

POINT BLANK

**STRAIGHT TALK
ABOUT WHAT YOU
CAN DO TO
PRESERVE YOUR
RIGHT TO KEEP AND
BEAR ARMS**



**February
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CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS

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CCRKBA URGES SUPPORT FOR STEARNS' CCW BILL

When Rep. Cliff Stearns of Florida on the very first day of the 110th Congress introduced a bill to provide a national standard in accordance with which nonresidents of a State may carry concealed firearms in the State, CCRKBA immediately endorsed it and urged law-abiding American gun owners and organizations to do the same.

John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said that the bill, H.R. 226, "would allow an individual who possesses a valid permit to carry concealed in his home state to carry in all 50 States. As Congressman Stearns himself noted last month, '38 states, accounting for two-thirds of the United States population, have right to carry laws.'

"This is one of the most popular domestic legislative initiatives developed in recent years. Jurisdictions which have enacted laws allowing qualified citizens to carry concealed handguns have experienced dramatic decreases in rates of violent crime. Scholarly studies, such as those described by John Lott in his book *More Guns Less Crime*, clearly demonstrate this."

Snyder also stated that, "the new Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. John Conyers of Michigan, the committee to which H.R. 226 was referred, is an outspoken opponent of the rights of America's tens of millions of law-abiding gun owners. Therefore, we make a special appeal to CCRKBA Members and Supporters and, indeed, to all law-abiding American gun owners, urging them to contact their own U.S. Representative and request that that Representative become a cosponsor of H.R. 226."

Specifically, H.R. 226 would provide that a law-abiding citizen who is carrying a valid license or permit which is issued by a State and which permits the person to carry a concealed firearm, other than a machinegun or destructive device, may carry in another State a concealed firearm, other than a machinegun or destructive device, that has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.

Under the proposal, if such other State issues licenses or permits to carry concealed firearms, the person may carry a concealed firearm in the State under the same restrictions which apply in the carrying of a concealed firearm by a person to whom the State has issued such a license or permit.

If such other State does not issue licenses or permits to carry concealed firearms, the person may not, in the State, carry a firearm in a police station, in a public detention facility, in a courthouse, in a public polling place, at a meeting of a State, county or municipal governing body, in a school, at a professional or school athletic event not related to firearms, in a portion of an establishment licensed by the State to dispense alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises, or inside the sterile or passenger area of an airport, except to the extent expressly permitted by State law.

CCRKBA BLASTS ATTACK ON AMERICAN GUN SHOWS

The gun grabbers are still at it!

Realizing they can not as yet succeed in a frontal assault on the gun rights of law-abiding American citizens, the enemies of our freedom have devised what they hope is a "divide and conquer" strategy.

Following this long range plan of attack, they hope to isolate various elements of the American gun control movement, and pick off those elements one-by-one.

As part of this strategy, they are attacking one of the traditional elements of the gun control movement by targeting what they have misnamed the "gun show loophole."

The gun grabbers are plotting to set up so many restrictions for background checking and report filing in connection with the numerous gun shows as to undermine or eliminate most or all of them.

CCRKBA has been and will continue to fight tooth and nail against this attack on our freedoms, but we need your help to succeed, and ask you, our readers, to continue your generous support of our efforts.

The latest anti-American gun show monstrosity to be introduced is H.R. 96, the proposed Gun Show Loophole Closing Act of 2007.

Anti-gun Rep. Michael Castle of Delaware introduced this measure on the very first day of the 110th Congress, the same day on which anti-gun Rep. Nancy Pelosi was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives. Anti-gun Rep. John Conyers of Michigan assumed chairmanship of the House Judiciary Committee, the committee of original jurisdiction for most firearms and firearms-related legislative proposals.

Joining Castle as original cospon-

sors of H.R. 96 were anti-gun Reps. Mark S. Kirk of Illinois and Christopher Shays of Connecticut.

As expected, the bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Hopefully, CCRKBA Members and Supporters will contact offices of their own U.S. Representatives and urge them to oppose this measure.

In general, H.R. 96 would require criminal background checks on all firearm transactions occurring at events that provide a venue for the sale, offer for sale, transfer, or exchange of firearms.

