

POINT BLANK

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



**November
2009
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CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS

(a non-profit corporation)

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PUBLIC TURNING AGAINST GUN CONTROL PROPOSALS

Despite the fact that SAPs (Self-Appointed Progressives) promote restrictive gun control regulations, and even though the Obama Administration indicated recently it was reversing Bush Administration opposition to a proposed treaty regulating traffic in small arms and ammunition, reliable public opinion surveys show the public is disenchanted with gun control.

Only days after the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear a challenge to one of the nation's most egregious gun control laws, a Rasmussen Reports public opinion survey showed waning support for such proposals.

This shows strongly that, "America's philosophical pendulum definitely is swinging back in favor of gun rights and individual liberty," commented CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb.

"Whether congressional anti-gunners like it or not," continued Gottlieb, "the American public has wised up to the fact that prohibitive gun control measures, like the gun ban in Chicago that now is being challenged in the Supreme Court, have not stopped violent crime. They only disarm the citizens. Americans are concerned about their personal safety and the safety of their families. They have had it with Utopian gun bans that leave them defenseless against merciless thugs."

Gottlieb said the results of the Rasmussen poll are telling. According to Rasmussen, only 39 percent of Americans believe the country needs stricter gun laws. That's down from 43 percent only six months ago.

"It is ironic that the Chicago case just went to the Supreme Court," Gottlieb noted, "while Rasmussen tells us that only 20 percent of adults believe city governments have a right to prevent citizens from owning handguns."

Sixty-nine percent say city governments do not have that authority, and 11 percent were undecided, the poll disclosed.

"Gun control is a losing proposition, for the public that wants to fight back against criminals, and especially for anti-gun politicians who cling to that failed philosophy as the nation leaves them behind," Gottlieb said.

Fifty-seven percent of Americans say gun sales are up in the United States because of a fear of increased government restriction on gun ownership.

Seventy-one percent of Americans believe it is at least somewhat likely that President Obama will seek tougher gun control laws, including 43 percent who say it is very likely.

At around the same time as the Rasmussen poll was published, the Gallup Poll found "a new low of 44 percent of Americans saying the laws covering firearm sales should be made more strict. That is down five points in the last year and 34 points from the high of 78 percent recorded the first time the question was asked, in 1990."

TENNESSEAN HITS BLOOMBERG FOR STING AGAINST GUN SHOWS

Anti-gun New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg "needs to keep his business in New York and let Tennessee deal with Tennessee," said Stephanie Rhodes, a Smithville, Tennessee resident and gun show attendee.

Rhodes was responding to reports that Bloomberg's New York agents used hidden cameras while purchasing guns from people at gun shows in Tennessee, Ohio and Nevada. According to these reports, investigators captured footage of guns being sold to people who said they would not be able to pass a background check. Also according to reports, some dealers sold guns to people buying for others in order to avoid background checks.

Bloomberg initiated the anti-gun sting in an obvious attempt to develop support for legislation to mandate further regulation of gun shows.

As at least one observer asked, however, were any of Bloomberg's "undercover agents" unable to pass a background check because of a criminal record? If they were not criminals, then who committed what crime?

These days, there is a lot of concern expressed from various quarters regarding the profiling of people for

various reasons. Couldn't there be a question in this case of liability if the individual sellers "profiled" the potential and supposedly eligible purchasers?

Would Bloomberg himself face liability if there were criminals involved in perpetrating the sting?

If there were no law broken, what would be the problem?

According to reports, over 40 investigators from Kroll Associates were hired to go undercover, posing as gun buyers, hoping to avoid background checks via a straw purchase or various other means, and visited seven gun shows in the three states during the summer months.

Out of 47 purchases, 35 have been termed by New York spokesmen as illegal in some way. The Associated Press reported that the city was not planning any civil action.

Bloomberg was sending a copy of a report on the operation to the BATFE and to every member of congress. As of this writing, BATFE had acknowledged receipt of the report but had not indicated what if any action would be taken.

Most of the mainstream reporting of Bloomberg's activity neglected to point out that buying a gun for a family member or friend as a gift

is not a straw purchase. It's a violation of law only to buy a gun for a prohibited person.

While Bloomberg maintains that the most common gun sale violation is that straw purchasers defeat the background check, his demand that more sales be run through background checks would not alleviate whatever straw purchase problems there are.



POINT BLANK

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

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During a recent visit to Las Vegas, Nevada, John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, met with several pro-gun rights Nevada political activists. Among them was former Nevada State Senator Sue Lowden, pictured here with Snyder. Until recently Chairwoman of the Nevada Republican Party, Lowden is a Director of the Archon Corporation. Photo by Citizen Outreach.

