



# POLICE POLL SUPPORTS CCRKBA GUN POSITIONS

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

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

*(a non-profit corporation)*

**National Headquarters:**  
12500 N.E. Tenth Place  
Bellevue, Washington 98005

**Capitol Hill Office:**  
600 Pennsylvania Ave. S.E. #205  
Washington, D.C. 20003

Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs in the United States agree generally with positions on gun rights taken by CCRKBA and other gun rights organizations, according to a recently released national survey of America's command officers.

The National Association of Chiefs of Police (NACOP), which conducted the survey, sent copies of its results to FBI Director Louis Freeh, to President Clinton and to members of the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives.

According to this 10th Annual Survey of American law enforcement command officers' opinions on a variety of subjects:

- Eighty-four percent believe that the non-renewal of nearly 52 percent of persons who held a Federal Firearms Dealer's License, due in part to higher fees, zoning requirements and fingerprinting of applicants, and visits from agents of BATF and local police, has not reduced illegal gun use in their communities;

- Seventy-two percent do not believe that law-abiding citizens in their states should be limited by state law to purchasing no more than one firearm a month;

- Over 63 percent do not support proposals that all firearms sold must be sold with a gun lock;

- Over 95 percent indicate their police agencies do not require their officers who carry or own firearms to purchase a gun lock;

- Eighty-nine percent indicate that, to their knowledge, the five-day handgun

*(Continued on page 2)*

# POLL SHOWS MOST POLICE OFFICERS PRO-GUN RIGHTS

(Continued from page 1)

purchase waiting period mandated by the Brady Law has not prevented any criminal from obtaining a firearm from illegal sources in their area;

- Over 96 percent believe that any law-abiding citizen who wishes to obtain a firearm of the types lawfully sold for home protection or recreation should be able to do so under current state law;

- Over 93 percent believe that, since in past years riots, earthquakes, hurricanes, floods and other national disasters have required citizens to protect themselves and their property until order could be restored, any law-abiding citizen should continue under state laws to be able to purchase any legal weapon for self-defense; and

- Over 89 percent believe that the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution recognizes the right of any law-abiding citizen to purchase a firearm

for self-defense or for sport under state and federal law.

The private postal survey was sent to 16,000 Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs in the United States and received a 6.3 percent response.

In another development, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist named William H. Webster, a former federal judge who served as both FBI Director (1978-1987) and as CIA Director (1987-1991), as Chairman of the Commission on the Advancement of Federal Law Enforcement.

Other Commission members are Victoria Toensing, a former Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Gilbert Gallegos, President of the Fraternal Order of Police, Robert M. Stewart, Chief of South Carolina's Law Enforcement Division, and Donald Dahlin, Chairman of the Political Science Department of the University of South Dakota. They were

chosen by Republican and Democratic leaders in Congress.

Congress created the Commission last year at the insistence of CCRKBA and other civil rights organizations as part of a so-called "anti-terrorism law." It provided no funding, however, until this spring, when it included, again at the insistence of CCRKBA and the other groups, two million dollars in the supplemental spending bill for fiscal 1997 which President Clinton signed into law on June 12. (See POINT BLANK, July, 1997, page 5.)

## CRITICAL ANTI-GUN INITIATIVE IN WASHINGTON STATE

Strongly anti-gun **Initiative I-676** has been qualified to appear on the November ballot. Anti-gunners portray it as a "public safety" measure, part of their national strategy of getting the public to perceive guns as a public health menace.

In fact, I-676 is nothing more than a repressive anti-gun measure, which would mean:

- **Licensing and registration** of every handgun owner in Washington.
- Renewal of a "**handgun safety license**" every five years.
- **Trigger locks** with every handgun sold.
- Reporting and registration of **private sales** of handguns.
- Creation of a "**handgun czar**" within the Department of Licensing.
- **Confiscation** of all handguns possessed without a "handgun safety license."
- Non-compliance enforced with **criminal charges and jail time**.

The official sponsor of I-676, "Washington Citizens for Handgun Safety," is actually a **front for HCI's Washington state affiliate**, Washington Ceasefire.

The initiative's co-chairman is none other than **federal prosecutor Tom Wales**, coincidentally also president of Washington Ceasefire.