It would create a new legal category called Special Firearms Event, to include any event at which 75 or more firearms are offered or exhibited for sale, exchange or transfer, if one or more of the firearms has been shipped or transported in, or otherwise affects, interstate or foreign commerce.

It also would create at least two new legal designations: Special Firearms Event Licensee, and Special Firearms Event Vendor, requirements for authorization of such designees to be administered by the office of the Attorney General.

It would be unlawful for any person to operate a Special Firearms Event unless that person notifies the Attorney General in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Attorney General.

Special Firearms Event Operators would not be able legally to organize, plan, promote, or operate a Special Firearms Event unless that operator at least 30 days before the commencement of the Special Firearms Event notified the Attorney General, in writing, of the date, time, duration,

and location of the Special Firearms Event, and the Special Firearms Event vendors planning to participate.

Generally, persons who are not Federal Firearms Licensees or Special Firearms Event Licensees would not be able to engage in firearm transactions unless going through FFLs or SPFLs for NCIC checking.

Transfers of two or more handguns to a non-licensee would be subject to a special, detailed report to the Attorney General.



POINT BLANK

"Straight talk about what you can do to preserve your right to keep and bear arms."

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CCRKBA RIPS INTO ANTI-GUN MAYORS

CCRKBA officials ripped into anti-gun policies of mayors on both the West and East Coasts last month.

CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb said that gun-phobic New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg is like Emperor Nero of Rome, since he is "fiddling with lawsuits" and blaming everyone else for New York crime problems while he hasn't stopped murders from increasing.

Joe Waldron, CCRKBA Executive Director, said that the anti-gun agenda unfurled early last month by Seattle Mayor Greg Nickles would not have prevented any of the recent crimes involving firearms in Washington State, including an early January tragic incident at Tacoma's Foss High School.

"While billionaire Bloomberg is so busy pointing fingers at businessmen in other states," stated Gottlieb, "the murder rate in New York has gone up right under his nose. The emperor needs a different tailor because his current wardrobe, like his rhetoric, is wearing kind of thin."

New York reported a nearly 10 percent increase in homicides in 2006, 579 through Christmas Eve, which included victims who had been shot or stabbed in previous years but only died in 2006.

"New York street criminals are pretty much home-grown trouble-makers," Gottlieb said. "Yet Bloomberg addresses the crimes they're committing by trotting around the landscape with his rogue effort to sue firearms retailers in several other states. Instead of leading his police department in a frontal attack against criminals in his own front and back yard, he's been playing vigilante games.

"If this guy honestly thinks he's going to bring New York hoodlums to bay by sending a lynch mob of lawyers after business owners in other states, all I can say is that Bloomberg really is a blooming idiot."

In actuality, Gottlieb pointed out, "criminals are going to get their hands on firearms, no matter what kind of Draconian gun law Bloomberg and his cronies try to engineer, and no matter how many lawsuits his pinstripe posse files. That's because gun laws, and harassment lawsuits, only affect honest people. Criminals don't obey laws, and they sure don't care about lawsuits filed against some poor guy four states away that they never heard of.

"New York thugs are the problem, and Bloomberg knows it. But instead of rolling up the sleeves of his tailor made shirts and getting down to the street level where the fight against crime is won or lost, Bloomberg rushes to the bright lights of press conference cameras and high dollar luncheons to proclaim what a hero he is. It's all show biz, and it's all fakery. And while his attention is elsewhere, people at home are dying."

Waldron said that Seattle Mayor Nickles' gun legislation "wish list" has nothing to do with any of last year's high-profile shootings, including the March Capitol Hill slayings in Olympia, Washington and last July's attack on the local Jewish Federation offices.

"It seems hardly a coincidence that Mayor Nickles has announced a legislative package that is virtually a mirror image of that being pushed by Washington CeaseFire," Waldron said. "Sales of semiautomatic sport utility rifles and private sales at gun

shows are not remotely connected to any of the crimes Nickles and CeaseFire are exploiting to push their agenda, and they know it.

"We have offered to work with the Seattle Police Department's newly-hired 'crime gun specialist,' and our calls have not been returned. We're never been contacted by Mayor Nickles or his staff. What sense does it make to develop proposed solutions to gun crimes when you ignore available expertise and refuse input from the very community of concerned firearm owners who will be directly affected by these proposals?"

