

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



**July
2006**

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FOR THE RIGHT
TO KEEP AND
BEAR ARMS**

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CCRKBA ENDORSES ALLEN CCW RECIPROCITY MEASURE

CCRKBA has endorsed a bill by Sen. George Allen of Virginia to provide a national standard in accordance with which nonresidents of a state may carry concealed firearms in the state. The measure, S. 3275, has been referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. It is a companion to H.R. 4547, introduced last year in the House of Representatives by Rep. Clifford Stearns of Florida. Both Sen. Allen and Rep. Stearns have been named CCRKBA Gun Rights Defenders of the Month.

S. 3275, said Sen. Allen, "would allow any person with a valid concealed carry permit or license issued by a state to carry a concealed firearm in any other state if they meet certain criteria. The laws of each state that govern where concealed firearms may be carried would still apply and would be fully respected within its borders. The bill would simply require states to recognize each other's concealed carry permits and licenses. It would not create a federal licensing system."

If a state other than the individual ccw permit holder's state of residence does not issue a ccw permit, the out-of-state ccw permit holder could still carry a concealed firearm in that state provided such holder does not carry the concealed firearm in certain places listed in S. 3275.

"The right-to-carry movement has enjoyed great success throughout our Nation," Sen. Allen noted. "To cite just one example, the murder rate in my Commonwealth of Virginia has plunged a dramatic 40 percent since the right-to-carry law that I signed as Governor took effect in 1995.

"This is common-sense legislation. It recognizes that Congress has affirmed an individual's right to carry firearms for "protective purposes in the Gun Control Act, 1968, and in the Firearm Owners' Protection Act, 1986. In addition, last year, when Congress passed the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act on a strong bi-partisan vote, we preserved all law-abiding citizens' access to firearms and ammunition for all lawful purposes, including, of course, self-defense."

Sen. Allen urged all Senators to join "in cosponsoring this bill to increase the safety of the many law-abiding Americans who have chosen to carry a firearm for protection against criminal attack."

John Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, urged "CCRKBA Members and Supporters to contact both of their Senators and their own Representative to request that they cosponsor S. 3275 and H.R. 4547.

"There really is very little time remaining in this legislative year but, hopefully, law-abiding American firearm owners can work quickly and effectively to promote enactment of this much needed ccw reciprocity legislation as soon as possible."

PRESS NOTES SUCCESS OF PRO-GUN INITIATIVES

Even though many, if maybe even most, press personnel are anti-gun and anti-gun rights in their professional as well as personal approach to Second Amendment and Second Amendment related issues, some members of the press are beginning to notice the successful on the ground promotion of some pro-gun legislative initiatives.

One example of this development occurred when the Associated Press delivered to its subscribers an article by Robert Tanner proclaiming in a headline in at least one newspaper, the Las Vegas Sun: States Signing on to Deadly Force Law.

"A campaign by gun rights advocates to make it easier to use deadly force in self-defense is rapidly winning support across the country, as state after state makes it legal for people who feel their lives are in danger to shoot down an attacker – whether in a car jacking or just down the street," Tanner reported.

In Washington, D.C., John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said: "This could be a significant development. The Associated Press most likely is the wire service most commonly used by most news gathering and news distributing organizations. The fact that so preeminent an American institution has noted a number of states passing this pro-self-defense, pro-gun legislation could indicate that the press gradually and finally is realizing that, guess what, law-abiding Americans want to be able to use force, even deadly force, for legitimate defense against violent criminals!"

According to the Associated Press article, "the law has spurred debate about whether it protects against lawlessness or spurs more crime.

"Supporters say it's an unambiguous answer to random violence, while critics – including police chiefs and prosecutors – warn that criminals are more likely to benefit than innocent victims.

"Ten states so far this year have passed a version of the law, after Florida was the first last year."

As of this writing, the states that as of this writing have enacted the legislation so far this year are Arizona, Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

Pro-gun and right-to-self-defense activists call the new laws "stand your ground laws." Opponents call the legislation by derogatory nicknames, like "shoot first," "shoot the Avon lady," or even "right to commit murder" laws.

