



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

CCRKBA PROMOTING CCW AT STATE, FEDERAL LEVELS

CCRKBA officials are continuing to press for CCW legislation at the state and national level.

In mid-September, CCRKBA spokesmen said that state lawmakers in Ohio should take a signal from their counterparts in Missouri, who voted to override a veto by Gov. Bob Holden.

“Ohio legislators have been debating concealed carry for as long as or longer than Missouri,” said CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb, “and they still don’t have a law on the books. Making Ohio’s case more urgent is the fact that a lawsuit by the Second Amendment Foundation and several Ohio residents has resulted in Ohio’s ban on concealed carry being declared unconstitutional by a state appeals court. It is time for Ohio’s legislature to act.”

CCRKBA Executive Director Joe Waldron drew a closer parallel between the situations in Missouri and Ohio. He said the opposition to concealed carry effectively treats residents of both states as second-class citizens.

“Ohio Gov. Bob Taft has been opposed to concealed carry, the same as Gov. Holden in Missouri,” Waldron observed. “The Missouri override proves that lawmakers can do what’s right for their constituents, even when a governor tries to prevent it. Ohio residents have just as much right to defend themselves against criminal attack as do the citizens in Missouri, or any of the other 44 states that have license-to-carry laws. Ohio residents are no less trustworthy with their firearms, but that’s not stopping Bob Taft and anti-gun-rights lawmakers from treating them as though they were.”

Gottlieb stated that, “after the vote in Missouri, Ohio lawmakers have no more excuses for not adopting a sensible, comprehensive bill that will guarantee Buckeye State citizens the same self-defense rights that are enjoyed by millions of other Americans.”

In Washington, D.C., CCRKBA Public Affairs Director John Michael Snyder reiterated CCRKBA support for proposed national CCW reciprocity legislation.

The proposed Secure Access to Firearms Enhancement (SAFE) Act of 2003, H.R. 990, introduced by Rep. John N. Hostettler (R-IN), a CCRKBA Congressional Advisor, for instance, would provide that any citizen entitled to carry a concealed firearm in his or her own state would be able legally to carry that firearm in any other state.

H.R. 915, introduced by Rep. Cliff Stearns (R-FL), a CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Award recipient, would allow a law-abiding citizen with a permit to carry a concealed firearm issued by any state to carry that firearm in any state. Both H.R. 915 and H.R. 990 have been referred to the House Judiciary Committee.



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CCRKBA BLASTS CHICAGO GUN-GRABBING OFFICIALS

CCRKBA recently ripped into two anti-gun Chicago officials for the manner in which they reacted to a recent major crime.

In politicizing the tragic late August shooting spree at Windy City Core Supply in Chicago, both Mayor Richard Daley and Acting Police Superintendent Phil Cline blamed the crime on the availability of firearms. However, both were strangely silent following revelations that the murder weapon previously had been owned by two Chicago police officers. Both officers had failed to register the gun with the city as required by law.

Subsequently, CCRKBA accused the city of making the only registered owner of the pistol, a 58-year old homeless man, into a scapegoat in the case. Milton R. Beuck, who sold the handgun to one officer in 1994, did not keep a record of that transaction for 10 years, as required by law. He was jailed for that, and for an unrelated drunk driving warrant, on \$100,000 bond, but several days later, he was freed from the gun charge.

"It's a misdemeanor offense," said CCRKBA Executive Director Joe Waldron, "but it's enough to allow the police and Chicago courts to deflect some culpability for the shooting away from two cops through whose hands the gun passed undocumented, and from the court system that continued to allow killer Salvador Tapia to remain free. Both officers who owned the pistol now are deceased, but neither registered the gun with the city when it was in their possession, even though they presumably knew that was the law."

Tapia, a 36-year old former employee of the South Side company, opened fire at a warehouse. Seven

people, including Tapia, were killed. Tapia was shot after police ordered him to drop the gun and he refused.

Tapia had a long rap sheet, including gun violations and a theft charge, and a 1996 aggravated assault arrest after telling a man on the street, "I'll kill you."

There also were numerous domestic violence arrests, according to ABC 7 Chicago News, including once holding his family at gunpoint. His driver's license was revoked for drunk driving, and there were at least 13 other arrests, many for threatened violence.