With regard to the recent school shooting, "and last year's crimes," Waldron continued, "Capitol Hill gunman Kyle Huff brought his firearms from Montana and Naveed Haq, the suspect in the Jewish Federation shooting, bought his guns legally from retail outlets in the Tri-Cities area. Not one firearm used in these crimes was a semiautomatic rifle, and there is no indication Huff or Haq ever went near a gun show. And there already are state and federal laws against students bringing guns to campus, especially handguns, which they may not legally carry.

"We would be delighted to sit down with Mayor Nickles, the Washington Legislature and anyone else for a serious, rational discussion on fighting crime, but preventing crime isn't what Nickles or CeaseFire is after. Their only interest is in eroding the firearm rights of law-abiding Washington citizens."

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ANTI-GUN FANATICS CAN'T STAND SELF-DEFENSE TRUTH

By Alan M. Gottlieb, CCRKBA Chairman

Following a recent FBI report that the first half of 2006 saw an increase in violent crime, anti-gun rights organizations quickly moved to blame passage of concealed carry laws and other common sense reversals of 1990s gun control policies.

There's a term for such a theory: preposterous. Across the country, experts have anticipated this crime increase for some time, because of the rising number of younger males in what researchers call the "crime prone years" – combined with a decrease in the number of unskilled workers and, perhaps most importantly, a return to the streets of gangsters who were imprisoned in the 1990s, and who have completed their sentences.

Couple that with a deplorable rate of recidivism and a pattern of leniency from judges who ought to know better, and you have the makings of a disaster.

Overworked police – whose ranks have been thinned because many belong to military reserve or National Guard units now deployed overseas – are fighting what amounts to a "holding action" against both new and recycled criminals.

This is hardly the environment in which hysteria-driven crusades for restrictive firearms laws that only affect law-abiding citizens should gain much political traction – except perhaps on editorial pages, in liberal congressional offices, and other bastions of gullibility.

Paul Helmke, president of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, which should more accurately call itself the "Campaign to Prevent Gun Ownership," claimed that during the 1990s, crime fell because the Clinton

administration made it "harder for criminals to get guns."

That's not true and he knows it. If gun restrictions are the solution to violent crime, perhaps Helmke can explain why violent crime is skyrocketing in Great Britain, where private gun ownership is highly regulated. Maybe he can explain why the Australian gun "buy back" program has had no measurable effect on homicides there.

Gun laws passed early in the Clinton administration made it more difficult for honest citizens to legally purchase firearms of their choice. Those laws did nothing to keep criminals from getting guns, and a Justice Department survey entitled "Firearms Uses by Offenders," (NCJ-189369), proves it.

That study, derived from a survey of prison inmates, revealed that, "During the offense that brought them to prison, 15 percent of state inmates and 13 percent of federal inmates carried a handgun, and about two percent, a military-style semiautomatic gun."

Anti-gun fanatics can't stand the truth: Self-defense stops crime.

Notice that only a handful of these criminals were armed with so-called "assault rifles," a favorite target of gun control extremists.

The most disarming revelation from the Department of Justice report, for what it does to one of the gun control crowd's favorite targets – the mythical "gun show loophole" – is that less than one percent of these criminals (0.7 percent) acquired their guns from gun shows. Another one percent got theirs from flea markets.

Not surprisingly, 78.8 percent got their firearms from family or acquaintances, on the street, or other illicit sources.

Expect perennial gun haters like

Helmke to ramp up the rhetoric against sensible concealed carry laws that are proving their effectiveness in some 40 states. With violent crime on the upswing, and experts predicting it will keep rising, this is no time to advocate victim disarmament laws.

May as well put wolves in the sheep pasture and bid them "Bon appetit!"

American voters, tired of being victims of criminals and scapegoats for gun control fanatics, fought to reverse this country's head-in-the-sand attitude about crime and how to quell it. In state after state, law-abiding citizens rescued their right of self-defense.

They learned through years of political indifference that the best way to fight crime is to fight back, and to secure for themselves, their neighbors and their friends the means to win that fight.

What anti-gunners deliberately overlook about the new crime report is that the biggest increases are in larger cities, most of which have restrictive gun laws – while murder rates have dropped in medium and small-sized cities.

