entered his house on Decatur Street and found the suspect trying to steal weapons. Westberry said initial police reports indicate the homeowner shot at the burglar and chased him from the residence."

STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK: Retired NYPD Officer Carmine Longo, 45, pulled a gun when he discovered a thief trying to rob his Rossville home. The thief, identified as Richard Licione, was shot as he and the ex-cop struggled for Longo's .38-caliber revolver. The wounded thief bolted from the house and tried to escape in a Ford Windstar with Longo on his heels. Longo, who retired after 20 years with the NYPD, was struck by the minivan, and taken to Staten Island University Hospital. Licione was in stable condition at Richmond University Medical Center.

GUN NEWS TICKER - QUICK TAKES ON THE NEWS

● **St. Louis, Missouri:** City Alderman Quincy Troupe calls on residents to carry handguns for safety. The alderman is pleading with constituents to get guns of their own – and learn how to use them. Troupe, who represents a swatch of north St. Louis, is encouraging residents to apply for concealed weapons permits so they can start carrying a firearm.

● **Austin, Texas:** Matthew Rogers started Texas A&M's chapter of Students for Concealed Carry on Campus. Texas allows concealed carry most places, but not college campuses. "All we're asking is that you allow us to make that choice. If I can legally carry somewhere else, allow me to make the decision whether or not I want to carry here on campus," said Rogers. At least one person in the Texas Legislature agrees. State Senator Jeff Wentworth of San Antonio, an Aggie himself, has promised to propose a bill that would allow those with a permit to pack heat on campus.

● **New York City:** Raving anti-gun Mayor Michael Bloomberg has demanded that prosecutors throw the book at Giants star Plaxico Burress for bringing a loaded handgun into a crowded midtown nightclub and accidentally shooting himself in the leg. It's true Burress had no New York City gun license, but he did have one in Florida. But now Burress faces three and a half years in prison for carrying an unlicensed gun in Fortress Bloomberg. It's just another Blooming Idiot grandstand play to show how tough he is on crime and why New Yorkers should vote him into a third term as mayor.

● **Baker City, Oregon:** More Oregonians got concealed weapons permits in 2008 than in any year since tallies began in 2000. The Oregon State Police say sheriffs reported 115,600 permits for the first 11 months of 2008, with estimates of another 10,000 expected when December is counted. The total for 2007 was 97,227 permits, the highest previous annual number. To obtain a concealed weapons permit, a person must complete a current handgun safety course or show proof of completing police or military handgun safety training. Fingerprints, a criminal records check and letters from two references are also needed.

● **Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania:** About one in 20 people in Allegheny County has a permit to carry a concealed firearm, state police records show. With 60,000 licensed gun owners, the county has more than any county in the state. Statewide, more than 800,000 people can carry a concealed weapon. State law doesn't guarantee license holders the right to privacy, but Allegheny County Sheriff William Mullen said he will not release their names.

● **Lincoln, Nebraska:** Randolph Elementary School parents and guardians got messages about a 10-year-old boy who showed off a broken BB gun on his way home from school. According to police, the boy showed the gun to three other students. The students told their parents, who reported the incident to the school. School officials then told police. Capt. Jim Davidsaver, said officers contacted the boy at his home, recovered the BB gun, cited him for disturbing the peace and referred him to the Lancaster County Attorney's Office. According to an e-mail sent to parents, the school has taken disciplinary action.

● **Jacksonville, Florida:** more than a half million people in Florida have a concealed weapons permit. That's a 50% jump from three years ago, according to the Department of Agriculture. More than 23,000 of those people are in Jacksonville. Two local businessmen rallied their friends, and got all of their permits together. A newspaper reporter, wrote, "Just because you have a license to carry a weapon, doesn't mean you have a license to use it. The law states they can only be used in self defense."

● **Chicago, Illinois:** Mike Ditka, former Chicago Bears coach, took the Plaxico Burress shoot-yourself-in-the-leg misadventure as a invitation to shoot off his mouth: "I don't understand the league, why can anybody have a gun? I will have a policy, no guns, any NFL players we find out, period, you're suspended." Don't worry, he has no such power. Just a big mouth. And a DWI conviction. And a...

Parting Shot

THREE DAYS IN MUMBAI, A GUN-FREE ZONE

India has some of the world's strictest anti-gun laws, and they work: a handful of gunmen who ignored those laws left some 500 people killed or wounded.

These strict laws were intended to keep people powerless. They go back to the Indian Arms Act of 1878 and were intended to keep the Indians - the Queen's subjects - without power. It worked then, it works now.

Mumbai police were totally incapable of dealing with ten men with a lot of guns and ammunition, all "prohibited weapons" under the law. No citizen could shoot back and rid the world of a little gaggle of murderous terrorists.

The "protection" in the Chhatrapati Shivaji railway stations - where the attackers first came - was bamboo sticks called lathis.

The "protection" at the Oberoi Trident and the Taj Mahal Palace & Tower hotels was metal detectors, but no guns because Indian gun laws made it difficult to arm security guards.

The "protection" at the Leopold Cafe, Cama Hospital, the Orthodox Jewish-owned Nariman House, and the Metro Cinema - was *nothing at all*.

The result was 173 dead and 302 injured.

It took three days and India's military security forces to kill nine of the ten terrorists and end the bloodbath.

Ajmal Amir Kasab, the only terrorist who was captured alive, disclosed that the attackers were members of Lashkar-e-Toiba, the Pakistan-based militant organization, considered terrorists by India, the United States, and the United Kingdom, among others.

Students for Conceal and Carry on Campus at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota held a forum just before the Mumbai attacks to confront and dispel local misconceptions about gun control and the benefits of concealed carry rights.

One of the myths these students dispelled was the idea that gun-free zones will make people safer. The only people it makes safe are criminals who ignore the signs and march in with guns anyway.

The Students are right. As we saw in Mumbai, gun-free zones are an invitation to armed terrorists to come in and kill everybody because nobody can shoot back.

A noted Indian pacifist said it best: "Among the many misdeeds of British rule in India, history will look upon the act depriving a whole nation of arms as the blackest."

His name was Mahatma Gandhi.

History is looking, and those gun control laws are blacker than ever.

Alan M. Gottlieb

Joseph D. Tartaro

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