

POINT BLANK

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



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IN THIS ISSUE

Tiahrt Amendment	1
S.1001 Update	2
Public Opinion	3
U.N. Policies	4
Gonzales Flap	5
Citizen Action Project	5
Defender of the Month	6
Quick Shots	7

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CCRKBA PRAISES POLICE ON TIAHRT AMENDMENT

"We commend National President Chuck Canterbury of the Fraternal Order of Police for his recent straight forward defense of the Tiahrt Amendment," John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, stated.

The Tiahrt Amendment, introduced annually by Rep. Todd Tiahrt of Kansas as an addition to fiscal legislation, has been accepted for the past several years by Congress. It prevents information on gun traces collected by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives from being turned over to anti-gun mayors who pursue civil litigation suits against firearm dealers and manufacturers.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg of New York City and his allies in Mayors Against Illegal Guns have been campaigning throughout the country to prevent continuing congressional acceptance of the Tiahrt Amendment.

"It takes a lot of guts to stand up for the Tiahrt Amendment in the face of this pressure, and FOP's Canterbury has shown he's got them," said Snyder. "We hope FOP will take similarly sensible positions on other firearms related issues.

"CCRKBA supports the Tiahrt Amendment as well as efforts to make its content permanent law in order to prevent Bloomberg and company from undermining the right to keep and bear arms by forcing the gun industry to engage in prohibitively costly litigation which could force many legitimate firearm businesses into bankruptcy."

In a recent column, Canterbury stated, "the mayors would have you believe that law enforcement supports giving them the information on gun traces because many of their employees – namely police chiefs, who often serve at the pleasure of the mayor – have publicly backed their coalition.

"But the officers in the field who are actually working illegal gun cases know that releasing sensitive information about pending cases can jeopardize the integrity of an investigation or even place the lives of undercover officers in danger. That is why the Fraternal Order of Police has always supported language protecting firearms trace data, now known as the 'Tiahrt Amendment.' For the men and women in uniform who are fighting illegal guns, it is a matter of officer safety and good police work."

BATFE, noted Canterbury, "has repeatedly gone to court to fight release of its data, because the release can have a negative effect on its efforts to investigate illegal gun trafficking and threaten the safety of officers and witnesses.

"In media reports last year, law enforcement sources cited that as many as four cases were compromised and an additional 14 were put at risk by private investigators employed by New York City who acted on the basis of trace data. This is exactly the type of interference that caused the FOP to originally support language restricting the use of the data to law enforcement entities only – not cities engaged in lawsuits."

JUDGES AND SENATORS WANT TO END GUN BAN

With over 40 U.S. Senators joining her as cosponsors, Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas recently introduced S. 1001, the proposed District of Columbia Personal Protection Act of 2007, to restore Second Amendment Rights in Washington, D.C.

The introduction of the proposal came a few weeks after an appellate court's 2-1 decision in *Parker v. the District of Columbia* that the D.C. gun law is unconstitutional since it violates the Second Amendment, and a few weeks before the full Court of Appeals voted 6-4 to deny a Washington, D.C. petition to have the case reheard before it.

Robert A. Levy, Senior Fellow in Constitutional Studies for the Cato Institute, believes there is a good chance the decision ultimately will be affirmed by the Supreme Court, thus establishing for the whole country that the right to keep and bear arms is an individual, as opposed to a collective right.

He is concerned that the *Parker* decision will be vacated by the Supreme Court "if a mootness event (e.g., passage of the DC Personal Protection Act) occurs anytime between now and the date that the Supremes either deny cert or issue their opinion. In other words, if the bill passes *Parker* is almost certainly history, with no precedential value anywhere."

CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb said "the time is long past due for the Supreme Court to hear a case that has such gravity in terms of the Second Amendment and its true meaning."

Sen. Hutchison said the D.C. "situation requires both a legislative and a judicial remedy. I hope the *Parker* case goes before the Supreme Court and that the Court asserts that the

right to bear arms is an individual, and not a collective right as the D.C. Circuit and Fifth Circuit Courts have affirmed."