Why, wondered Waldron, "would any Chicago police officer have an undocumented handgun, purchased in a bar, when more normal channels are available? Why would a second officer buy an undocumented gun from the first one? How and where would a homeless man have kept a record of a transaction that took place in a bar, with a police officer, nearly 10 years ago?"

More important, noted Waldron, "is the sudden silence of both Mayor Daley and Acting Supt. Cline. They were quick to push an anti-gun agenda, complaining about the availability of guns on Chicago streets, until it was revealed that the murder weapon had been owned consecutively, without proper registration, by two cops."

Waldron added that, "those officers are gone, and courts never dealt with Salvador Tapia, so Mr. Beuck is a scapegoat. If a lawsuit arises out of this case, and they frequently do, would the estates of the two deceased officers who had that gun between the time Beuck owned it and the time it was used in the shootings

be liable? Would the city? Perhaps Mayor Daley should think about this before any further pronouncements about firearms in his city. It may be easy to get an undocumented gun in Chicago, and now it appears to be even easier if the undocumented gun belonged to a Chicago police officer."



POINT BLANK

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

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CCRKBA WHACKS AGS ON 'TOP 10' STATES LIST

A recently published list of the "Top 10 States" that export guns used in crime obviously was intended to promote increased restrictions on gun sales, but an analysis of the states listed more clearly demonstrates that such laws do not work, stated Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms Executive Director Joe Waldron.

The anti-gun Americans for Gun Safety (AGS) listed Virginia, Georgia, California, Florida, Texas, Mississippi, Ohio, Indiana, North Carolina and Alabama, in that order, as the worst 10 states for "exporting" guns later found to be used in crimes.

Waldron, however, noted quickly that at least three of those states have in place the kind of restrictive gun laws promoted by gun-grabbing groups as framework legislation to keep guns out of the hands of criminals. Virginia – rated first on the Top 10 List – has had a one-gun-a-month law on the books for eight years. California – in third place – requires all gun sales to go through a licensed dealer, so there is performed a required background check. North Carolina – in ninth place – requires a permit, issued by a sheriff following a background check, for every handgun sale.

"Those laws," stated Waldron, "in combination, are intended to prevent gun trafficking or identify gun trafficking, and they have not worked. If such laws don't work in those three states, why would anyone other than a snake oil salesman suggest they might work in the other seven states on that "10 Worst" list or, for that matter, in any of the 47 other states?"

"Of course," Waldron continued,

"anti-gunners overlook these nagging little details in their push for more restrictive gun laws. Their own list puts the lie to arguments that their panacea gun law proposals would stop or reduce gun crime, and prevent criminal access to firearms. All that their proposed laws are really designed to do is restrict further the firearm rights of law-abiding citizens, and turn more legal gun owners into paperwork felons."

In an interview published last month by the Cybercast News Service (CNSNews.Com), Waldron said that the solutions AGS offers "today and in the past are, in fact, the law in some of those states. Yet it doesn't appear to have had any impact on stopping the gun trafficking."

AGS Communications Director, Matt Bennett, said that, "most of the states on the list, save I believe California – there may be one other – have not closed the 'gun show loophole.' At least in our view, a lot of guns being trafficked that end up being used in crime may have come from traffickers purchasing them at gun shows."

Waldron, however, pointed out flatly that, "California, right there near the top of the list of their Top 10, already has the 'gun show loophole' closed. In fact, they have closed the 'gun show loophole,' and they have closed the 'private sale loophole.'"

No citizen of the State of California may sell a firearm to another citizen of the state without both the seller and the purchaser going to a federally licensed gun dealer and undergoing a Brady Instant Background Check, which creates a *de facto* registry of the gun purchase.

"There is no gun 'loophole' of any

kind in California," noted Waldron, "and yet it appears that California still is at or near the top of this gun trafficking list."

Bennett argued that California would not be on the Top 10 list if it were based on per-capita data, but Waldron said that misses the point, which is that the state with the laws gun control groups seek most is one of the top states supplying guns to criminals.

"The bottom line here is that the solutions they are offering have, in fact, been tried in other states," stated Waldron. "They're not solutions. The solution is to focus on the people who are misusing the guns, not to pass more and more restrictive laws that apply to the general population."