Supporters of I-676 raised more than \$145,000 in the first four months of 1997. The **second largest donor** was Microsoft chairman BILL GATES, the world's richest man. He donated \$35,000. Broadcast maven Harriet Bullitt gave \$50,000.

Several others in the Seattle-area wealthy elite wrote \$10,000 checks in support of I-676. Since the majority of gun owners in Washington State are blue-collar workers and rural dwellers, this initiative looks like class warfare.



# POINT BLANK

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

<b>Editor</b>	John M. Snyder
<b>Publisher</b>	Alan M. Gottlieb
<b>Managing Editor</b>	J. H. Versnel
<b>Associate Editors</b>	Mike Connelly Ken Jacobson Jeff Kane Bob Kukla Jim Schneider

### Advertising Information Call (206)454-4911

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Correspondence and manuscripts should be sent to **POINT BLANK**, CCRKBA, 600 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E., Suite 205, Washington, D.C. 20003.

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# CCRKBA GREETS PRO-GUN ADVOCATES IN MARYLAND

John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, greeted a number of Maryland state firearms rights advocates during a major outdoor event this summer.

Among them was Ellen Sauerbrey, a former state legislator who is a gubernatorial candidate in elections to be held later this fall.

At an earlier meeting, Sauerbrey told Snyder that, if she is elected Governor, she will direct the Maryland State Police to liberalize their firearms permit granting policies so that more law-abiding Marylanders will be able to carry concealed firearms.

Sauerbrey lost out narrowly in her 1995 run for Governor to the anti-gun candidate, Parris Glendening. Governor Glendening is a candidate for reelection this year.

Last year, the Maryland state government, after eliminating Glendening's proposals for registration of firearms and licensing of gun owners, accepted most of his anti-gun legislative package and enacted it into law. This law requires background checks and a seven-day waiting period for people buying handguns secondhand, and limits handgun purchases to one a month, with some exceptions.

Glendening also attended the event, as did a number of other Maryland office holders and office seekers.

At the Bake, Snyder met with Tom Scott, who plans to run next year for the U. S. Senate against anti-gun Sen. Barbara Mikulski. Scott says he supports national CCW legislation, such as S. 816, by Sen. Larry Craig of Idaho, and H.R. 339, by Rep. Cliff Stearns of Florida.

Snyder also talked with House of Delegate candidates in this year's elections, including Chuck Floyd and Chris Mills, both of whom say they support CCW for Maryland.

Snyder got together, too, with Thaddeus C. Kosick and Andrew S. Ratcliffe, Jr., Wicomico County Chairman and Somerset County Chairman, respectively, of the Maryland State Rifle and Pistol Association, Inc.

Snyder thinks it's necessary for the pro-gun movement to highlight the significance of Maryland in the fight to

preserve gun rights because of inroads made by anti-gunners in recent years, including the enactment last year of much of Gov. Glendening's anti-gun legislative package.

Earlier this year, the State's two most populous counties became the latest municipalities around the country to adopt laws which require that the sale of a handgun include a so-called "safety lock."

In early July, Prince George's County and Montgomery County, both of which border Washington, D. C., passed the laws. The Montgomery law holds the buyer and the seller responsible for making sure a safety lock is part of the sale, while the Prince George's law holds only the seller responsible.

The laws were proposed by Wayne K. Curry, the Prince George's County Executive, and by Douglas M. Duncan, the Montgomery County Executive.

The Montgomery County law requires gun dealers and gun buyers to make sure that a trigger lock is attached to the gun or that the gun is placed in a lockable safe whenever it changes ownership. In addition, county residents must buy safety locks or lock boxes if they buy a handgun in another jurisdiction and bring it back into the county with them.

Montgomery County also passed a law forbidding adults to give, sell, rent or lend a gun to anyone under 18 except as part of a firearms training program, although parents still are allowed to give guns to their own children.

The law prohibits transportation or possession of a firearm within 100 feet of a park, church, school or public recreation center. Any existing gun shops within these "gun free zones" must move or go out of business within five years.

Derick Berlage of Silver Spring, who

sponsored the law, initially wanted to prohibit any gun possession in the "gun free zones," but the final bill, as enacted into law, allows gun owners to keep their firearms at home and business owners to keep guns in their stores.