The Texan noted that "the District of Columbia enacted the Firearms and Control Regulations Act of 1976 that banned handguns and required rifles and shotguns to be registered and stored unloaded and either locked or disassembled, giving it the most restrictive gun control laws in the nation. Prior to the gun ban's implementation, the murder rate in the District was on the decline. Following the ban, the murder rate began to rise while violent crime was decreasing nationally. According to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports, in 2005, the most recent year for which statistics are available, the District of Columbia led the nation in violent crime."

S. 1001 would overturn the D.C. gun law.

"The constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens do not end when they cross into the borders of the District of Columbia," said Sen. Hutchison. "The gun ban has proven ineffective by the trend of increased violent crime in the District. The citizens of Washington, D.C. deserve to have the same right to defend themselves and their families in their homes that lawful Americans enjoy."

S. 1001 is the Senate version of H.R. 1399, introduced in the House of Representatives by Reps. Mike Ross of Arkansas and Mark Souder of Indiana.

The proposed Act would hold that the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution provides that the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed;

that the Second Amendment protects the rights of individuals, including those who are not members of a militia or engaged in military service or training, to keep and bear arms; but that the law-abiding citizens of the District of Columbia are deprived by local laws of handguns, rifles and shotguns that are commonly kept by law-abiding persons throughout the United States for sporting use and for lawful defense of their persons, homes, businesses, and families.



POINT BLANK

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

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PUBLIC WANTS CONGRESS TO COOL IT ON GUN CONTROL

By John M. Snyder
Editor, *Point Blank*

Public opinion polls following the Virginia Tech massacre should caution politicians about toughening firearm controls for law-abiding citizens.

Hopefully, this message will strike home with politicians now facing ill-advised attempts to use the tragedy as an excuse for promoting additional anti-gun owner legislation at the federal level.

In the meantime, we encourage readers of *Point Blank* to relay this message courteously but firmly to their U.S. Representative and to both of their U.S. Senators.

Congress on the other hand could deal directly with an underlying problem evidenced in the mass murder. It could enact legislation providing that on any college campus receiving federal funds, students or faculty there who have state issued permits to carry concealed firearms will not be prevented by university officials from carrying them.

Virginia Tech and other universities prohibit the carrying of firearms on campus even by individuals who have such state issued permits. The policy did nothing to stop the murderous madman, but it did prevent any student or school employee who may have had such a permit from stopping the madman.

Congress ought to put an end to this nonsense. In a number of previous incidents, including one five years ago at Appalachian School of Law in Grundy, Virginia, law-abiding people with guns terminated the murderous rampages of deranged perpetrators.

Although New York congressional gun grabbers Chuck Schumer and Carolyn McCarthy claimed recently that there is support for their kind of restrictive gun control, recent polling data hardly supports them.

A FOX News poll conducted after the terrible murders found that only 19 percent of Americans believe tougher gun laws can help stop shootings like the one at Virginia Tech. A 71 percent majority disagrees.

A Zogby poll indicated that 59 percent do not think stricter gun control policies would help prevent tragedies like the one at Virginia Tech, and only 36 percent believe they would help.

That's hardly a showing of the mass public support for more restrictive gun laws that Schumer, McCarthy and others obviously hoped for. The American public has wised up to politicians like the Gotham gun grabbers.

While Schumer, McCarthy and other congressional gun grabbers claim they're working on legislation to strengthen background checks to prevent mentally ill persons from obtaining handguns, a number of gun owners suspect that this proclaimed agenda may be a wedge of duplicity for promoting a more restrictive program. After all, despite protestations to the contrary, these politicians for years have been in the forefront of attempts to undermine the individual, Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms.