Waldron said that, "ninety-nine percent of the gun owners out there are never involved in criminal activity. Why waste finite resources on those people when we should be focusing on criminals?"

Some federal prosecutors last month criticized the AGS report as well. They complained that the report did not include prosecutions of gun traffickers and criminals illegally in possession of guns for crimes other than those relating to the firearms.

"There's a thousand things you can criticize us for," Tim Morrison, assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, told the Associated Press after the AGS report's release, "but I'd like to have accurate data."

CCRKBA STILL UPSET WITH SLOW

CCRKBA officials have criticized the foot-dragging of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in implementing the armed pilots program.

CCRKBA Public Affairs Director John Michael Snyder noted that, "It now is two years since the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. That same day, CCRKBA called for the voluntary arming of commercial pilots in an attempt to prevent further incidents. Pilot groups agreed, Congress agreed and the President signed into law the desired proposal. However, we still do not have in place a universal voluntary armed pilots program. That is the responsibility of TSA. It's about time those people got on the stick. The foot-dragging possibly is endangering the lives of pilots, flight crews and an untold number of innocent civilians."

CCRKBA Executive Director Joe Waldron, writing in a recent article appearing in the *VA Daily Press*, agreed, noting, "The Transportation Safety Administration seems to be doing more to thwart airline security than help it. In the process, TSA passenger screening procedures that first treat people like cattle and then like criminals, and the TSA's foot-dragging on the armed pilots program have convinced many Americans to stay on the ground and use alternate means of travel."

Pilots from most of the country's major passenger and cargo airlines gathered at airports around the nation have protested the slow implementation of the program.

"We urge President Bush and his administration, the TSA, and the Department of Homeland Security to accelerate the Federal Flight Deck Officer (FFDO) program," said Capt. Bob Lambert, president of the Airline

Pilots' Security Alliance (APSA). "U.S. intelligence has learned that al Qaeda still has an interest in using commercial aviation in the United States and around the world to further their cause through hijackings. There are, currently, just not enough armed pilots to create an adequate deterrent against this terrorism threat."

"Homeland Security is now playing what amounts to a shell game," Waldron said, "by announcing that it will 'double' the number of armed sky marshals...cross-training Customs and Immigration agents to fly the friendly skies. However, none of these people will fly regularly."

Waldron called the cross-training effort "yet another smokescreen to mask the deliberate delays and roadblocks that TSA has placed in the way of the armed pilots program."

Only about 200 pilots have completed the additional background investigations and psychological evaluations, along with a one-week training course required to become FFDOs. The agency says it has been conducting one training class of between 45 and 50 pilots per week since late July.

Sen. Jim Bunning (R-KY), a CCRKBA Congressional Advisor and an original co-sponsor of the FFDO legislation, criticized the TSA's pace and said federal air marshals alone will not serve as an adequate deterrent to terrorists.

"Pilots volunteering to receive this program's training are not receiving it in a fair and timely way. The TSA must do better," Bunning argued. "Air marshals and increased screening provide necessary layers of security, but armed pilots provide the first line of deterrence and the last line of defense to acts of terrorism with airplanes."

Bunning also wants to add cargo pilots to the FFDO program. He added a provision to arm cargo pilots as an amendment to the FAA Re-Authorization Bill just before Congress left for the August recess. He is hopeful that the House and Senate will act quickly to pass the Conference Report and sent it to President Bush.

Lambert agreed that cargo pilots should be included in the program.

"We should have thousands, not hundreds, rights now," Lambert said. "We should be having hundreds of pilots go through on a weekly basis."

John Moran, deputy assistant administrator for law enforcement and security training at the TSA, said he wants the program to work.

"We want to get as many pilots who are willing to volunteer out there trained, working, such that the terrorists, the people who may be plotting something against us, don't really know who's on what flight, when they're on that flight and how many of them there are," Moran told CNSNews.com. Moran disputed estimates by pilots' groups that 40,000 pilots want to apply to arm themselves in the cockpits.

"...We know the true number of pilots who have raised their hand and started the application process, and we know that the number is significantly less than what's been stated by the APSA and some others," Moran claimed.

Capt. James Shilling, legislative liaison for the Coalition of Airline Pilots Associations (CAPA), offered a rebuttal.