The state law is enforced currently by the Maryland State Police in such manner as to prohibit most people from

carrying loaded handguns in public. The Montgomery County law prohibits the carrying of shotguns and rifles within the "gun free zones." People can still carry guns in the zones, but only if they are unloaded and inside enclosed containers.

Art Harris, who owns the Gentleman Hunter in Bethesda, Montgomery County, the only known gun shop which will be affected by the law, said he spent \$100,000 on the design and security of his shop, which is within 100 yards of a small park, less than one-quarter acre.

Harris said "I'm not sure I'll be able to afford to move, even in five years," but added that he may challenge the law in court.

# WITH OVER 10% OF HOUSE C CCRKBA CONTINUES PUSH FOR

As this issue of POINT BLANK goes to press, more than 10 percent of the members of the U.S. House of Representatives have signed on as cosponsors of H.R. 339, the proposed Right to Safety and Personal Protection Act, a national CCW reciprocity bill introduced by Congressman Cliff Stearns of Florida.

John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, calls on CCRKBA Members and Supporters to contact their own U.S. Representative and ask him or her to cosponsor H.R. 339 if he or she has not already done so.

He also urges CCRKBA Members and Supporters to contact both of their U.S. Senators and ask them to become cosponsors of the Senate version of the bill, S. 816, by Sen. Larry Craig of Idaho, a CCRKBA Congressional Advisor and CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Awardee.

Cosponsors of H.R. 339 include Reps. Robert B. Aderholt of Alabama, Spencer Baucus of Alabama, James Barcia of Michigan, Bob Barr of Georgia, Roscoe Bartlett of Maryland, Sonny Bono of California, Ed Bryant of Tennessee, Jim Bunning of Kentucky, Charles Canady of Florida, Robert "Bud" E. Cramer, Jr. of Alabama, Barbara Cubin of Wyoming, John Doolittle of California, Jo Ann H. Emerson of Missouri, John Ensign of Nevada, Terry Everett of Alabama, Jon D. Fox of Pennsylvania, James A. Gibbons of Nevada, Bob Goodlatte of Virginia, Virgil H. Goode, Jr. of Virginia, Ralph Hall of Texas, James V. Hansen of Utah, Richard "Doc" Hastings of Washington, J. D. Hayworth of Arizona, Van Hilleary of Tennessee, Earl Hilliard of Alabama, Tim Holden of Pennsylvania, John N. Hostettler of Indiana, Asa Hutchinson of Arkansas, Walter Jones, Jr. of North Carolina, Ray LaHood of Illinois, Ron Lewis of Kentucky, David McIntosh of Indiana, Mike McIntyre of North Carolina, John P. Murtha of Pennsylvania, Sue Myrick of North Carolina, Bob Ney of Ohio, Charles Norwood of Georgia, Ron Paul of Texas, Joe Scarborough of Florida, Linda Smith of Washington, John E. Peterson of Pennsylvania, Charles "Chip" Pickering, Jr. of Mississippi, Nick J. Rahall II of West Virginia, Bob Riley of Alabama, Max A. Sandlin of Texas, Pete Sessions of Texas, Adam Smith of Washington, Mark Souder of Indiana, Floyd

Spence of South Carolina, Bob Stump of Arizona, Gene Taylor of Mississippi, Jim Turner of Texas, Wes W. Watkins of Oklahoma, Roger Wicker of Mississippi and Don Young of Alaska.

Shortly before Congress adjourned for its summer recess, Rep. Stearns, a CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Awardee, submitted a written statement in support of H.R. 339 to Rep. Bill McCollum of Florida, Chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, and also a CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Awardee. The occasion for the Stearns statement was a public hearing which the Crime Subcommittee held July 22 on bills which would allow law enforcement officers to carry firearms nationwide.

Stearns took the opportunity to characterize the hearing as "an important first step in allowing citizens their constitutional right to keep and bear arms. Law-abiding citizens have the right to protect themselves, their families and their property."

"Thomas Jefferson wrote, 'No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms.' I, along with many of my colleagues, wholeheartedly agree and have fought attempts to limit a law-abiding citizen's constitutional right to keep and bear arms.