If legislators do take a look at a Schumer-McCarthy proposal, they hopefully will demand precision in such definitions as "adjudicated as

mental defective" and "committed to a mental institution." As the general public discussion following the Virginia Tech massacre so strikingly revealed, these phrases are not precise in current federal law. The lack of precision led to confusion regarding the obligations of certain officials vis-à-vis the utilization and application of the record of what turned out to be a murderous madman.

A number of citizens around the country think that, if Congress really wants to jump into gun rights matters at this time, it could consider the issue of relief from disability. They point out that not all mental issues are permanent, and they believe there should be some provision for consideration of relief from gun owner disability in such cases.

If Representatives and Senators soon consider right to keep and bear arms issues, they ought to keep in mind public disenchantment with the Pied Pipers of gun control, and give serious consideration instead to proposals which actually serve the public interest.

Let us underline the importance of making sure Senators and Representatives know just how law-abiding American gun owners feel about congressional attempts to use the Virginia Tech massacre as a platform for promoting comprehensive restrictive gun control schemes. CCRKBA Members and Supporters could continue to inform their federal legislators regarding their own views about attempts by Schumer and McCarthy and the like to undermine and eventually eliminate the individual Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms.

CCRKBA BLASTS UN ANTI-GUN POLICIES

"We condemn the continuing and ongoing attempts of United Nations officials to interfere with the individual Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms," John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, declared.

"Although the UN gun grabbers may not yet have stated it in just so many words," he said, "some of them, if not in fact most or even all of them, probably would like to force millions of law-abiding American gun owners into conformity with their anti-gun policies or face serious criminal penalties. They would make individual American gun ownership standards conform to their international bureaucratic standards. I for one am sick and tired of having to put up with these international opponents of personal freedom and individual liberty trying to undermine our American traditions. They ought to keep their hands out of our internal affairs, and off our guns, and our government should tell them that in no uncertain terms."

At the present time, UN officials are promoting a so-called "Peace and Security through Disarmament" program. They're formulating a new international treaty regulating small arms.

"There is not yet a draft," said Jennifer Abrahamson of Oxfam International, one of the lead organizations campaigning for the treaty, along with Amnesty International, based in London, and the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA).

Although the treaty promoters said that UN member nations were supposed to turn in their blueprints for a treaty draft by the end of May,

submissions by the 192 UN member states actually will be accepted through the latter part of July.

In December of last year, 153 of the 192 member states supported the proposed treaty in a resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly. At that time, a number of member states, including the United States, expressed reservations on the resolution calling for the treaty. The thrust of the whole treaty movement is a call for international regulation of the production and sale of small arms, including handguns, and including obviously production and sale in the United States.

The UN gun grabbers are seeking to promote and implement a 2001 UN resolution calling for a Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

Supporters of this Program for years have been trying to neutralize American opposition to the Program by alleging that the Program and its supporters contemplate action only against "illegal" or "illicit" guns or military-style firearms.

"However," said Snyder, "what these people generally fail to mention is that the seminal UN document in this matter designates as illicit those arms so named by a global gun control body. The Program calls on individual nations 'to put in place, where they do not exist, regulations and administrative procedures to exercise effective control over the production of small arms and light weapons within their areas of jurisdiction and over the export, import, transit or retransfer of such weapons, in order to prevent illegal manufacture of and illicit trafficking in small arms or light weapons, or their diversion to unauthorized recipients.'

"The Program demands the adoption and implementation, 'in the states that have not already done so, the necessary legislative measures to establish as criminal offenses under their domestic law the illegal manufacture, possession, stockpiling and trade of small arms and light weapons within their areas of jurisdiction, in order to ensure that those engaged in such activities can be prosecuted under appropriate national penal codes.'"

Snyder noted also that IANSA, "a prime mover behind the whole UN gun grabbing disarmament movement, stated that it uses the words 'small arms,' 'guns,' and 'firearms' interchangeably."

IANSA defines small arms as "weapons that can be carried and used by an individual, for example, revolvers, pistols, rifles, shotguns, submachine guns and assault rifles."