"The majority of the pilots I know want to participate. We want to make sure the skies are safe," Shilling said. "We have a lot of people who have wanted to show up for the program,

W PACE OF TSA IN ARMING PILOTS

and a lot of people have been turned down.”

Moran said only six percent of those who have applied for the FFDO program have not been accepted, for various reasons.

“We are training those who have expressed an interest within a reasonable period of time,” Moran said.

Shilling said that if there is low participation in the FFDO program, it is due to pilots’ fears of TSA retaliation, not lack of interest.

“Every pilot I know wants to be part of this. But the pilots are concerned,”

Shilling said. “I know people want to show up, I know people will show up, as long as they feel comfortable with the system.”

Lambert said pilots believe the system is designed to dissuade them from volunteering. APSA, CAPA and the Allied Pilots Association (APA) complain that several aspects of the selection and training of FFDOs just don’t make sense.

FFDOs are required to carry their handgun in a locked box whenever they are outside the cockpit. They must also put the gun into the locked

box anytime the cockpit door is unlocked, the precise moment when the pilot is most vulnerable to attack and would need immediate access to the firearm.

Applicants are required to undergo separate background checks and psychological evaluations in addition to those required every six months by the Federal Aviation Administration. If an applicant fails, the TSA may notify the applicant’s airline of the failure.

ALABAMA ATTORNEY GENERAL EARNS CCRKBA AWARD

Sometimes it is said the mettle of a man is known by the enemies he makes. If that is true, the mettle of this month's CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month is absolutely solid, noted CCRKBA Public Affairs Director John Michael Snyder, who nominated the Attorney General of the State of Alabama, Bill Pryor, for the Award.

"Pryor," said Snyder, "is so forthright, forceful and effective in defending the individual Second Amendment civil right to keep and bear arms that his nomination by President George W. Bush to the Federal Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit has brought forth virtually the entire gun-grabbing establishment in opposition to the appointment. From perennial anti-gun U.S. Senators such as Charles E. Schumer of New York, Dianne Feinstein of California and Richard J. Durbin of Illinois to the publicity grabbing anti-gun national organizations such as the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence and the so-called Million Mom March, the gun haters are out in force against this man. Schumer and others have mounted a filibuster in the Senate to prevent an up and down vote for his confirmation, even though the nomination has been approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"Pryor deserves our support. He certainly merits this award."

Pryor gave a speech three years ago, while Bill Clinton was still President, during a conference at the Cato Institute in Washington, D. C. The title of his speech was, "Extortion Parading as Law: The War on Guns."

In that speech, Pryor condemned the Clinton Administration policy of

using government power to attack the firearms industry.

"Rather than recognizing that crimes are caused by criminals and punish those criminals in the traditional public litigation known as criminal law, the Clintonians argue that crimes are the responsibility of the firearms industry and should be addressed in a new form of public litigation," Pryor said. "The Madisonian respect for individual responsibility, as embodied in the private law of torts, with its principles of assumption of risk and contributory negligence, is discarded in favor of a Clintonian framework of a new public law of torts with theories of negligent marketing and negligent design. The resolution of social problems, such as gun violence, is no longer primarily the responsibility of individuals in a free society; only the government allegedly can solve the problems.

"Gun control through litigation, in the end, will produce only more crime," he said. "As the costs of guns increase and their supply diminishes, the consumers who are most responsive to these economic factors, law-abiding citizens and law enforcement agencies, will become less able to combat crime. Meanwhile, criminals, whose demand for firearms is nearly inelastic, will become more powerful adversaries and their black market for firearms will become even more profitable. The proponents of this litigation ignore the substantial evidence that laws allowing concealment of firearms by law-abiding citizens actually reduce crime."

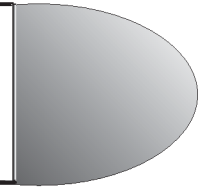
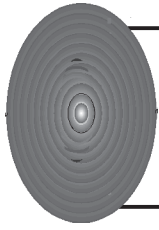
Pryor stated also that, "when this new paradigm fails, as is inevitable," the Clintonians will offer "more

government" as the next solution. "While freedom is superior to pervasive regulation," he declared, "the Clintonian framework promises a vicious cycle of failure that, with more regulation, continually produces even worse results. That is why the war on guns, like the war on tobacco, is ultimately another stage of the war on freedom."