Basically and generally, the laws broaden the legal meaning of self-defense by removing state requirements that a person who is attacked has a "duty to retreat" before resorting to the use of deadly force. The laws often stipulate that people can use deadly force if they think they are in danger in any place they have a legal right to be, such as a parking lot, a bar, or a church. They provide for immunity from criminal charges and civil liability.

"Law-abiding citizens aren't going to take it anymore," says Oklahoma State Representative Kevin Calvey. The campaign for the legislation is simply about self-defense, he added. A Republican, he is the author of the new law in Oklahoma. It passed overwhelmingly in both houses of the state legislature, 83-4 in the State House of Representatives, and 39-5 in the State Senate.

Rep. Calvey said that the new law

"is going to give the crooks second thoughts about carjackings and things like that. They're going to get a face full of lead!"

Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry, signed the measure into law, declaring: "This act will allow Oklahomans to protect themselves, their loved ones and their property."

Unfortunately, however, the legislative proposals have not met yet with universal success. The Associated Press article notes that, in New Hampshire, the legislation passed narrowly but then was vetoed there by Governor John Lynch.



POINT BLANK

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

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URGE CONGRESS TO ACT AGAINST GLOBAL GUN BAN

As you read this, the United Nations probably will just have completed its summer Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons.

It's quite obvious that gun grabbers at the United Nations are after Americans' guns.

As Kofi Annan, the UN General Secretary, stated: "We must not relax our efforts to combat the scourge of illicit arms and light weapons, which continue to kill, maim, and displace scores of thousands of innocent people every year."

UN gun grabbers and their supporters promote global gun control under the phony rubric of battling "the scourge of illicit arms and light weapons," including, of course, firearm models which are used by millions of law-abiding Americans. They want to ban millions of guns Americans own and use for self-defense and other legitimate purposes.

We Americans must wake up to this international threat to our freedom.

Point Blank readers can urge Congress now to enact legislation that could cut the legs out from under the UN gun grabbers.

Fortunately, legislation had been introduced in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives to thwart UN gun grabbers. It would provide that the UN get no money from the USA unless it's clean on the right to keep and bear arms.

Point Blank readers should write their own Representative and both of their Senators and suggest that they become co-sponsors of the proposed legislation.

The bill, H.R. 3436 in the House,

and S. 1488 in the Senate, is short-titled the Second Amendment Protection Act.

Introduced by two Louisianians, Sen. Dave Vitter and Rep. Charles Boustany, both CCRKBA Gun Rights Defenders of the Month, it would declare: "It is the sense of Congress that the United States should not provide financial support to international entities that abridge the constitutionally protected rights of law-abiding citizens of the United States to keep and bear arms."

It has been referred to the Committee on International Relations in the House and to the Committee on Foreign Relations in the Senate.

The measure would find that the United States is steadfast in its commitment to the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which provides that the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

It would stipulate that the anti-gun UN Program of Action calls for actions that could abridge the Second Amendment rights of individuals in the United States, including through the establishment of a comprehensive program for worldwide gun control; an international tracking certificate which would be used to ensure United Nations monitoring control over the export, import, transit, stocking, and storage of legal small arms and light weapons; worldwide record keeping, for an indefinite amount of time, on the manufacture, holding, and transfer of small arms and light weapons; and national registries and tracking lists of all legal firearms.

It would state that "the United Nations has encouraged member states of the United Nations to integrate

measures to control ammunition with regard to small arms, contrary to the rights guaranteed to citizens of the United States under the Second Amendment, and some member states have expressed a desire to tax international arms sales and for a total ban on certain types of firearms."

This proposed Second Amendment Act would provide that, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the United States may not provide any funding to the United Nations for a fiscal year unless, prior to the last day of the preceding fiscal year, the President makes a certification regarding the gun rights cleanliness of the UN.

This certification would be a document submitted to Congress by the President that states the United Nations has not taken action to restrict, attempt to restrict, or otherwise adversely infringe upon the rights of individuals in the United States to possess a firearm or ammunition, including the imposition of a tax that will interfere with the right to own a firearm or ammunition.

CCRKBA Chairman, Alan Gottlieb, who will be in attendance at the Conference says all *Point Blank* readers should contact the Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Sen. Richard G. Lugar (IN), at (202) 224-4651 or SD-450, Washington, D.C. 20510, and the Chairman of the House International Relations Committee, Rep. Henry J. Hyde (OH), at (202) 225-5021 or 2170 RHOB, Washington, D.C. 20515, and request that they hold public hearings.