Included in the UN Program are proposals for gun registration to be enforced at the international level, international regulations for manufacturing, distributing and retailing of guns and ammunition, and UN-sanctioned limitations on the possession and use of small arms, including rifles, shotguns and handguns, and ammunition.

As one young American, Kara Karlson, observed in the *Arizona Daily Wildcat*, acceptance of the UN treaty could "very well increase the violence. As weapons become more expensive to manufacture and distribute, the militia groups in control in many countries would have a position of greater power as the possibility of any armed resistance to tyranny and genocide wanes."

GOTTLIEB CALLS ON GONZALES TO QUIT AS ATTORNEY GENERAL

Alberto Gonzales should resign his post as Attorney General of the United States, says CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb.

"Gonzales' troubling support for legislation that would allow him and future attorneys general the arbitrary power to block firearm purchases without due process is cause for him to step down as the nation's highest ranking law enforcement officer," Gottlieb said last month at CCRKBA National Headquarters in Bellevue WA.

The bill, S. 1237, was introduced recently at the Justice Department's

request by Sen. Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey, one of the most extreme anti-gunners in Congress. Its companion, H.R. 2074, was introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Peter King of New York. Called the Denying Firearms and Explosives to Dangerous Terrorists Act of 2007, this legislation would give the Attorney General discretionary authority to deny the purchase of a firearm or the issuance of a firearm license or permit because of some vague suspicion that an American citizen may be up to no good.

"This bill," said Gottlieb, "raises

serious concerns about how someone becomes a 'suspected terrorist.' Nobody has explained how one gets their name on such a list, and worse, nobody knows how to get one's name off such a list.

"The process by which someone may appeal the Attorney General's arbitrary denial seems weak at best, and there is a greater concern. When did we decide as a nation that it is a good idea to give a cabinet member the power to deny someone's constitutional right simply on suspicion, without a trial or anything approaching due process?"

CITIZEN ACTION PROJECT

In the aftermath of the 16 April spree shooting at Virginia Tech that took 32 innocent lives, gun control advocates on Capitol Hill were quick in their attempts to exploit the tragedy to further their extremist agenda. Despite the fact that within a few days, at least three reputable national polls showed the public DOES NOT believe more gun control laws would have stopped that, or similar, incidents, the "usual suspects" were on the television and radio talk show circuit, promoting this or that "solution" to the Virginia Tech.

At this time, two "solutions" are on the front burner. Rep. Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY) has introduced H.R. 1859, a bill to prohibit possession and transfer of "large capacity ammunition feeding devices" as defined in the expired Clinton "assault weapon ban" of 1994. Essentially the bill would restrict possession and transfer of detachable magazines with a capacity of more than 10 rounds. Violation would be punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment for up to 10 years. Further requirements would be imposed on manufacturers, importers and dealers in reporting transfer of such magazines to the Attorney General.

The second bill has a much broader impact. S.1237, the "Denying Firearms and Explosives to Dangerous Terrorists Act of 2007" introduced by Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) would allow the Attorney General to arbitrarily deny purchase of a firearm, through the NICS background check system, to anyone he believes "is known (or appropriately suspected) to be or have been engaged in conduct constituting, in preparation for, in aid of, or related to terrorism, or providing material support for terrorism."

Rep. Peter King (R-NY) introduced its companion version, H.R. 2074, in the House of Representatives. Both S. 1237 and H.R. 2074 were referred to their respective Judiciary Committees.

That's quite a mouthful. Given the fact that no one knows who is on the terrorist watch list, no one knows how names are placed on the list, and no one knows how names are removed (cleared) from the list, this bill clearly violates a citizen's Fifth Amendment right of due process, and is in effect a form of prior restraint.

In no way do we support arming terrorists, whether it's with a nuclear device or a firearm. But S.1237/H.R. 2074, in its current form, gives an appointed official far too much power to deny a fundamental right to citizens of the United States.