Citizens in those smaller communities are more likely to legally arm themselves, and criminals know it.

Helmke and his contemporaries aren't interested in preventing crime. Their interest is in preventing American citizens from exercising a constitutionally protected right to own a firearm, and their most basic human right of self-defense.

They should be held accountable for that.

CCRKBA ENDORSES PROPOSED CITIZENS' SELF-DEFENSE ACT

CCRKBA last month endorsed the proposed Citizens' Self-Defense Act of 2007.

The measure, H.R. 73, introduced by Rep. Roscoe Bartlett of Maryland, is designed to protect the right to obtain firearms for security, and to use firearms in the defense of self, family, or home, and to provide for the enforcement of such right.

It was referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

"Once again," said John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, "we commend Congressman Bartlett for his leadership in making this legislative proposal. If enacted, this measure would put some needed teeth into efforts to protect our gun rights.

"It would authorize a person whose

gun rights have been 'violated in any manner' to 'bring an action in any United States district court against the United States, any State, or any person for damages, injunctive relief, and such other relief as the court deems appropriate.'"

Under H.R. 73, Congress would find specifically that the police cannot protect, and are not legally liable for failing to protect, individual citizens.

It would cite as evidence for this

... this measure would put some needed teeth into efforts to protect our gun rights.

that "the courts have consistently ruled that the police do not have an obligation to protect individuals, only the public in general. For example, in *Warren v. District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department*, 444 A.2d 1 (D.C. App. 1981), the court stated: 'Courts have without exception concluded that when a municipality or other government entity undertakes to furnish police services, it assumes a duty only to the public at large and not to individual members of the community.'"

The bill would determine that a law-abiding citizen shall have a right to obtain firearms for security and to use them in defense of self or family against a reasonably perceived threat of imminent and unlawful infliction of serious bodily injury.

CITIZEN ACTION PROJECT

Several state legislatures changed hands in the recent election. The climate for gun owners in many state capitols is much cooler than it was last year. It is important that you establish a steady series of contacts with your state legislators, whether they are Democrat or Republican, pro- or anti-gun.

If they are smart, or if they are astute politicians (and most are), Democrats at the state level will also demonstrate a certain level of caution if they keep their eye on the big election in 2008. Overreaching on a liberal agenda can generate a backlash that hurts them in November 2008.

This is the kind of situation where grassroots lobbying – communications from individual constituents – plays a major role in influencing legislation. Many newly-elected Democrats claimed to be political moderates, as I'm sure many of them are. But a little positive reinforcement never hurts!

ALL gun owners need to write, e-mail or call their elected officials. Tell them you are concerned that while gun control was not an issue in this election, some elected officials will attempt to exploit the Democrat majority to further their gun control agenda (and place freshman Democrats at risk). Gun control is a failed policy that does not reduce crime; in many cases it encourages it by disarming law-abiding citizens.

A simple one-page letter, just three or four paragraphs, carries a lot of weight. The important thing is to mail that letter or send that e-mail. Ask them to keep you informed of pending gun control legislation. Then follow up with an occasional telephone call to the official's office. Most will have a staff member who handles gun issues. Get to know that person by name – and be sure they recognize your name. That personalizes the issue on both sides of the call.

We don't have room here to list contact information for all state legislatures. Legislators' addresses and telephone numbers can be found in the government "blue pages" in the front of most telephone directories. This information is also available at your local library.

The National Conference of State Legislatures has links to all state legislatures from their home page at <http://www.ncsl.org/>. Just click on "Legislatures" on the tool bar at the top of the page and select your state.

DEFENDER GUN CARRY DETERS BANK ROBBER

Simple, law-abiding carrying of a handgun by this month's CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month demonstrates a truth which for years has been self-evident to gun rights activists.

That truth is that the mere evident presence of a firearm in the hands of a law-abiding private citizen can be a deterrent to crime.

Oftentimes, these incidents do not show up in police reports because a crime has not been committed, but they do show up in scholarly surveys indicating that the presence of firearms in the hands of private citizens prevents or interrupts the commission of crimes millions of times a year in the United States.