Pryor also angered anti-gunners by getting 17 other state Attorneys General to join with him in sending a letter to U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft supporting Ashcroft's interpretation and enforcement of the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

In that letter, Pryor and the others commended Ashcroft's "position that 'the text and the original intent of the Second Amendment clearly protect the right of individuals to keep and bear arms.' We agree that this is the proper reading of the Second Amendment, and that this policy best protects the fundamental interest of Americans in security and self-preservation." They offered Ashcroft "our wholehearted support for your efforts."

Bill Pryor took office as Attorney General of Alabama in January of 1997. He was appointed by Gov. Fob James to complete the term of Jeff Sessions who was elected to the U.S. Senate. In November 1998, Pryor was elected to a full four year term and reelected in 2002 with 59 percent of the vote.



The National Educational Association (NEA) is calling for renewal of the 1994 Assault Weapons Ban, which will expire in September 2004 if Congress does not take action. NEA claims the ban has been “successful” in decreasing the supply of certain semiautomatic firearms, claiming they are “not well suited for hunting or self-defense, but they are the weapons of choice for criminals.” NEA says “our schools and communities need sensible gun safety legislation, not proposals like S. 659, which would protect gun dealers from lawsuits without any responsibility or accountability from the gun industry.”

Two gun makers who challenged Congress’ authority to ban the manufacture, sale and possession of certain semiautomatic firearms and copies or duplicates in any caliber recently lost a U.S. Supreme Court appeal. The Court, without comment, rejected an appeal that said Congress exceeded its power to regulate interstate commerce when it outlawed such guns in 1994. Florida-based Navegar, Inc., doing business as Intratec, manufactures two semiautomatic pistols, the TEC-DC9 and TEC-22, which are among the specifically banned firearms. Pennsylvania-based Penn Arms makes the Strike 12, a 12-gauge revolving cylinder shotgun, which is also banned under the law. Last year, the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia upheld the ban, calling the law permissible “regulation of activities having a substantial effect on interstate commerce.”

Wal-Mart announced that it would not sell guns and ammunition at its first store in St. Paul, MN, which is slated to open in the spring of 2004. Nationwide, all but a handful of the nearly 1,500 Wal-Mart stores sell guns. Wal-Mart does not sell handguns, except in Alaska. Addressing the Minnesota decision, Carlos Montoya, a Wal-Mart spokesman, said, “It’s just the right thing to do for that area and community. We want to be part of the community and a good neighbor.” Apparently, the decision was a reaction to anti-gun activity on the part of Snelling Hamline Community Council President Travis Snider and St. Paul City Council members Jay Bananav, Chris Coleman and Kathy Lantry.

In Lansing, MI the State Supreme Court last month refused to hear an appeal of a lower court ruling that communities can’t ban handguns from public buildings. The decision is a victory for the Michigan Coalition for Responsible Gun Owners. The group challenged the Ferndale, Michigan ban on guns in city buildings. The Michigan Court of Appeals threw out the ban earlier this year when it ruled in favor of three residents who has sued to defeat the ban.

Following two years of multi-million rand lawsuits about the issue, it now is almost impossible for a person to obtain a license for a firearm, reports the *Sunday Times* of the Republic of South Africa. “It

is like the police have introduced a quota system for firearms,” said legal expert Martin Hood. Gun dealers say the government is taking away the legal choice to own a firearm for self-protection. They have actual examples of the Central Firearms Registry refusing people a gun license because they “had not been attacked yet,” according to the report.” A Johannesburg woman was refused a license because she had a husband to protect her and others because the “police will protect them.”

Sappers from Lavarack Barracks were responsible for destroying the 3,500 illegal weapons Solomon Islanders handed in during a three-week gun amnesty in August. The amnesty also netted hundreds of thousands of rounds of ammunition, much of it left buried by U.S. troops during World War Two. Included in the weapons haul, according to the *Townsville Bulletin*, were 535 military assault rifles, grenade launchers and machine guns. Australian Federal Police station sergeant Avu Avu Geoff Clarson said villagers knew where American soldiers had buried weapons during World War Two. “The ammunition just kept coming in during the amnesty,” he said. “We had a total of 120 homemade weapons brought in.” Under tough new laws, people caught with weapons face up to 10 years in jail.