SENATE GUN VOTE SHOWS EFFECT OF CITIZEN ACTION

"American firearm owners form the cutting edge of the modern freedom movement in the United States," John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said after the U.S. Senate voted overwhelmingly for a pro-gun rights amendment.

Snyder said the Senate's 68-30 vote allowing Amtrak passengers to transport handguns in their checked luggage may indicate that, "politicians are beginning to get the message. People are fed up with efforts at government control coming from Washington."

The Senate vote approved an amendment by Sen. Roger Wicker of Mississippi to a transportation appropriations bill.

"Americans should not have their Second Amendment rights restricted for any reason, particularly if they choose to travel on America's federally subsidized rail line," said Sen. Wicker. "It is hard for me to imagine Congress considering providing \$1.5 billion in bill to Amtrak while the rail line intentionally limits its revenue and chooses not to accept business

from this specific and law-abiding segment of travelers."

Sen. Wicker's amendment would deny the railroad its \$1.5 billion taxpayer subsidy unless it changes its policy prohibiting firearms from being carried on its trains.

The amendment states that if an Amtrak station accepts luggage for a specific route, passengers would be able to lawfully transport firearms and ammunition in secure baggage provided that:

Before checking the bag or boarding the train, the passenger must declare that the firearm or pistol is in his or her bag and is unloaded;

The firearm or pistol must be carried in a hard-sided container; and

The hard-sided container must be locked and only the passenger has the combination or key for the container.

"The Senate action followed a protest march in Washington, D.C.," Snyder pointed out. "Many people carried signs proclaiming support for gun owners' rights. 'I'll keep my guns, freedom and money..."

"The march followed a series of public protests at congressional town hall meetings over the summer. As evidenced by Rasmussen Reports surveys of voters, people are fed up with a lot of Obama's policies."

"Gun owners never will forget that Obama named Eric Holder attorney general," Snyder continued, "that Holder proposed reinstitution of the failed Clinton era semiautomatic firearms ban, that Obama promotes Senate ratification of CIFTA, a treaty that would undercut Americans' Second Amendment rights, and that Obama nominated to the Supreme Court a justice who said she doesn't know if an individual has a right to self-defense or not.

"With mid-term elections just a year away, Senators and Representatives should be getting the message that people oppose Obama's policies, and reject the proclamations of Obama's supporters in Congress and in the mainstream media."

Please see the information below to find out how the Senators voted on the bill.

FOR

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Cantwell WA
Cardin MD
Carper DE
Dodd CT
Durbin IL
Feinstein CA
Franken MN
Gillibrand NY
Harkin IA
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Kerry MA

Lautenberg NJ
Levin MI
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Menendez NJ
Mikulski MD
Murray WA
Pryor AR
Reed RI
Rockefeller WV
Schumer NY
Specter PA
Stabenow MI
Whitehouse RI
Wyden OR
NOT VOTING
Byrd WV

GUN RIGHTS POLICY CONFERENCE AS SEVEN HUNDRED PARTICIPANTS G

The 24th annual, national Gun Rights Policy Conference (GRPC) held this year in St. Louis, Missouri was a smashing success as 700 firearm rights activists from across the country gathered together on the last weekend in September to participate in discussions regarding various aspects of gun rights issues during this first decade of the 21st century.

CCRKBA cosponsors the major gun rights policy event each year with the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF).

Welcoming remarks were extended to all present by Alan M. Gottlieb, CCRKBA Chairman, and Joseph P. Tartaro, SAF President.

The National Rifle Association (NRA) and the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) hosted evening buffet receptions along with CCRKBA and SAF.

Former U.S. Rep. Bob Barr of Georgia, the 2008 Libertarian Party presidential candidate, Wayne LaPierre, NRA's Executive Vice President, and Gary Mauser, professor emeritus of Simon Fraser University in Canada, all addressed GRPC.

During a CCRKBA-SAF luncheon, the following awards and recipients were announced: Grassroots Organization of the Year Award, Calguns Foundation; Grassroots Activist of the Year, Gary Marbut of the Montana Shooting Sports Association; Journalist of the Year, Declan McCullagh, Chief Political Correspondent for CBSNews.com; Affiliate of the Year, Illinois State Rifle Association (ISRA); Gun Rights Defender of the Year, Donald Kilmer; Gun Rights Legislator of the Year, Sen. John Thune; Bill of Rights Award, Curt Levey, Executive Director of the Committee for Justice;

Global Leadership Award, Mauser; Lifetime Achievement Award, David T. Hardy; and Defender of Liberty, Eva Hart.