"As a strong supporter of the Second Amendment, I have introduced H.R. 339, 'The Right to Safety and Personal Protection Act,' legislation designed to facilitate the ability of law-abiding citizens to protect themselves, their families and their property. Specifically, it allows (a) that the law of each State governs conduct within that State where the state has a right-to-carry statute; and (b) that Federal law provide a bright-line standard of conduct applicable to States that do not have a right-to-carry statute.

"Under H.R. 339, if State A has a right-to-carry statute, an individual's conduct who was licensed in State B would be governed by the right-to-carry laws of State A while he was traveling within State A. Therefore, if State A imparts more privileges upon the individual licensed to carry than State B, than the individual licensed to carry in State B would be governed by the right-to-carry laws of State A while he was in State A.

"The individual licensed in State B

would also be in compliance with the law if he carried in State C with no right-to-carry statute pursuant to the federal bright-line standard. The federal bright-line standard governing those States with no right-to-carry statute would solve the problem of States with no carry licenses and thus no standards. This federal bright-line standard governs conduct only, meaning it governs where one may not carry a concealed firearm notwithstanding the fact that they have

# RE COSPONSORING H.R. 339, FOR NATIONAL CCW PROPOSAL

a license to carry. It is intended to make clear that an individual may not carry a concealed firearm in certain highly sensitive locations such as court rooms, police stations, schools and other locations.

"The federal bright-line standard is not a licensing mechanism. Licenses to carry would still need to be lawfully obtained from a State which has a licensing mechanism.

"A federal standard governs the conduct of non-residents in those States

that do not have a right-to-carry statute. However, States that do not have their own right-to-carry statutes can be assured that their state laws will be respected by non-residents who are within their borders. This legislation greatly benefits and protects this nation's ever increasingly mobile society. I believe citizens have the right to protect themselves and their families anywhere in America. It does not make sense for Americans to forfeit their safety because they happen to be on a vacation or on a business trip.

"However, if the law of a given State explicitly allows licensees to carry in some places not authorized in the Federal standard, it certainly makes no sense for the non-resident to be in violation while the resident would not be held in violation. My bill authorizes the carrying of a concealed firearm by a licensee if the licensee meets the conditions of the State law through which the non-resident is traveling or if their conduct meets the federal bright-line rule.

"The right to keep and bear arms has been recognized by the Congress and the Supreme Court as applying across state lines. For instance, the Dred Scott case used the privileges and immunities guarantee of Article IV, Section 2 to recognize a right 'to keep and carry arms wherever they went.' *Dred Scott v. Sanford*, 60 U.S. (19 How.) 393, at 417 (1857). The evidence is also clear that Congress intended the 14th Amendment to guarantee a right to keep and bear arms. See, e.g., Akhil Reed Amar, *The Bill of Rights and the Fourteenth Amendment*, 101 Yale L. J. 1193 (1991). Section 5 of the 14th Amendment empowers Congress to enforce the amendment's provisions by appropriate legislation.

"H. R. 339 would not establish a federal licensing bureaucracy, nor would it override existing state laws which specify the times, places and manners in which licensed individuals may carry firearms, much like automobile permits from different states are recognized in all 50 states. Unlike the Brady Act, H. R. 339 respects the Tenth Amendment and does not impose enforcement or implementation duties on local officials. Instead, in the 42 States which currently have some type of licensing system for the carrying of concealed firearms, it

would apply existing state laws to individuals with out-of-state licenses.

"Two major precedents exist for legislation establishing nationwide recognition of state carry permits for handguns.

"In 1993, Congress enacted the Armored Car Industry Reciprocity Act (15 U.S. Code sections 5901 to 5904), which established the nationwide validity of licenses to carry firearms granted to armored car guards operating in interstate commerce. The Congress revisited this issue by making technical changes earlier this year (H.R. 624).

"In 1986, as part of the Firearms Owners Protection Act, Congress enacted a safe harbor provision allowing people traveling with lawfully-owned firearms to transport those firearms 'Notwithstanding any other provision of any law, of any rule or regulation of a State or any political subdivision thereof,' as long as certain restrictions are followed concerning the manner in which firearms are transported (18 U.S. Code section 926A).