When Dennis O'Connor of Prince George, Virginia, openly and legally carried a holstered handgun into a bank the day after Christmas, his mere presence apparently motivated a would-be bank robber to flee the premises before he even had a chance to perpetrate the crime.

When Phil Van Cleave, President of the Virginia Citizens Defense League (VCDL), brought the incident to the attention of John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, Snyder decided to nominate O'Connor for the CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Award.

"O'Connor's consistent public defense of the right to keep and bear arms," said Snyder, "combined with this fortuitous de facto demonstration of the veracity of one of the chief arguments for respecting that

right, that is, that guns in the hands of law-abiding citizens serve as an effective crime deterrent, warrants his reception of this Award."

O'Connor went down to the Sun Trust bank branch in Hopewell, Virginia on December 26, 2006, "to complete some financial transactions. I got there just as they were opening and entered with a woman who had been waiting outside. There were three tellers in position to the left, one customer service associate at a desk to the right, and the manager was seated in his office to the rear right, so there were seven of us in the bank.

"I have been banking there for years and know the tellers fairly well, who are quite used to me walking in with my holstered 1911 government model .45 and two reserve magazines. As I was transacting business with my teller, a man came through the front door on this warm December morning wearing a full ski mask, with only his eyes showing. He was wringing his hands and glanced furtively toward the office and then swept his eyes across the room, finally towards me and the tellers. At that, he turned and BOLTED back out the door!"

O'Connor wrote that, "The teller next to my position was the first to recognize the implications of what had just happened, and yelled for the manager, who came rushing out from his office. He glanced toward me before sticking his head out the front door, looking both ways down the sidewalk, and pronounced that the suspicious character had apparently left the area. The same teller

then expressed her relief that I been there, and mentioned that the next Sun Trust branch down on Route 10 (Iron Bridge Road) had just been robbed the week before."

Later in Christmas week, said O'Connor, "I went by the bank again to make a deposit. The same three tellers were on duty. I asked them if the police were called over the ski-masked intruder. They said no, but they had all discussed the incident yesterday afternoon and agreed it was me standing there with a gun at Sharon's window (the first one from the door) that spooked him into changing his plans, and they all thanked me again."

O'Connor said modestly he "didn't DO anything." But that, said Snyder, "is just the point. The mere evident carrying of the gun itself was enough to prevent anything additional from having to be done."

Dennis O'Connor was born September 11, 1956 in New Haven, Connecticut.

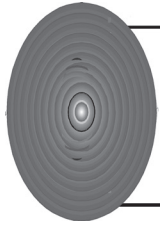
He attended high school in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, graduating in 1974.

He then enlisted in the United States Army and, during his first tour in Korea during the mid-1970s, he met and married his wife, Pok Cha, with whom he has two sons, Bill, 29, and Dennis, Jr., 26.

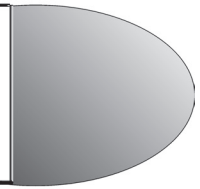
During his Army service, he availed himself of educational opportunities to earn a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Arts in Humanities, "and bought my first home under the G.I. Bill."

Now a retired Army Warrant Officer, Dennis is a manager for Sodexo, Inc. He is a VCDL Director, Secretary and State Gun Show Coordinator.

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QUICK SHOTS



"With little fanfare," reports the *Baltimore Sun*, "the federal government has substantially increased the number of licenses it has taken away from gun dealers, according to newly released statistics. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives pulled federal firearms licenses from 22 gun dealers across the country in 2001. That number increased almost six-fold last year when ATF revoked 131 licenses, statistics show... 'There is a Damocles' sword that's hanging over dealers' heads,' said Stephen Schneider, president of the Maryland Licensed Firearms Dealers Association and owner of Atlantic Guns in Rockville. 'We're a legitimate business, and yet they feel like they may not be in business the next year for record-keeping violations.'"



On Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus selected new bipartisan leadership to serve during the 110th Congress. New Senate Co-Chairs are Senators Max Baucus of Montana, a Democrat, and Mike Crapo of Idaho, a Republican. House Co-Chairs are Reps. Ron Kind of Wisconsin, Democrat, and Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, Republican. Sens. Ben Nelson, Nebraska Democrat, and John Cornyn, Texas Republican, and Reps. Dan Boren, Oklahoma Democrat, and Steve Pearce, New Mexico Republican, are the respective Senate and House Vice-Chairs. "Sportsmen and industries that serve them owe a debt of gratitude to the leaders of the Congressional

Sportsmen's Caucus," says Jeff Crane, Foundation president.