Julianne Versnel Gottlieb, Publisher of *Women & Guns* and *Journal on Firearms and Public Policy*, and Peggy Tartaro, Editor of *Women & Guns* and a CCRKBA Director, served as Conference moderators.

Rev. Anthony Winfield provided invocation remarks.

Herbert Stupp, a CCRKBA Director, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Charles H. Cunningham, Director of Federal Affairs of the NRA Institute for Legislative Action, Jake McGuigan, NSSF Director of Government Affairs, John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director and SAF Treasurer, John Velleco, Legislative Director of Gun Owners of America (GOA), and Ralph Walker, First Vice President and Legislative Director of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association (NMLRA), comprised a panel on federal affairs.

State Sens. Doug Jackson of Tennessee and Philip Journey of Kansas, Chuck Michel, Legislative Counsel of the California Rifle & Pistol Association, Tim Oliver, VP of Missouri Carry.com, Director of Learn To Carry, LLC, and LearnToCarry.com, and Richard Pearson, ISRA Executive Director, conducted a briefing on state legislative affairs.

Mauser, a special envoy of Canada's National Firearms Association, Tony Bernardo, Executive Director of the Canadian Institute for Legislative Action, Silvia Gentile, an Italian attorney representing the Italian Guns Shooting History Association (FISAT), and David Kopel, author and Research Director of The In-

dependence Institute, spoke on the significance of U.S. sovereignty, the United Nations and international treaties and the gun rights debate.

Alan Gura, the attorney who represented the pro-gun cause in the *District of Columbia v. Heller* case, now co-counsel in the *McDonald v. Chicago* case, Gene Hoffman, Chairman of CalGuns Foundation, Kilmer, the attorney who argued the pro-gun side in the *Nordyke v. King* case, and David Young, author of *Founding Fathers' View of the Second Amendment*, talked about taking the appropriate steps to build on the legal precedent set by the Heller Supreme Court decision.

Marbut, Jackson and Patricia A. Stoneking, President of the Kansas State Rifle Association, forecast the possibilities for guns and the 10th Amendment and federalism in the 21st century.

Three officials of Students for Concealed Carry on Campus, Olivia Alexander, Kansas Coordinator, Jonathan Ratliff, Missouri State Director, and Paul Ready, Central Region Director, discussed the continuing battle for on campus safety.

Gottlieb and Levey analyzed the interconnections between the Supreme Court, the Bill of Rights and government "czars."

Journey, Jeff Knox, Operations Manager of the Firearms Coalition, Brian Anse Patrick, Associate Professor at the University of Toledo and author of *Rise of the Anti-Media: In-Forming the American Concealed Weapon Carry Movement*, and Hawaii State Sen. Sam Slom, a SAF Trustee, discussed expanding self-defense and the right to carry.

McGuigan, Walker, Scott Hattrup, Executive Director of the National

A SMASHING SUCCESS IN ST. LOUIS GATHER FROM ACROSS THE NATION

Association of Arms Shows, and Scott Ritter, Founder of Knife Rights, Inc., discussed the widening attack on knives and ammunition.

Joseph Tartaro, Jim Church, a former NRA Director, Michigan activist and UAW member, and John Cushman, NRA Director, Teamsters member and President of SAFE, Inc., discussed labor pains and gun rights.

Charles Heller of Liberty Watch Radio, Don Irvine, President of Accuracy in Media, Dave Workman, Senior Editor of *The New Gun Week*, and Malia Zimmerman, Editor of *Hawaii Reporter*, advised on countering the media bias against guns.

Knox, Kopel and Joe Waldron, CCRKBA Legislative Director, ad-

dressed the question of whether or not the Second Amendment would be a victim of the Mexican drug wars.

Patrick, Jim Perdiew, President of the Handgun Club of America, John Pierce, Co-founder of OpenCarry.org, and writer for the Minneapolis Gun Rights Examiner, and Phil Van Cleave, President of the Virginia Citizens Defense League (VCDL), talked about open carry and public, high profile events.

Van Cleave and John Fenter, a VCDL Director, discussed the subject of issues with gun free school zones.

Rev. Winfield, author of *Self-Defense and the Bible* and Chaplain at Elmhurst Hospital in New York, N.Y., and Timothy Wheeler, M.D., Direc-

tor of Doctors for Responsible Gun Ownership, and John Wipfler, M.D., co-authors of *Keeping Your Family Safe*, examined what in fact it takes to keep your family safe.