INVESTIGATE BLOOMBERG, SAY GOTTLIEB AND WALDRON

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg should be investigated for obstruction of justice, and possibly prosecuted under the federal RICO statutes, for his recent headline-hunting "sting" operation of alleged law-breaking gun dealers, said CCRKBA leaders.

"According to the New York Daily News, 'Quick Draw' Bloomberg's decision to hire private investigators for this gun control stunt has apparently jeopardized several criminal cases," said CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb. "In his foolish zeal to drum up support for an anti-gun campaign, Bloomberg quite possibly has put real investigations at risk. This appears to be as clear cut a case of obstruction of justice as I've ever witnessed and Bloomberg should be investigated, and prosecuted if necessary."

CCRKBA Executive Director Joe Waldron added: "The fact that Bloomberg hired private investigators who have no authority to conduct sting operations in several states – operations that apparently involved falsely filling out federal background check paperwork – could open Bloomberg up to prosecution under the federal racketeering statutes, and for conspiracy to commit multiple federal felonies, if nothing else. Private citizens, including so-called investigators, cannot give deliberately false information of a Form 4473. That's a crime, and because Bloomberg set the whole thing up, he would be an accessory to that crime."

Waldron emphasized that, "it doesn't matter if he's a billionaire. Rich politicians are not above the law!"

Gottlieb called on federal pros-

ecutors and the U.S. Department of Justice to open an investigation of Bloomberg's anti-gun sting. Bloomberg reportedly launched the project as a means of finding rogue gun dealers he could sue in federal court, apparently in an effort to grab media attention.

Gottlieb wrote in *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* that Bloomberg's "lawsuit against 15 alleged 'rogue' firearm dealers in five states is political grandstanding run amok. The press and prosecutors in those five states ought to be asking Bloomberg why, if his investigators had positively identified these retailers and caught them in an illegal act, was the information not turned over to the proper authorities, including the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives."

Gottlieb stated that, "the headline-hunting Bloomberg launched a civil lawsuit in what should be, if he is to be believed, a criminal action. The private investigators New York hired to conduct this sting must have made deliberately false statements on federal firearm purchase forms. That's a felony. If Bloomberg sent them to do this, he's an accessory, if not a conspirator.

"Given Bloomberg's anti-gun history, and that of New York's previous unsuccessful efforts to sue firearm manufacturers, he is turning his attention to retailers. Yet, his ultimate goal remains the same, and it has nothing to do with stopping criminals. His intent, and that of his cheerleaders, is to demonize gun owners and ultimately drive gun manufacturers out of business while destroying the individual right to keep and bear arms in the process."

Behind Bloomberg's "pathetic charade," Gottlieb wrote, is his "hope of stopping federal legislation that would prevent cities from gaining access to firearms tracing data. He and other anti-gun mayors want to conduct legal fishing expeditions to bolster junk lawsuits against gun makers, which Congress outlawed last year. Those data are available to law enforcement agencies conducting bona fide criminal investigations, and he knows it.

"The National Shooting Sports Foundation has a superb program called 'Don't Lie for the Other Guy,' aimed at stopping illegal gun purchases. Bloomberg prefers not to cooperate with the gun industry to catch criminals, but to grab headlines in what can only be described as a campaign that is lacking in substance."

The New York Times, which supports Bloomberg's anti-gun lawsuit, editorialized that, "mayors, who are held responsible for crime control, should keep up the pressure."

In a conclusion to which gun owners and gun organizations should pay close attention, the anti-gun newspaper noted that, "unfortunately, Mayor Bloomberg has failed to use one of the most potent methods of persuasion at his disposal. As Diane Cardwell recently noted in *The Times*, he has made sizable campaign contributions to pro-gun congressional candidates. Cutting off such politicians would help drive home the message of the lawsuit, that there needs to be a better balance between the rights of gun owners and the right of everyone not to be shot by an illegal gun."