Once again, it's time to write, call or e-mail your Representative and Senators and ask them to oppose these anti-freedom bills. You can find your elected officials by visiting the CCRKBA web site at <http://www.ccrkba.org> and scrolling down the left margin to "Contact your Senator" and "Contact your Rep." You can also find district office telephone numbers in your local telephone directory in the "blue pages" in the front of the directory, under "U.S. Government."

FORMER MISS AMERICA CCRKBA GUN DEFENDER

Although she won the applause of the Nation in 1944 when she was crowned Miss America, Venus Ramey won the hearts of American gun owners just recently when she demonstrated that a firearm in the hands of a law-abiding 82-year-old woman can be used to fight crime.

In nominating Venus Ramey as CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month for June, John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said that "her action in late April, and her straight forward defense of the action demonstrated for the whole country to observe the truth that guns in the hands of law-abiding citizens, including law-abiding elderly women, can be and are used to prevent, deter or interrupt crime. In this particular situation, our former Miss America demonstrated that, with the use of a gun, you don't necessarily even have to cause physical harm to stop a crime. She certainly is most deserving of this Award."

As the Associated Press reported from Waynesburg, Kentucky, "Miss America 1944 has a talent that likely has never appeared on a beauty pageant page: She fired a handgun to shoot out a vehicle's tires and stop an intruder."

She confronted a man on her farm in south-central Kentucky after she saw her dog run into a storage building where thieves some time before had stolen her old farm equipment.

Ramey reportedly said the man told her he would leave. "I said, 'Oh, no you won't,' and I shot their tires so they wouldn't leave," she said.

She had to balance on her walker as she pulled out a snub-nose .39 caliber handgun.

"I didn't even think twice. I just went and did it," Ramey said. "If they'd even dared come close to me, they'd be six feet under by now."

Ramey then flagged down a motorist, who called 911.

Curtis Parrish, of Ohio, was charged with misdemeanor trespassing, Deputy Dan Gilliam said. According to an AP report, the man's hometown wasn't available. Three other people were questioned but were not arrested.

According to the Miss America Pageant website, Venus Ramey represented the District of Columbia when she competed in the Miss America contest. She had left her native Kentucky after serving as a page in the Kentucky House of Representatives in order to work for the war effort in the Nation's Capital. "With her dancing, singing and comedic talents she became the first redheaded Miss America. Venus was also the first Miss America to be photographed in color."

As Miss America, Venus Ramey got into show business. She performed in vaudeville as part of her pageant duties, but made sure she sold war bonds all along the way across the country. The United States Treasury Department presented her with a Special Citation for her efforts.

In her honor, her picture graced a B-17 "Flying Fortress" in World War Two. The plane made 68 sorties over war-torn Germany and never lost a man, according to an Associated Press

article of the time noted by the Miss America Pageant.

During her tenure as Miss America, Venus Ramey worked with the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives promoting suffrage bills for Washington, D.C. in 1945. The measure was enacted and signed by the President.

A Hollywood movie producer, Milton Sperling of Warner Brothers Studio, tried to sign Venus for a major Hollywood film in 1947. The young lady, however, decided to give up show business. She returned home to her Kentucky farm, which she maintained for over 50 years. She married and began raising her two sons.

With Kentucky educational issues and a burning desire to see the word "illegitimate" eradicated from the birth certificates of innocent children as a major issue, Venus ran for a seat in the Kentucky House of Representatives, thus becoming the first Miss America to run for public office. Later, she hosted her own radio show and published her own political newspaper.

In the 1970s, Venus received an Ohio real estate license to save a Cincinnati District called Over-The-Rhine, a four square mile area full of 19th Century Germanic and Italianate buildings. Her efforts resulted in a full-page story in the *Cincinnati Post*, and subsequently led to a bid for a seat on the Cincinnati City Council.

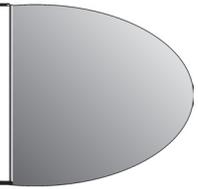
She lost the election but won her battle, as Over-The-Rhine eventually was listed on the U.S. Registry of Historic Places, the largest group of buildings on the list in the country.