"Congress usually relies on the commerce clause (U. S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8) as its authority for enacting such legislation. In addition, Congress appears to have power to enact H. R. 339 by relying on Article IV, Section 1: 'Full faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other State; and the Congress may by general laws prescribe the manner in which such acts, records and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.'

"H.R. 339 also contains language which addresses the concerns of the law enforcement community. H. R. 339 exempts current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns. Law enforcement officers have undergone extensive training with firearms. It is now time to set a standard so they can carry concealed handguns without penalty of law."

# POLICE EXECUTIVE THE CCRKBA RIGHTS AWARDEE

Veteran police Lt. Morton Feldman, Executive Vice President of the National Association of Chiefs of Police (NACOP), is the designated recipient of the CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Award for September.

In nominating Feldman for the Award, John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said that "Mort, by his outspoken defense of the individual right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms, demonstrates effectively the truism that there is a natural alliance between law-abiding, gun owning American citizens and the thousands of fine American law enforcement officers who work and sacrifice to provide for the public safety in our society.

"Mort certainly is most deserving of this Award."

Feldman told POINT BLANK, in fact, that the great majority of law enforcement officers in the United States support the individual right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms. Practically the only police spokesmen and officials of police organizations who do not, he said, "are those who get government money." NACOP does not receive government funding.

Feldman states flatly that "no written law has ever prevented a criminal from doing what he wanted to do." He adds further that "all gun control does is impede the honest citizen from being able to defend himself or herself."

Feldman is a 30-year veteran of the criminal justice system who retired from the Broward County Sheriff's Office in Fort Lauderdale, Florida to join the NACOP staff in 1993. The holder of an Associate of Arts degree

with a thousand hours of additional law enforcement training, Mort, a Certified Instructor in Law Enforcement, Corrections and Security, has worked with the Broward County Juvenile Court in Fort Lauderdale, as well as the Dade County Sheriff's Office in Miami and the Family Corrections Program in North Miami.

He writes that "all trained, qualified, age appropriate people who wish to own and/or carry a concealed firearm must not be hindered by laws designed to prevent criminals from obtaining them. There are some 20,000 gun laws and none have prevented a criminally bent individual from getting a gun.

"The time has come to concentrate on criminal control, not gun control.

"To quote a famous line from a movie: We the victims of revolving door criminality are 'sick and tired of it and we won't put up with it any longer.'

"There is more than ample evidence that a properly armed citizenry can and does help themselves and law enforcement."

At NACOP's Miami offices, Feldman is responsible for research and response to law enforcement agencies and the media with respect to law enforcement and security issues. He has developed and implemented a 40-hour training program, in accordance with state requirements, for the basic security officer's license.

From 1984 through 1993, as a Lieutenant in the Broward County Sheriff's Office, Feldman was responsible for the development and implementation of a training program for 600 new employees. He supervised a staff of 112 deputies and sergeants, 600-1,500 inmates and a 50

million dollar maximum security facility.

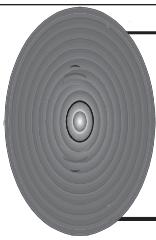
His experience prior to that included basic line duties in a maximum security jail, group and individual counseling with youth and family as referred by juvenile court, evaluations of subordinates, and as a probation/parole officer investigating the offenses, backgrounds and histories of juvenile offenders.

His scores of articles have appeared in the DAYTON LAW REVIEW, CHIEF OF POLICE MAGAZINE, POLICE TIMES, WOMAN'S DAY and other publications. He has appeared on CNN, CNBC, "Good Morning America," the Arts & Entertainment Network and numerous radio shows.

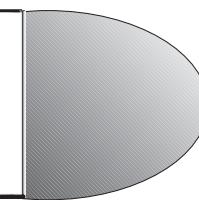
Feldman is a critic of the Lautenberg Amendment, which prohibits the owning or possession of a firearm by any person convicted of a misdemeanor offense of domestic violence.

"This is clearly a high profile, well received, well intended concept that seeks to provide protection for the victims of domestic violence," he writes.

"This law needs correcting. There are a number of ways to correct this law and still provide ample protection for the victims of domestic violence. One, make the effective date 30 September 1996, with no exceptions. Two, make all domestic violence offenses, as described in the Gun Control Act of 1968, felonies, with no plea bargaining to a lower level. Three, combine suggestions one and two. If we fail to act quickly and effectively, we are on the way to a new national police force for firearms."