A report of the resolutions committee was offered by Pearson, Wheeler, Don Gaikins, President of Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance, Kevin Jamison, author of *Gun Rights of Missouri*, Genie Jennings, a Women & Guns columnist, Harold Schroeder, an NRA Director and Chairman of SCOPE, Inc., and Robert Wiest, a SAF Trustee and Tennessee gun rights activist.

The 25th Gun Rights Policy Conference will be held September 24-26, 2010 in San Francisco.

CITIZEN ACTION PROJECT

As this is being written in late October, Congress has passed only two of 12 appropriations acts to fund federal government agencies for the fiscal year that began October 1st. The government is currently running on a "continuing resolution," allowing expenditures at the same rate as last year. Continuing resolutions normally carry over until all of the appropriations acts have passed. In this situation, it is highly likely that an omnibus appropriations act, combining all departments, will pass out sometime in November or December.

Omnibus spending bills are an opportunity for mischief. Last minute deals are made and amendments passed, frequently by voice vote to prevent accountability. The Obama administration is under increasing pressure from the left to take action on liberal issues.

Gun control is undoubtedly in that mix. There have been renewed rumors of another federal "assault weapon" ban, this one supposedly to keep American guns from going to Mexico. Maybe if the Mexican government (and OUR government) would do a better job of patrolling the border, illegal activity of ALL kinds might be reduced.

Your elected officials will be coming home for Thanksgiving and Christmas recesses. Take the time to call or visit their offices and remind them that gun control is a steady hand, NOT more restrictions on law-abiding citizens. It wouldn't hurt to remind Democrat legislators of the parting words of a retiring Democrat Congressman, "Gun control is the third rail of Democrat politics." Congressional and Senate contact information is available in the left margin of the CCRKBA web site at <http://www.ccrkba.org> or the SAF web site at <http://www.saf.org>. Local Congressional office telephone numbers and addresses are also available in the "blue pages" at the front of your local telephone directory.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COUNSELOR NAMED CCRKBA GUN DEFENDER

Alan Caruba of South Orange, New Jersey is the CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month for November.

In nominating Caruba for the Award, John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said the noted public relations counselor and editorial consultant "for years has been a gun owner and fierce defender in public of the individual Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms. He's always been forthright and articulate in defense of our freedom. He certainly is most deserving of this Award."

Just recently, Alan Caruba wrote that, "Every despotic regime in the last century favored gun control laws. Today, the gun grabbers are on the move again and are being led by the Obama regime."

Caruba recalled that, "During last year's campaign both Hillary Clinton and John McCain tore into Barack Obama for saying that residents of small-town America 'cling to guns or religion or antipathy to people who aren't like them over bitterness over lost jobs.'

"Obama quickly retreated from that statement, but it revealed his real thinking and real feelings about people who own guns for any reason, as well as his contempt for people whose religious values are an important part of their lives. In both cases he was condemning large segments of the nation's population."

Caruba wrote that, "In America today, the figure I hear most often is an estimated 90 million people who own guns. No matter the source one cites, there is no question that

most Americans have no qualms about owning guns for hunting, sport shooting or for protection. It is no coincidence that, since Obama's election last year, gun and ammo sales have been off the charts."

The Garden State resident said it was instructive again to "look back at what history teaches us regarding the right to bear arms. The Soviet Union established gun control in 1929. Unable to defend themselves, the regime killed an estimated 20 million Russian dissidents. Turkey established gun control in 1911 and, from 1915 to 1917, an estimated 1.5 million Armenians were rounded up and killed. Germany established gun control in 1938. Prior to and throughout World War Two, the Nazis systematically murdered an estimated six million Jews and another five million others deemed 'enemies of the state.' This pattern was repeated in China which outlawed gun ownership in 1935. Gun ownership was outlawed in Guatemala, Uganda and Cambodia.

"It is estimated that 56 million people were killed by their own governments in the last century. Despite that, both England and Australia passed laws prohibiting gun ownership. The result has been a surge in deaths of people who were killed because they were left defenseless against criminals. In Australia, armed robberies increased 44 percent."

With this relevant, fairly recent history as background, Caruba noted that now, "there are proposed laws in the House of Representatives and Senate that would strip Americans of their Second Amendment right to 'keep and bear arms,' a right the Constitution says 'shall not be infringed.'