In 1990, Venus Ramey returned to Kentucky to live on her farm.

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QUICK SHOTS



In Washington, D.C., CCRKBA announced its opposition to H.R. 1874, by Rep. Robert E. Andrews of New Jersey, to require microstamping of all firearms manufactured or imported in the United States, and ballistics testing of all firearms in the custody of the federal government. Titled the Technological Resource to Assist Criminal Enforcement (TRACE) Act, it has been referred to the House Judiciary Committee.



CCRKBA also announced its opposition to two bills introduced recently by Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy of New York. One, H.R. 1859, titled the Anti-Large Capacity Ammunition Feeding Device Act of 2007, would reinstate the prohibition on the possession or transfer of large capacity ammunition feeding devices, and also ban the transfer of what McCarthy terms “a semi-automatic assault weapon with a large capacity ammunition feeding device.” The other, H.R. 1895, titled the Anti-Gun Trafficking Penalties Enhancement Act of 2007, would allow more frequent inspections of gun dealers to “ensure compliance with federal gun law,” and to “enhance the penalties for gun trafficking.” Both proposals were referred to the House Judiciary Committee.



On Capitol Hill, CCRKBA announced its support for H.R. 1897, by Rep. Ron Paul of Texas, a CCRKBA Congressional Advisor and awardee. Known as the

National Park Second Amendment Restoration and Personal Protection Act of 2007, the bill would protect the Second Amendment rights of individuals to carry firearms in units of the National Park System. It was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.



Following the murder of over 30 students and faculty members at Virginia Tech University last month by a crazed gunman, Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine issued an executive order intended to prohibit the sale of guns to anyone found to be dangerous and forced to undergo involuntary mental health treatment. Under the order, their names would be included in a database of people banned from buying guns. Kaine said the database “should include any determination that someone is mentally ill and so dangerous to himself or others as to warrant involuntary treatment.” He also instructed the State Police to request orders for involuntary inpatient care and involuntary outpatient care from district courts and to include that information in the database. The Kaine action came after it became known that, in December 2005, a Virginia judge directed the future murderer to undergo outpatient treatment. Since the perpetrator was an outpatient, Virginia did not send his name to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.



In Huntsville, Alabama, one man was shot and killed as he allegedly

broke into a local residence just before four o'clock in the morning one day in late April, reported *The Huntsville Times*. According to Huntsville police reports, a man was startled by a loud banging at his front door, and he and his roommate armed themselves and went to investigate. They discovered someone kicking in the front door. One of the offenders was shot and killed as he entered the residence with a pistol in his hands. The other offender ran away.



CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb sent a letter to ABC News President David Westin, asking that reporter Sam Donaldson be barred from ever again reporting on gun rights issues, because he agreed to serve last month as master of ceremonies at a fund raiser for the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence. Gottlieb said Donaldson's appearance reinforces the opinion of American gun owners that ABC and its reporters for the most part share an anti-gun philosophy. “We believe that the appearance of such a high-profile ABC reporter and commentator as the host of an event that raises money for one of the nation's most hysteria-driven gun control organizations is a terrible breach of propriety,” Gottlieb said. “Donaldson is actually out there in the spotlight helping this anti-gun organization raise hundreds of thousands of dollars that will be used to trample our Second Amendment rights. Any appearance of fairness that Donaldson may have on the gun rights issue just went out the window.”

4

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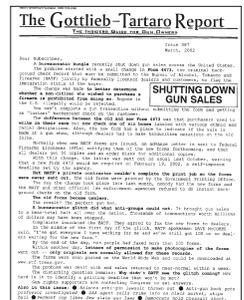
At last, an academic journal dedicated to scholarly discussion of firearms and public policy! The JOURNAL OF FIREARMS AND PUBLIC POLICY has published annually since 1989. Its mission: to encourage objective research on the right to keep and bear arms, and explore America's Constitutional heritage to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



The Gottlieb-Tartaro Report:

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

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