# QUICK SHOTS



In July, the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee shot down a proposed trigger lock provision that had been introduced by Sen. Herb Kohl of Wisconsin as an amendment to the juvenile justice bill.

The Committee replaced the proposal with one introduced by the Chairman, Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah, deemed acceptable by the American Shooting Sports Council, a firearms industry representative group.

The Kohl proposal would have mandated the sale of a trigger locking device with every handgun sold by federally licensed dealers. The Hatch amendment stipulates simply that federally licensed dealers must make these locks available for sale at their places of business.

President Clinton said he was "disappointed" in the Committee action.

When the bill, S. 10, comes to the Senate floor for a vote, possibly this month, Sen. Kohl is expected to offer his proposal there again as an amendment.

Other objectionable initiatives which most likely will be offered as amendments to S. 10 include proposals to reduce further the number of federal firearms license holders, already down to 110,000 from 286,000 in 1993, to 50,000, by mandating government prescribed "security" measures for the FFLs; to create new "gun trafficking" crimes; to eliminate purchases of more than one gun-a-month; and to define and ban so-called "junk guns."

On July 29, the Appropriations Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives approved an amendment to the Treasury Department appropriations bill which would allow certain surplus U.S. military rifles and pistols to reenter the United States and be sold here.

Among the affected surplus imported firearms would be M-1 Garand and M-1 carbine rifles and .45 caliber M1911 pistols.

Sponsoring the amendment was Rep. John P. Murtha of Pennsylvania. His proposal would bar federal agencies

from spending government funds to block applications from parties seeking to import the affected firearms.

Anti-gun Sen. Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey, who opposes the move, blistered, saying that "if the gun lobby wants to flood our streets with 2.5 million more weapons and enrich foreign governments, they ought to have the guts to do it in the open."

Also opposed, apparently, is Raymond W. Kelly, the Treasury Department's Undersecretary for Enforcement, who commented that "this is a policy change that shouldn't be made without more deliberation," and that it "could be a problem for law enforcement."

Bill McIntyre, however, speaking for the Firearms Importers Roundtable (FAIR), said it is "outlandish" to raise fears of criminals toting M-1 carbines.

Hilary Rosen, President of the Recording Industry Association of America, "says she was called into the office of Sen. Kent Conrad (D.-N.D.), who showed her a letter from a distraught constituent," reports Linton Weeks in the July 30 Style section of THE WASHINGTON POST. "The man's teenage son," continues Weeks, "had shot himself while listening to a Marilyn Manson record. Conrad wanted to know what Rosen was going to do about this."

"Rosen replied, 'Senator, where did a 14-year-old kid get a gun?'

"Conrad told her that everyone in North Dakota can get guns."

"So, Senator," she said, "you want to get rid of the music, but everybody wants to keep their guns?"

"Asked to comment on the story, Conrad said that Rosen didn't get it quite straight. 'It's kind of disappointing that somebody comes to my office, then misrepresents what occurred there,' he said. 'I asked her to go back to the record company and ask them how they justify making tons of money off of music that's irresponsible and twisted. Don't they have some obligation to the society to cease and desist putting out this garbage?'

"What she has done is very clever. It is to twist this into a gun control issue," he said. "She's a smooth Washington insider."

In Hartford, Connecticut, the State Supreme Court ruled July 21 that a state law requiring safe storage of guns at home, known as the "kids-and-guns" bill, is constitutional.

The United Nations has urged the nation of Columbia to outlaw peasant self-defense groups operating across the country, reports THE WASHINGTON TIMES.

Columbia's Constitutional Court was getting ready to rule on the legality of a 1994 decree permitting the creation of rural militias.

Columbia's Attorney General, Jaime Bernal Cuellar, said in July that he sees no reason to ban such armed groups and that, in his opinion, the decree is constitutionally sound.

However, Almudena Mazarrasa, Director of Columbia's recently formed U.N. Human Rights Office, said July 18 that the decree should be revoked. She alluded to frequent charges that the militias are tied to rightist groups fighting a dirty war against leftist rebels and their suspected sympathizers.

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