CCRKBA UNDERSCORES RKBA DURING HURRICANE MONTHS

As officials in several hurricane-prone states have begun preaching self-reliance to the public, CCRKBA reminded those officials that “such rhetoric is empty if the government moves to disarm citizens.”

In the U.S. House of Representatives, meanwhile, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure by voice vote ordered reported H.R. 5013, by Rep. Bobby Jindal of Louisiana, to prohibit the confiscation of firearms during certain national emergencies.

Subsequently, Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco signed into law a measure making it clear that emergency powers granted to the Governor and other state officials do not authorize the seizure or confiscation

of a firearm or ammunition from an individual if the items are lawfully possessed or used.

Recalling the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, during which roving bands of police and other law enforcement officers, and squads of National Guard troopers disarmed citizens, sometimes at gunpoint, in and around New Orleans, CCRKBA Executive Director Joe Waldron cautioned public officials about repeating that egregious civil rights affront this year, anywhere a storm hits.

Waldron declared that, “warrantless searches of private property, specifically firearms, with no probable cause or a shred of evidence that a crime has been committed, must never happen again, anywhere in

the United States.

“In situations where personal safety may depend on the presence of a firearm, it is preposterous for any public official to tell people to be prepared, and not include advice on securing a defensive firearm and ammunition, and the skills to use it if necessary,” he added.

In a related development, New Orleans Police Superintendent Warren Riley backed down from his announced plan to confiscate guns again if a major storm hits the city this year after CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb announced that the Second Amendment Foundation, of which he is Founder, had called for a U.S. Justice Department investigation of the plan.

GENOCIDE SCHOLARS THE CCRKBA JULY DEFENDERS

Doctor Paul Gallant and Doctor Joanne D. Eisen are the joint CCRKBA Gun Rights Defenders of the Month for July.

"Gallant and Eisen are two of the more important gun policy researchers in the world, and are playing a major role in the struggle against United Nations gun prohibition," reports Dave Kopel, Research Director of the Independence Institute. Kopel nominated the two scholars for the joint Award.

Kopel himself should be familiar to Point Blank readers. He has been honored with various CCRKBA awards for his own numerous scholarly efforts on behalf of the individual right to keep and bear arms.

Gallant is an ophthalmologist, and Eisen is a dentist. Both live in New York State. They are Senior Fellows with the Independence Institute, in Colorado.

Gallant and Eisen are members of the International Association of Genocide Scholars. They write extensively on the relationship between gun prohibition and genocide. One of their most important articles, forthcoming in the Notre Dame Law Review, examines the Darfur, Sudan genocide, and demonstrates that—because none of the politically correct methods to stop genocide have succeeded—groups targeted for genocide have a right under international law to possess defensive arms. This is the first scholarly article to demonstrate in detail that there is any form of an international right to keep and bear arms.

Kopel writes that, "Paul and Joanne are not only the best at what they do; they're the only ones who do what they do."

He explains: "The international gun prohibition movement includes hundreds of anti-gun research organizations; many of these so called 'non-government organizations' receive heavy funding from governments, for the purpose of creating an intellectual climate hostile to gun ownership. At the intellectual level, Paul and Joanne are virtually the only producers of scholarship which challenges the anti-gun international propaganda."

Among the countries which Gallant and Eisen have written about are Guatemala, Jamaica, Panama, Canada, Albania, Bosnia, England, Mali, Kenya, Sudan, South Africa, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Bougainville, Cambodia, East Timor, New Zealand, the Solomon Islands, and Sri Lanka. They also have authored many articles about gun rights in the United States. Their work has been translated into French, Spanish and Portuguese.

Among their current projects are gun prohibition laws applied to slaves and to free blacks in antebellum America, and the human rights violations resulting from UN-imposed gun prohibition in Kenya.

Early in their writing careers, Gallant and Eisen wrote frequently for Guns & Ammo and Gun Week. Later, they co-authored many columns with Kopel for National Review Online. Today, they write several times a year for America's First Freedom, usually biographies of pro-gun heroes, such as NRA President and Civil War General Winfield Scott Hancock, or First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. Their main focus, though, is on articles for academic journals. They have written many major scholarly

articles in journals such as the Brown Journal of World Affairs, the Journal of Firearms & Public Policy, and the Texas Review of Law and Politics.