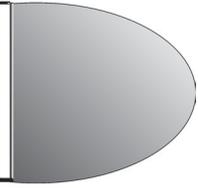
"Recently, Sen. Frank Lautenberg (NJ) introduced S. 1317 that would give the Attorney General the discretion to block gun sales to people on terror watch lists. The government's consolidated watch list, used to identify people suspected of links to terrorists, has now grown to more than a million names since 9/11. In Lautenberg's New Jersey, one must have a government issued certificate to purchase a firearm and undergo a difficult process to secure the right to carry a weapon, concealed or otherwise."

Caruba noted also that the proposed "Blair Holt Firearm Licensing and Record of Sale Act of 2009 would make it illegal to own a firearm unless you are fingerprinted and can provide a current driver's license along with your Social Security number. It requires people to submit to a physical and mental evaluation each and every time a firearm is purchased. It would require that guns must be locked away and inaccessible to any child under age 18. It would empower law enforcement officers to come into your home to inspect whether or not you are in compliance. Failure to comply includes a fine and incarceration up to five years in prison. In a case of criminal home invasion this would render the gun owner defenseless. This replicates the 1938 German Weapons Act that restricted ownership of firearms to 'persons whose trustworthiness is not in question and who can show a need for a (gun) permit.'

Caruba warned these "are incremental steps taken to ultimately render the Second Amendment null and void."



QUICK SHOTS



In Washington, D.C., Sens. Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas and Jon Tester of Montana, and Reps. Mark Souder of Indiana and Mike Ross of Arkansas are filing a joint, pro-gun rights amicus curiae or friend of the court brief before the U.S. Supreme Court in the McDonald v. Chicago case. Last year, the Court's decision in District of Columbia v. Heller declared unconstitutional the District handgun ban. It applied only to federal enclaves, such as the District. A ruling in the McDonald case favorable to pro-gun rights advocates would ensure that the Second Amendment individual right to keep and bear arms affirmed in the Heller case also applied as against state and local legislation. "The Second Amendment guarantees gun rights for all law-abiding Americans, no matter where they live," says Sen. Tester, Vice Chairman of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus. "I'm glad Republicans and Democrats are working together to tell the Supreme Court we expect it to stand up for our gun rights in this important case."



Criminologist Gary Kleck of Florida State University says an anti-gun "study" by the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine is "the very epitome of junk science in the guns-and-violence field – poor quality research intended to arrive at an ideologically predetermined conclusion." The survey, supported by a grant of \$639, 586 from the National Institutes of Health, was supposed

to prove that possessing a gun does not benefit assault victims. The so-called "study" surveyed only those assault victims who were shot, limited in the last six months of the survey to those who were fatally shot. It did not consider the far more numerous gun owners who used firearms successfully for self-defense without being shot. Also, it did not consider crimes were not even attempted because the potential perpetrators feared that prospective victims might be armed.



Two Haverstraw, New York residents who police said were shot by the owner of a home after they broke into the residence are in jail facing felony burglary and robbery charges, reported Jane Lerner of LoHud.com. The two pleaded not guilty to the charges in Village Court. Justice Ronald DeCaprio set bail at \$50,000 for each suspect. One was shot in the buttock and the other was shot in the arm after the home was broken into one Sunday evening. Both were treated at local hospitals and released in police custody. The two men were found hiding across the street from the house soon after the break-in was reported, Haverstraw Police Captain Martin Lund said. The homeowner shot both suspects with a rifle, he said. Permits are not required to own a rifle.



CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb warned Seattle, Washington

Mayor Greg Nickels to heed the public rejection of a proposed gun ban at city parks facilities or face the consequences in court. According to information obtained from the mayor's office, the overwhelming majority of citizens living both inside and outside the city turned thumbs down of the mayor's plan to ban even legally-carried firearms in city parks facilities. Nickels has already been advised by Washington State Attorney General Rob McKenna that the city has no authority to enact such a ban, which would be illegal under the state's preemption law.



"Just days after the Justice Department said its anti-gunrunning project on the U.S.-Mexico border had made 'enormous inroads into stemming firearms-related violent crime' and touted a planned expansion of the program, the department's Office of Inspector General said some funding for the \$22 million project was not being properly used," reported Jerry Seper last month in The Washington Times. "In a 39-page report, Inspector General Glenn A. Fine said that while a proposed expansion of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives 'Project Gun Runner' should enhance its ability to combat firearms trafficking along the southwest border, other planned activities did not appear to represent 'the best use of resources to reduce firearms trafficking.'"

4

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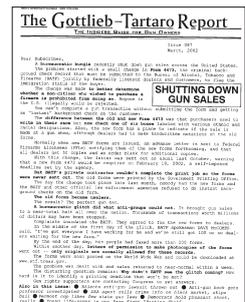
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