In Tucson, Arizona early last month, a Southwest Side man shot two men, killing one and wounding another, after a group of men burst into his home and broke down the door to his bedroom where he had been sleeping. According to the *Arizona Daily Star*, the armed invasion was the third time in a week armed men broke into Southwest Side homes threatening the occupants. In this particular incident, the occupants of the home – three adults and one child – were not injured, but concern about possible retaliation from the armed robbers or their friends has the family thinking about moving. Philip M. Mendoza, 22, shot the intruders with a shotgun after they had rushed into his house, forced his family to the floor and attempted to break into the bedroom, said Sgt. James Ogden, a spokesman for the Pima County Sheriff's Department. The day after the shooting, Mendoza said he didn't know why the invaders chose his family's house, but that his mother no longer feels safe there.



As 2007 began in Kansas, nearly 3,000 people already had been cleared for carrying concealed handguns, according to the *Lawrence Journal World*. Even more applications were coming into the State Attorney General's Office. Chuck Sexson, the office's director of concealed services, said he

expected to receive 5,000 applications as the year got under way. Qualified applicants need a 2-by-2 inch photo showing the applicant's face from the chin to the top of the head, taken within 30 days; a certificate from an approved firearms instruction course; a completed Kansas application for a concealed handgun license; a payment of \$110 to the Office of the Attorney General and \$40 to the Sheriff of Douglas County, with \$50 to each for renewal; and a fingerprint card, fingerprints on which will be taken by a sheriff's officer when the application packet is submitted.



In Chicago early last month, anti-gun Mayor Richard Daley and other elected officials renewed their call for stricter gun laws, saying Democratic control of the Illinois General Assembly could lead to passage of legislation that has foundered in the past. One proposal would ban so-called "assault weapons." Another would limit handgun purchases to one per month. A third would require special licensing for handgun dealers. Richard Pearson, executive director of the Illinois State Rifle Association, said the state already had some of the toughest gun laws in the country, and passing more laws would not deter criminals from obtaining firearms. He acknowledged that Democratic control of both the Illinois House and Senate could result in passage of some gun control, and said that, "the gun lobby is going to have to work a lot harder."

4

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Finally, a magazine just for America's 15 million gun-owning women! WOMEN & GUNS is the only magazine of its kind in the world. Written and edited by women, for women, WOMEN & GUNS emphasizes self-defense and personal protection – including real life tips on surviving attacks – as well as recreational and sport shooting. Each issue features top women gunowner profiles, personal protection tips, product reviews, and a useful, eye-opening legal column. WOMEN & GUNS is a must-have for every gun owning woman.

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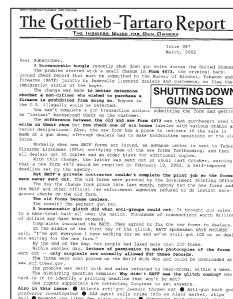
The Journal of Firearms and Public Policy:

At last, an academic journal dedicated to scholarly discussion of firearms and public policy! The JOURNAL OF FIREARMS AND PUBLIC POLICY has published annually since 1989. Its mission: to encourage objective research on the right to keep and bear arms, and explore America's Constitutional heritage to privately own and possess firearms. Edited by David B. Kopel – Research Director at the Independence Institute and renowned gun-rights scholar – and contributors include Randy E. Barnett, Glenn Harlan Reynolds, John R. Lott, Joseph P. Tartaro, Gary Kleck, and others.

The Gottlieb-Tartaro Report:

Here's a monthly newsletter that gives you inside gun-rights information from the desks of active principals in the battle for the right to keep and bear arms. The GOTTLIEB-TARTARO REPORT is headed by Alan M. Gottlieb – chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms – and Joseph P. Tartaro – editor of Gun Week and president of the Second Amendment Foundation. This monthly newsletter is full of inside gun rights news straight from the desks of the experts. Not available on newsstands. Regular subscription \$60 per year.

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