Among their topics are microdisarmament (gun confiscation one country at a time), economic development (refuting the propaganda that gun ownership impedes Third World prosperity), and the relationship between gun ownership and sovereignty.

In an article published by Doctors for Sensible Gun Laws, Gallant and Eisen wrote that, "instead of finding unbiased scientists among the firearm prohibitionists searching for the truth, what we've found, instead, is intentional distortion, outright lying, and bait-and-switch tactics, the extent of which boggles the mind—a whole cadre of anti-gun 'junk scientists' resorting to lies and propaganda, because that's the only means of keeping their agenda alive."

All of their work has a consistent theme: standing up for victims.

During the days of the Roman Republic, citizens were taught to admire the ancient hero "Horatio at the Bridge" and his two friends who fought off the Etruscan invaders at a narrow pass – risking their lives to give the other Romans time to destroy the bridge over the River Tiber.

The grateful Romans erected a statue of Horatio. CCRKBA can not afford to commission a statue, but we can gratefully offer this Award to our modern Horatios – Paul Gallant and Joanne Eisen – who are fighting so hard to defend citizens all over the world from the barbarism of victim disarmament.



charged last month. "The fundamental problem with such a requirement," noted CCRKBA Executive Director Joe Waldron, "is that older citizens, including some of our members, are experiencing difficulty complying with this requirement, because their previous references have passed away. These law-abiding citizens are faced with a serious flaw in the statute, because they have a problem soliciting new references. Their younger neighbors are sometimes reluctant to act as character references for someone they may not know well, due to generational and perhaps cultural differences." He suggested to state legislative judiciary chairmen that a solution could be a waiver of reference requirements on concealed pistol license renewal applications.

In Kottayam, Kerala, India, Father Jacob Augustine, a Catholic priest, has applied for a pistol license and upset anti-gunners in so doing. Fr. Augustine, 42, is the manager of the Amal Jyothi Engineering College, owned by the Catholic Diocese of Kanjirapally. "There are several priests in our church who possess a licensed weapon," he says. "Moreover, since I manage a big institution, which has a lot of assets, I do not think possessing a gun is wrong."



Corp. Hedge ruled that the suit was precisely the sort of claim the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act was intended to block. Judge Hedge wrote that the city and the federal government had two competing policies, and only one could prevail. The D.C. Council, she wrote, had determined that "assault weapons" have "little or no social benefit but at the same time pernicious consequences for the health and safety of District residents and visitors." Congress, however, "has trumped the local law by passing legislation to protect the profits of such manufacturers," she continued.

It looks like ABC News has no problem at all with the appearance of bias, now that they've assigned a reporter who used to work for Handgun Control, Inc. to cover firearm related stories, CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb observed. Washington correspondent Jake Tapper once worked for Handgun Control, according to a piece he wrote when he worked for *Salon News*. "This is the same news network that added George Stephanopoulos, a top aide to anti-gun President Bill Clinton," he noted. "Now they've got a former staffer for an extremist gun control group reporting on firearm issues."

The State of Pennsylvania is practicing age discrimination against older firearm owners under a statute that requires people licensed to carry concealed firearms to provide two character references as part of the application process, CCRKBA

CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb said last month's decision by San Francisco Superior Court Judge James Warren to throw out that city's handgun ban was a victory for gun owner rights all over the Golden State. "The right of citizens to be safe in their homes and communities can never be subject to a popular vote," he said. "This ruling shows that the politicians who pushed this gun ban were wrong." San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera, however, said the city will appeal the ruling.

"Firearm sales in the United States remain on the rise, while contrary to popular belief, gun-related crime, suicide and gun accidents are on the decline," reports *The Washington Times*. "Figures released by the Treasury Department show that retail sales of firearms and ammunition rose almost three percent in 2005. All told, 4.7 million new guns were sold during the past year. Yet government figures and independent statistics reveal that firearm crimes, suicides and accidental fatalities, including among youth, all trend downward. According to the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the estimated number of privately owned firearms in the U.S. now stands at more than 290 million, while American households with at least one firearm is estimated at nearly 110 million."

In Washington, D.C., Superior Court Judge Brook Hedge dismissed a lawsuit against gun makers in *District of Columbia v. Beretta U.S.A.*

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